

# GREAT ELLINGHAM RECREATION GROUND AND CENTRE

England & Wales · Charity number 303957

## Details

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Other names	RECREATION GROUND, GREAT ELLINGHAM RECREATION CENTRE
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1962-09-27
Register	<a href="#">View on the Charity Commission register</a>

## Contact

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Address	Great Ellingham Recreation Centre Watton Road Great Ellingham Attleborough Norfolk NR17 1HZ
Phone	01953 454715
Email	<a href="mailto:gtellingham.reccentre@gmail.com">gtellingham.reccentre@gmail.com</a>

## Activities

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**Objects:** (A) IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE, TO IMPROVE THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR THE INHABITANTS OF THE AREA OF BENEFIT WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS OR OTHER OPINIONS BY THE PROVISION AND MAINTENANCE OF A RECREATION GROUND, AND (B) THE PROVISION AND MAINTENANCE OF A VILLAGE HALL FOR USE BY THE INHABITANTS OF THE AREA OF BENEFIT WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS OR OTHER OPINIONS, INCLUDING USE FOR: (I) MEETINGS, LECTURES AND CLASSES, AND (II) OTHER FORMS OF RECREATION AND LEISURE-TIME OCCUPATION, WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR THE INHABITANTS.

**Activities:** Provide a building with kitchen, toilets, stage & seperate committee room, cricket pitches with 1 hard wicket, football pitches.Childrens Play Area

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Amateur Sport, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- **Area of benefit:** PARISH OF GREAT ELLINGHAM, NORFOLK.
- Norfolk

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£46,727	£24,650	-	-
2024-12-31	£44,131	£34,651	-	-
2023-12-31	£30,939	£31,955	-	-
2022-12-31	£15,881	£13,420	-	-
2021-12-31	£12,035	£15,610	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Fransesca Elliot</b>	Chair	2023-02-08
ANTHEA JANE SCANE		2025-04-02
Alastair George Donald		2024-02-02
Ben Crick		2023-02-08
Graham John Beales		2017-02-01
JEAN ESTELLA LEECH		
John Brierley		2023-02-08
LYNN GRIFFITHS		2025-02-05
Lynnette Leslie		2024-09-06
Mark Donald Bryan Humphrys		2024-02-02
Michael John Alabaster		2025-02-05
Nicola Gunn		2025-04-02
SUSAN GENT		
Susan Alabaster		2023-02-08
Susan Ann Banks		2024-10-02

**GREAT ELLINGHAM RECREATION GROUND AND CENTRE**

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# Accounts

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## Chairs Speech 2025

As a committee, we do our best to remain accessible to our ever growing village and continue to be recognised as a true community hub, welcoming all sorts of activities and events.

It's been another very busy year and I feel we have optimised both usage and income across all areas;

Pats Bar goes from strength to strength with foodie Fridays and the darts league.

The hall is still used every day by pre-school, chit chat, Pilates, dog training and many more.

The evenings are filled with a regular round of events like bingo, village quizzes, live music nights, race nights and of course our resident astronomy talks and presentations which are always popular.

We were utilised by the Teddy festival team to support their events and the pétanque and scout groups who not only hire the hall to support their events but continue to maintain the grounds and outside areas.

We have birthday parties and events most weekends and a crew of dedicated volunteers who give up their time to support with managing the bar, cleaning and tidying up other people's rubbish not to mention a special gift from a stranger caught short on their way through the village.....

They field complaints from the locals, and always turn out when we ask them for help.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my experience supporting this team to deliver all the above, however it's getting harder and harder to maintain the building knowing that not only is it extremely expensive to heat and maintain but that many areas are in need of repair or need completely replacing.

Despite waiting patiently for what feels like a decade for a new hall, we are now resigning ourselves to the reality that this is now unlikely and even though there 'maybe' some funds coming our way I remain hopeful that the committee can finally upgrade the hall so it can continue to be the hive of activity it currently is for the village community.

We say a huge thank you to Sue Alabaster our dedicated secretary who contributes so much more than simply taking minutes and sending out agendas and emails.

She has supported the committee tirelessly for years and we thank her again for all her time and effort.

