

**CHOPPINGTON SOCIAL WELFARE CENTRE**

**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 522045**

**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

CHOPPINGTON SOCIAL WELFARE CENTRE

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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**CHOPPINGTON SOCIAL WELFARE CENTRE**

**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

Registered Charity Number	- 522045
Address of Scheme	- Fernlea Drive Scotland Gate Choppington Northumberland NE62 5SS
Trustees	- B Storey J E Young A Dickson N A Little J Coulter M Rice M Carmon C Wood
Secretary	- S N Rice
Treasurer	- S N Rice
Bankers	- Barclays Bank plc Northumbria House Cramlington Northumberland NE23 6QP
Independent Examiner	- J Wallage FCA CISWO (Trading) Ltd The Old Rectory Rectory Drive Whiston Rotherham S60 4JG

**CHOPPINGTON SOCIAL WELFARE CENTRE**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

The trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts which can be found on page 7 and comply with the charities trust deed, applicable law and the Charities SORP FRS 102.

**Constitution, Objectives and Activities for the Public Benefit**

The charity is constituted by a scheme dated 8 February 2005 and is registered with the Charity Commission under the number 522045.

Its objectives are to provide a social welfare centre for the benefit of the inhabitants of the parish of Choppington and the surrounding area particularly (but not exclusively) those who are members of the mining community. The trustees have referred to the guidance given by the Charity Commission on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and details of the activities that have taken place during the year can be found later in this report.

**Organisational Structure**

The trustees who have served the charity during the year are shown on page 1.

The charity is responsible for maintaining the premises and grounds in a suitable state of repair for use by those who live in the surrounding area. It raises income through various charitable activities such as hiring out its facilities for use by the public. In addition to this, the charity receives an occupational licence from its connected trading company, Choppington Social Welfare Centre Social Club Ltd and an agreement is in place whereby all the profits of the company are donated to the charity under Gift Aid.

Trustee vacancies are advertised and interested parties are asked to apply in writing. Interviews will be held and suitable candidates are then notified to their nominating body either CISWO, NUM or members. The Trustee Board is made up of equal numbers of each nominating body.

**Financial Review**

The charity had net outgoing resources of £50,557 (2023 outgoing £57,122) from the day to day running of the centre. Income from room hire has decreased by £4,948 to £14,110 (2023 £19,058) but income from catering increased by £632 which shows the impact of the pandemic is still slowly improving. The trading company Choppington Social Welfare Centre Social Club Ltd did make a profit this year which meant it was able to make a Gift Aid donation to the charity of £3,346 this year. Resources expended also decreased by £6,411 this year (2023 Increased by £8,484).

**Review of Activities**

The centre offers a variety of courses and activities, a licenced bar and community café offering a full range from simple snacks to cooked meals. Some activities have experienced a reduction in numbers attending. A full report from the secretary and Chair of Trustees which gives details of all the activities that have taken place over the year can be found in Appendix A, attached to the accounts.

**Investment Policy**

There is no specific investment policy in place as such but the trustees have taken the sensible approach and placed most of the charity's liquid assets in interest bearing accounts. This will provide a small amount of income for the charity in the form of interest but means that the funds are readily available should they be required.

Continued

**CHOPPINGTON SOCIAL WELFARE CENTRE**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**Reserves Policy**

It is the policy of the trustees to maintain unrestricted funds which are the free reserves of the charity, at a level to provide sufficient funds to cover anticipated administration and support costs. Any additional reserves are held to provide a capital fund for repairs that will be required for the upkeep of the premises, including a future project to provide a MUGA for the community.

**Risk Management**

The trustees are aware of the operational and financial risks which the charity faces and regularly reviews those risks to mitigate against any impact they may have on the charity. The major risks facing the charity are the continued success of the Social Club from which it derives some of its funding, the support of individuals, groups and the community in using the facilities and the introduction of the younger generation to provide for the future. The trustees work closely with the directors and members to address these risks.

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in operation

The trustees are 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 Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

Trustee

Print Name

Trustee

Print Name

Date

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF**  
**CHOPPINGTON SOCIAL WELFARE CENTRE**

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above named charity (registered number 522045) for the period ended 31 March 2024, set out pages 5 to 9.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of Charities Act 2011 (the Act).


I report in respect of my examination of the Trustees' accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directons given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent Examiners Statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do 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.

  
.....

13/9/24.....

**J Wallage FCA**

Date

On behalf of: CISWO (Trading) Ltd  
The Old Rectory  
Rectory Drive  
Whiston  
Rotherham  
South Yorkshire  
S60 4JG