We also say goodbye to Tim Roebuck who joined this committee with a sole focus to help with the new building, sadly his work has made it impossible for him to continue to support the committee, we thank him for his support.

Sadly, I too am stepping down as chair, due to personal reasons I am simply unable to give the time needed to support the committee in its plan to renovate the hall and the car park, I will remain on the committee as representative for the scouts and will endeavour to support if I can.

You are a brilliant team and I wish you all the best for the future.

Fran Elliott



## Great Ellingham Recreation Centre Bank Reconciliation for 2025

	2025
<b>Current Account as at 1st Jan 2025</b>	<b>£11,950.77</b>
Add Profit/Loss to Date	
Transfer In	£0.00
Transfer Out	£10,000.00
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>£1,950.77</b>
Less undeposited Cash	
Less undeposited Cheques	£0.00
Less unpaid sales invoices	
Less O/S Square receipts (nett)	£663.63
Add uncleared payments	£0.00
Add Prepayments	£0.00
Payments/Receipts for 2024	
<b>Current Account as at December 31st 2025</b>	<b>£1,287.14</b>
<b>Savings Account as at 1st Jan 2025</b>	<b>£25,652.40</b>
Interest	£478.31
Deposits / Transfers In	£10,000.00
Transfers Out	£0.00
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>£36,130.71</b>
<b>New Build</b>	<b>£8,569.51</b>
<b>Total Savings</b>	<b>£44,700.22</b>
<b>NOTE ONLY</b>	
<b>New Build Account as at 1st Jan 2025</b>	<b>£8,431.81</b>
Interest	£137.70
Deposits / Transfers In	£0.00
Transfers Out	£0.00
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>£8,569.51</b>
Bar Stock Holding estimated value	£1,578.24
Petty Cash	£200

# Independent Review of Accounts for Great Ellingham Recreation Centre 2025

I have examined the Great Ellingham Recreations Centre's Accounts for the year January 2025 to December 2025. I have checked the Bank Statement balances and Income and Expenditure for the said period.

I have no reason whatsoever to doubt that the figures in these professionally drawn up accounts and I am encouraged by the accuracy of the figures within the spread sheets. Lynn has continued to consistently track the income and expenditure and keep a fine eye on the figures.

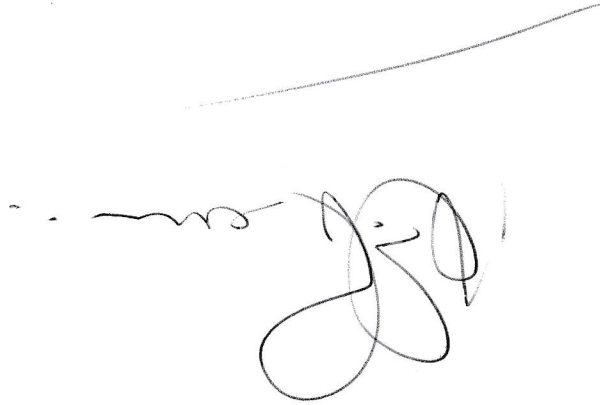
Once again the electricity appears to be high and I can only conclude that the heating cards are nowhere near covering the cost of the heating which is resulting in hirers using far more than they are actually paying for.

It is to be hoped that sometime in the future the Pre-School's rent will be increased in order to bring it more in line with the other hirers, because at the end of the day the Pre-School is a business.

In all, once again Lynn has worked very hard in order to produce the accounts to such a high standard and I am well assured that the Recreation Centre's Accounts are in extremely capable hands.

Ann Reeve

Signature



**GREAT ELLINGHAM RECREATION GROUND AND CENTRE**

England & Wales - Charity number 303957

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# Accounts

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Great Ellingham Recreation Centre Committee.

Trustee's Report 2024/25

The facilities at the Recreation Ground and Centre are used by many varied groups and individuals. Our mission as a Charity remains as follows:

- To improve the conditions of life for the inhabitants of the area, by the provision of and maintenance of the recreation ground
- To provide and maintain a village hall for use by the inhabitants of the area for meetings, lectures and classes, and other forms of recreation and leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants.

All Trustees are volunteers, giving their time to help with the aims and objectives of the charity's constitution. Trustees of this committee come either from the various organisations that make use of the facilities (be that the village hall or recreation ground) or are nominated and voted in individuals. In many ways it's the most representative group in the village. Every Trustee is a volunteer who is here to try to keep this building and grounds as usable as possible. It's great to see all of the organisations that use the facilities growing and putting on more for the village and surrounding areas.

After a change in leadership last year we have worked hard to continue to raise funds and improve the profile of the recreation centre. For the committee 2024/25 has been a busier year than most. At the last AGM we saw a number of new faces join as Trustees which brought with it new ideas and a different energy.

As our village and community grows, being able to offer a place where people can come together and participate in a wide variety of activities is so important.

**Inside:**

We have the regular Wednesday **CHIT-CHAT** group which continues to be popular and they often have days out to various locations.

Monthly **Bingo** is always full and its popularity is a just reflection of the team who organise this event for those wanting to get together and hopefully win a few pounds.

**Pre-School** services are offered for young children weekdays except Wednesdays during the school term times.

This year we have seen the hall being better utilised and we now have regular **Fitness** and **Zumba** Classes along with **Quiz** nights, live music and private functions.

Our **Community Bar**, which opens every Friday and as required for other events has been a great success.

The decoration, furnishing, bar stock and activities all improved over the last 12 months and while its prices are comparably low, the takings are a major contributor to the funding of the services offered by the Rec Hall. Michael Alabaster has worked tirelessly as volunteer, resident bar and stock manager, events organiser and social media promoter to ensure everyone can have a great experience.

### **Outside:**

Saturday **Car Boot Sales** continued and the weather was often a factor in how well these were attended which is also true of our newer events like **Coffee and Cars** which saw dozens of motoring enthusiasts park up on the field, admiring each other's cars while enjoying a hot drink.

Our resident user groups continued to make good use of the services which are largely subsidised to ensure costs are kept low and activities are available and affordable.

The **Cricket Club** are very active in the spring and summer months with regular matches for senior and junior players who also enjoy less formal practice and softball sessions during the week. They also keep the grass cut across the whole field to ensure as much of the area is accessible for all users.

Our resident **Breckland Astronomer Society** who meet most Fridays and have hosted regular events where everyone is welcome to view the night sky at their well-equipped Observatory

The **Pétanque Club PC51** has steadily grown in membership this year. They have been very focused on fundraising to improve their facilities which are soon to include dedicated toilets next to the playing area. They play casually at least 3 times per week where all are welcome as well as taking part in competition matches across Norfolk.

The **Scout Group** meet weekly and continues to take new members from age 4 in the Squirrels right through to Explorers age 14 to 18 .

This year's **Bonfire Night** was a great success and very well attended and supported by the community. This year we were fortunate to have generous support from a local business which contributed to a great Fireworks display.

As we continue to work towards the new village hall. Finance and funding are extremely important. Demonstrating to potential funders that we have a sound and sustainable funding basis is an important part of that process. We've been fortunate that in recent years that some support grants in addition to fundraising have helped contribute to our operating costs. Many of these are now not available and as with everything in life at the moment costs are increasing and we have to look at ensuring we operate financially responsibly.

Together all of these activities contribute crucial additional income to support the maintenance and upkeep of the recreation centre and grounds, and help us work towards a more financially independent model. The clothing, paper and bottle banks continue to provide a regular steady stream of income.

This year a major investment was made to redecorate the hall which required money and the efforts of volunteers to complete the work.

Support from the community is most welcome and vital for the running and funding of the Hall and field. The numerous events, donations from people and organisations like the Parish council and Teddy Bear festival all helped contribute to pay hall costs

All of these changes are intended to improve the facilities and make the facilities more appealing for users and hirers. Of course we are mindful of the potential new village hall and

everything considered against that. As we are here now we are a few years from a new village hall, but we hope it is coming in one form or another.

The work of the trustees and representatives of the various user groups make things happen for our community at the Great Ellingham Rec Hall and the kindness and support of everyone is most welcome.

Huge Thanks to all our Trustees

Trustees:

Chair: Fran Elliott

Secretary: Susan Alabaster

Treasurer: Lynn Griffiths

Trustee's:

1. John Brierly
2. Jean Leech
3. Sue Gent
4. Tim Roebuck
5. Vicky Rix
6. Kelly Watts
7. Ben Crick.

Great Ellingham Recreation Centre Accounts for 2024							
	2024	2023			2024	2023	
<b>Regular Hall Hire</b>			<b>Bar</b>				
51PC/Petanque	£535.13	£323.13	Bar Debit Card (Unallocated)		£0.00	£0.00	
A4C	£425.00	£0.00	Bar Stock		£2,428.64	£1,282.30	
Astro	£1,496.04	£683.31	Bar Licence		£70.00	£80.50	
Chit Chat	£1,595.50	£1,611.25	Fixtures & Fittings		£476.67	£1,702.79	
Cricket Club	£450.37	£237.18	Square Charges		£151.08	£178.80	
G.Power	£1,005.00	£550.00			£3,126.39	£3,244.39	
Marion Clarke Art	£300.00	£0.00	<b>Hall</b>				
Martas Dogs	£247.50	£218.25	External Mtce		£0.00	£0.00	
Parish Council	£447.50	£342.50	Internal Mtce		£7,556.49	£6,725.63	
Pilates	£325.00	£0.00	Cleaning Labour		£3,144.92	£1,280.00	
Preschool	£2,870.00	£6,558.50 *	Hall Supplies		£356.46	£335.74	
Scouts	£349.01	£147.38	Fixtures & Fittings		£18.90	£120.00	
Stardance	£281.25	£0.00			£11,076.77	£8,461.37	
Tabletop	£0.00	£406.80	<b>Utilities</b>				
Zumba	£552.50	£220.00	Electric		£4,541.93	£1,525.84 **	
	£10,879.80	£11,298.30	Water		£270.33	£422.21	
<b>Ad Hoc Hall Hire</b>			Telecomms		£327.73	£418.92	
Ad Hoc Hall Hire	£1,380.50	£1,326.32	Waste Services		£765.34	£633.88	
					£5,905.33	£3,000.85	
<b>Regular Events</b>			<b>Grounds</b>				
Bar Raffle	£441.00	£0.00	General Mtce		£500.00	£500.00	
Bingo	£4,231.57	£3,091.54	Grass Cutting		£4,350.00	£2,900.00	
Car Boot	£954.02	£1,083.21	Playground Expenses		£3,789.60	£0.00	
Cars & Crafts	£426.00	£0.00			£8,639.60	£3,400.00	
Fireworks	£4,692.56	£2,863.56	<b>Licences</b>				
Race Night	£1,120.00	£300.00	Music		£649.54	£552.59	
Quiz Night	£697.80	£246.31	Premises		£10.50	£0.00	
	£12,562.95	£7,584.62	TV		£159.00	£0.00	
<b>Other Events</b>					£819.04	£552.59	
Other Events	£1,807.83	£393.23	<b>Events</b>				
			Fireworks Night		£2,948.43	£1,500.00	
<b>Other Income</b>			Race Night		£661.21	£75.00	
Allotments	£44.64	£173.78			£3,609.64	£1,575.00	
Breckland Recycling	£776.21	£554.88	<b>Other</b>				
Donations	£2,651.55	£1,149.00	Insurance		£1,041.37	£1,005.68	
Heating Cards	£341.00	£0.00	Safety Inspections		£0.00	£176.79	
NCC	£115.75	£59.36	Stationary		£101.42	£0.00	
Parish Council Grant	£0.00	£1,850.00	Heating Cards		£0.00	£395.94	
Misc	£305.65	£217.90	Misc		£153.40	£270.86	
	£4,234.80	£4,004.92	Bank Charges		£178.09	£147.28	
<b>Bar Income</b>			Bank Transfers		£0.00	£0.00	
Cash Profit Banked	£4,661.76	£3,075.00			£1,474.28	£1,996.55	
Card Income (Bar)	£8,478.20	£104.75	<b>Total Expenditure</b>		£34,651.05	£22,230.75	
Card Income (Other)	£125.00	£0.00					
Bar Stock	£0.00	£1,427.10					
	£13,264.96	£4,606.85					
<b>Total Income</b>	£44,130.84	£29,214.24	Profit/Loss for Year		£9,479.79	£6,983.49	
<b>Notes</b>							
*	2023 income includes £1,422.50 for 2022						
**	2023 includes a refund from Scottish Power						
<b>Community Bar</b>							
Income for 2024 -	£21,045.84						
Expenditure for 2024 -	£10,610.60						
Excess Generated -	£10,435.24						
Bar Stock Holding at cost -	£1,347.01						



**INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF ACCOUNTS FOR GREAT ELLINGHAM**

**RECREATION CENTRE 2024**

I have examined the accounts of Great Ellingham Recreation Centre for the period January 2024 to December 2024. This included checking bank statements and income and expenditure during the 12 month period.

I have no reason to doubt the figures in the accounts and I am encouraged by the introduction of a more consistent tracking of the income and expenditure in the Community Bar as suggested By Lynn Griffiths in January 2024.

On checking the accounts however, I feel the electricity account needs looking at with regard to the electricity cards, as mentioned several years ago, in order that the groups using the cards are contributing the correct amount for the electricity used.

In all, Lynn has worked very hard for the Great Ellingham Recreation Centre regarding the accounts and I feel it is safe to say that the finance is in very capable hands.

Ann Reeve

Signature



Date

21-02-25



**GREAT ELLINGHAM RECREATION GROUND AND CENTRE**

England & Wales - Charity number 303957

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# Accounts


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**INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF ACCOUNTS FOR GREAT ELLINGHAM  
RECREATION CENTRE 2023**

*I have examined the accounts of Great Ellingham Recreation Centre for the period 1st January to 31st December 2023. This included examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the Statement of Income and Expenditure for the period.*

*I have no reason to doubt the figures in the accounts but they would benefit from the introduction of a more standard and consistent method of tracking income and expenditure specifically for the Community Bar, especially if the volume of business continues increasing. This has been accepted and introduced.*

*In my opinion the financial statement gives a true and fair view of the Charities Income and Expenditure and its affairs.*

Signature of examiner: 

Name of examiner: LYNN GRIFFITHS

Date: 26/01/2024

# **GREAT ELLINGHAM RECREATION CENTRE**

## **TREASURERS REPORT 1st January 2023 - 31st December 2023**

Income was up considerably this year reaching £30,938.95. This was not only due to the success of the Community Bar but also due to increased income for the use of the Hall by various parties. Income from Pre-School also increased significantly this year but did include some outstanding payments for 2022. We also benefited from Donations from the Teddy Bear Festival of £1,000 and a grant from the Parish Council of £1,850. Another item worthy of note was a refund from Scottish Power of £1,587.16.

There was also a large increase in expenditure which reached £31,955.46 this year. A considerable sum was spent on various improvements to the Hall including flooring and doors, bar furniture, electrics and other items to make the Hall more welcoming and useable. Outstanding payments were also made to the Cricket Club for grass cutting services. Finally a sum of £8,000 was transferred from the main Bank Account to the Savings Account and the New Build Account of £8,774.49 was also transferred into the Savings account. Although its balance will be contained within one savings account it will be reported separately by notation as we move forward.

In summary although we report a loss of £1,016.51 for the year the investment/improvement in the Hall puts us in a much better position to generate income as we move forward and our savings account, including the New Build monies, has reached a healthy £26,082.82

## 2024 AGM TREASURERS REPORT FOR 2023

	2021	2022	2023
Current Account as of 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec	£9,243.25	£12,639.74	£10687.58
Savings Account as of 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec	£9,086.52	£9,099.72	£26082.82
Income to 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec	£16,986.85	£16,817.16	£30,938.95
Expenditure to 31 <sup>st</sup> Dec	£17,354.22	£13,647.41	£31,955.46
	- £367.37	+ £3,169.75	-£1016.51
Income	2021	2022	2023
Astronomical Society	£744.61	£383.15	683.31
Allotments	£72.14	£48.09	173.78*
Bar sales banked	£-----	£904.50	3075.00
Bingo	£633.38	£2,499.47	3091.54
Breckland Council Recycling	£173.75	£545.51	554.88
Car Boots	£933.26	£1,265.69	1083.21
Chit Chat	£297.00	£1,155.25	1611.25
Cricket club	£221.32	£205.79	237.18
Committee room heater	£-----	£88.00	109.99
Donations	£-----	£730.00	149.00
Fireworks night	£-----	£3,047.44	2863.56
Grant. Expenditure OHLG	£-----	£2,667.00	
Hall hire & Heating cards	£-----	£652.63	1326.32
Jubilee celebrations	£-----	£465.00	
Norfolk County Council	£122.63	£97.56	59.36
Parish Council	£241.75	£180.00	342.50
Pre-School	£3,842.75	£1208.25	6558.50**
Scout Group	£85.00	£130.00	147.38
Income continued.	2021	2022	
Village Quiz	£-----	£230.22	246.31
Xmas Fayre	£-----		393.23***

51 Petanque Club	£52.00	£132.75	323.13
Tabletop			406.80
Caitlin Zumba			220.00
Laura Keepfit			550.00
Martas Dog class			218.25
Teddy Bear donation			1000.00
Parish Council Annual Grant			1850.00
Scottish Power refund			1587.16
Square Card payments			104.75
Bar Stock			1427.10
Race Night Sponsor			300.00
New Year Eve Party hats etc			107.91
Square payment error.			137.55

\* Includes 2022 payment of £106.70

\*\* Includes 2022 payment of £1422.50

\*\*\* Includes 2022 profit of £180.86

<b>Total</b>	<b>£16,986.85</b>	<b>£16,817.16</b>	<b>£30,938.95</b>
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#### Expenditure.

Water	£263.61	£380.64	422.21
Electricity	£2,091.15	£5,652.92	3113.00
Waste Breckland Council	£397.48	£399.12	633.88
Telephone	£94.12	£165.55	123.94
Hall Insurance	£896.97	£942.08	1005.68
Safety & Playground Inspection	£102.00	£108.00	120.00
Fire Inspection	£58.80	£59.76	56.79
Bar License	£70.00	£70.00	80.50
Cleaning Supplies, Toilet rolls handtowels	£157.48	£116.00	335.74
Cleaning Labour	£3,170.00	£2,400.00	1280.00
B.Jenness. Grounds Maintenance	£350.00	£450.00	500.00

S.Southcott. Electrical Maintenance	£-----	£119.50	147.50
Fireworks	£-----	£1,200.00	1200.00
Medical Cover.	£-----	£200.00	300.00
Bank Charges	£-----	£118.33	137.28
Gates	£-----	£384.38	
Playground Repair	£-----	£356.22	
General supplies & maintenance	£230.51	£298.17	1266.13
Visa Card payments various.	£-----	£226.74	
PPL PRS Music License			552.59
Bar Furniture etc			1702.79
Bar Stock			1282.30
A W Myhills Flooring & Mat			2930.00
SERCS Carpentry. Fire door adjustments			120.00
M G Crummett. 5 Yr Electrical Inspection			240.00
Anglia Race nights			75.00
Internet transfer to Savings account			8000.00
WI-FI Set-Up Router, Aerial, Monthly Sim.			294.98
Square Card Reader			178.80
T S Watling Supply & fit Double Doors			2022.00
Community Action membership			150.00
Caston Village Hall 39 Chairs			120.00
Meters UK Ltd Heating cards			395.94
Cricket Club Grass cutting 2021/2022			2900.00
Card withdrawal test at PO			1.00
Square payment error			137.55
New Build account bank charge			10.00
New Year Eve Party hats etc			119.86
<b>Total</b>	<b>£17,354.22</b>	<b>£13,647.41</b>	<b>31,955.46</b>

**Income minus expenditure = - £1016.51.**

**With £8000 paid into savings account actual profit is £6983.49**

**Bank balance at end of December 2023 is £10,687.58**

Savings Account at end of December 2023 is £26,082.82 after the New Build account of £8774.49, & £8000.00 from the current account were transferred in September, gaining £119.21 in interest in 3 months.

Community Bar.

Income for the year 2023 = £10,196.07

Expenditure for the year 2023 = £5,694.62

Profit = £4,501.45.

Present stock at retail price = £1,400

Cash in Hand £514.28



Great Ellingham Recreation Centre Committee.

Trustee's Report 2023/24

The facilities at the Recreation Ground and Centre are used by many varied groups and individuals. Our mission as a Charity remains as follows:

- To improve the conditions of life for the inhabitants of the area, by the provision of and maintenance of the recreation ground
- To provide and maintain a village hall for use by the inhabitants of the area for meetings, lectures and classes, and other forms of recreation and leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants.

All Trustees are volunteers, giving their time to help with the aims and objectives of the charity's constitution. Trustees of this committee come either from the various organisations that make use of the facilities (be that the village hall or recreation ground) or are nominated and voted in individuals. In many ways it's the most representative group in the village. Every Trustee is here to try to keep this building and grounds as usable as possible. It's great to see all of the organisations that use the facilities growing and putting on more for the village and surrounding areas.

We saw a change in leadership this past year with our Chair stepping down after 12 years. It has been a time of transition but overall it has been a very successful year.

It's also been great to see the regular user groups in growing demand. Scouts, Pétanque, Chit Chat, Cricket, The Observatory and Preschool are all seeing greater numbers and demand for their services. For the Rec Centre committee 2023/24 has been a busier year than most. At the last AGM we saw a number of new faces join as Trustees with a focus on helping work towards the new village hall project. As we work towards the new village hall Finance and funding will be extremely important. Demonstrating to potential funders that we have a sound and sustainable funding basis is an important part of that process. We've been fortunate that in recent years that some support grants in addition to fundraising have helped contribute to our operating costs. Many of these are now not available and as with everything in life at the moment costs are increasing and we have to look at ensuring we operate financially responsibly.

Three sub committees have been formed to divide up some of the work and focus on specific aspects of the work of the committee. The first is the new build subcommittee who are liaising with the Parish Council and others over the new build project. The second is the bar and social committee who plan and coordinate the activities in the bar area, and the third is the rents and leases subcommittee who have been tasked with reviewing and bringing up to date the various agreements with user groups and recommendations going forward. 2023 saw all the usual fundraisers, the monthly bingo, the car boot sales, quizzes

and the firework display but there have also been new fundraising initiatives with the aim of generating additional revenue streams.

The community bar has been a huge success, the Christmas fayre/shopping event was held and a couple of band nights have proved popular. In addition we've been proactive in trying to find new hall bookings to increase the overall occupancy of the building during evenings and weekends. Together all of these activities contribute crucial additional income to support the maintenance and upkeep of the recreation centre and grounds, and help us work towards a more financially independent model. The clothing, paper and bottle banks continue to provide a regular steady stream of income.

To make the hall appeal to as wide an audience as possible we have undertaken some improvement works. We have also worked on some smaller more manageable projects over weekends and school holidays so as not to interfere with hall users. Some of these have been able to be done relatively quickly, some will take longer. All of these changes are intended to improve the facilities and make the facilities more appealing for users and hirers. Of course we are mindful of the potential new village hall and everything considered against that. As we are here now we are a few years from a new village hall, but it is coming in one form or another.

During 2023 we discovered an issue with the very popular basket swing. Replacement quotes were to be honest quite staggering, but with the support of a local village lady an afternoon tea was organised to help raise funds. A new basket swing has been installed and has been used regularly by local children.

We received funding for an AED for the Recreation Centre and this was installed earlier in the year. My thanks go to everyone who helped organise, run and attend all of the various events and activities and the recreation centre. Without willing volunteers none of these would be possible. Equally to all of the Trustees who have spent numerous hours working to plan, develop and enhance things.

We intend to deliver many more events in 2024; some examples being a horse racing night, a car rally, dance evenings, dart evenings, regular car boots for various Saturday mornings, regular bingo evenings, and the always popular Fireworks evening.

It has been a very successful year and we look towards 2024 with great positivity.

Huge thanks must go to all our Trustees and volunteers.

Trustees: 2023/24

Chair: Richard Ewin(outgoing), Fran Elliott (Took over Feb 2024)

Secretary: Sue Alabaster

Treasurer: Graham Beales

Trustee's:

1. John Brierley
2. Jean Leech
3. Sue Gent
4. Tim Roebuck
5. Sue Alabaster
6. Ben Crick
7. Stephanie Hauck (left in Feb 2024)
8. Kelly Watts (voted on in Feb 2024)
9. Vicky Rix (voted on in Feb 2024)