**CHOPPINGTON SOCIAL WELFARE CENTRE**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

		<u>General</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
		<u>Funds</u>	<u>Funds</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<u>Income and Endowments</u>	<u>Notes</u>	£	£	£	£
Income from leisure activities	2	10,874	-	10,874	8,783
Catering takings	3	14,192	-	14,192	13,560
Members' subscriptions		208	-	208	312
Room hire		14,110	-	14,110	19,058
Occupational licence		2,500	-	2,500	2,500
Gift aid donation	4	3,346	-	3,346	1,787
Donations		290	-	290	-
Investment income		1,294	-	1,294	279
Solar Panel income		5,046	-	5,046	5,537
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>51,860</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>51,860</b>	<b>51,816</b>
 <u>Expenditure</u>					
<u>Direct Charitable Expenditure</u>					
Catering purchases		2,679	-	2,679	5,289
Rates and water rates		2,577	-	2,577	3,078
Insurance		3,571	-	3,571	3,333
Light and heat		17,139	-	17,139	8,207
Repairs and maintenance		3,204	-	3,204	11,075
Cleaning and hygiene		1,427	-	1,427	1,496
Sundry expenses		166	-	166	144
		30,763	-	30,763	32,622
<u>Management and Administration</u>					
Salaries and wages		52,554	-	52,554	54,563
Telephone, postage, stationery and adverts		1,882	-	1,882	3,126
Accountancy		1,820	-	1,820	1,749
Entertainment and licences		2,114	-	2,114	1,645
Irrecoverable partial exemption VAT		1,320	-	1,320	2,089
Bad debts written off		-	-	-	1,070
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>90,453</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>90,453</b>	<b>96,864</b>
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS BEFORE DEPRECIATION</b>		<b>(38,593)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(38,593)</b>	<b>(45,048)</b>
Less: Depreciation	5	(1,800)	(10,164)	(11,964)	(12,074)
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>(40,393)</b>	<b>(10,164)</b>	<b>(50,557)</b>	<b>(57,122)</b>
Fund balances brought forward		251,730	479,231	730,961	788,083
<b>Fund balances carried forward</b>		<b>211,337</b>	<b>469,067</b>	<b>680,404</b>	<b>730,961</b>

**CHOPPINGTON SOCIAL WELFARE CENTRE**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 31 MARCH 2024**

	Note	<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>	
		£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	5		569,066		581,030
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Stocks	6	4,898		4,005	
Debtors	7	13,579		13,635	
Cash at bank and in hand	8	98,865		136,478	
		<u>117,342</u>		<u>154,118</u>	
<b>LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
Creditors falling due within one year	9	<u>(6,004)</u>		<u>(4,187)</u>	
			111,338		149,931
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>			<u><u>680,404</u></u>		<u><u>730,961</u></u>

Represented by:

**FUNDS**

General funds	211,337	251,730
Restricted funds - Building Fund	469,067	479,231
	<u><u>680,404</u></u>	<u><u>730,961</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

.....  
Trustee

.....  
Print name

11.9.24  
Date



**CHOPPINGTON SOCIAL WELFARE CENTRE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**a) Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS102), the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Trust has adequate reserves to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis in the preparation of the accounts.

**b) Income Recognition**

Income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised when they are received.

**c) Expenditure Recognition**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is possible that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

**d) Depreciation**

Depreciation is charged on all fixed assets with the intention of writing off the cost of each asset over its estimated useful life. The rates applied are as follows:

Buildings	-	2% reducing balance basis
Furniture, fittings and equipment	-	20% reducing balance basis

**e) Stocks**

Stocks have been valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making adjustments for obsolete and slow moving items.

	<b><u>2024</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>
	£	£
<b>2. <u>INCOME FROM LEISURE ACTIVITIES</u></b>		
Pilates Group	615	585
Tuesday Dance Club	1,502	1,331
Pool and Snooker	457	848
Carpet Bowls	595	433
Line Dancing	5,273	3,645
Choppington Community Choir	1,289	1,080
Centre Activities	1,143	738
Youth Activities	-	123
	<u>10,874</u>	<u>8,783</u>

**CHOPPINGTON SOCIAL WELFARE CENTRE**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£
<b>3. CATERING TAKINGS</b>		
Catering Income associated with room hire		
Food	4,467	3,168
Tea/Coffee	7,117	7,068
Catering Income from general café activities	2,608	3,324
	<u>14,192</u>	<u>13,560</u>

**4. BAR TRADING ACCOUNT**

From 1 April 2007, the bar trading activity was hived off into a separate trading company, Choppington Social Welfare Centre Social Club Limited.

The Company traded at a profit this year and therefore is able to make a Gift Aid donation to the charity of £3,346.09 (2022 £1,787.19).

	<u>Buildings (Restricted)</u>	<u>Buildings (General)</u>	<u>Furniture &amp; Equipment (Restricted)</u>	<u>Furniture &amp; Equipment (General)</u>	<u>Total</u>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>5. FIXED ASSETS</b>					
<u>Cost</u>					
At 1 April 2023	735,329	109,609	50,404	7,890	903,232
Additions in year	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	<u>735,329</u>	<u>109,609</u>	<u>50,404</u>	<u>7,890</u>	<u>903,232</u>
<u>Depreciation</u>					
At 1 April 2023	234,401	30,450	49,678	7,673	322,202
Charge for the year	10,019	1,583	145	217	11,964
At 31 March 2024	<u>244,420</u>	<u>32,033</u>	<u>49,823</u>	<u>7,890</u>	<u>334,166</u>
<u>Net Book Value</u>					
At 31 March 2024	<u>490,909</u>	<u>77,576</u>	<u>581</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>569,066</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>500,928</u>	<u>79,159</u>	<u>726</u>	<u>217</u>	<u>581,030</u>

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£
<b>6. STOCKS</b>		
Catering stocks	2,556	1,968
Other stocks	2,342	2,037
	<u>4,898</u>	<u>4,005</u>

**7. DEBTORS**

Trade debtors	736	2,789
Balance due from Choppington Social Welfare Centre Social Club Ltd	8,481	6,922
Prepayments	4,362	3,168
VAT	-	539
PAYE	-	217
	<u>13,579</u>	<u>13,635</u>

**CHOPPINGTON SOCIAL WELFARE CENTRE**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 (CONTINUED)**

	<b><u>2024</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>
	£	£
<b>8. <u>CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND</u></b>		
Barclays Bank - Current account	8,319	13,056
- Deposit account	90,546	122,252
Cash in hand	-	1,170
	<u>98,865</u>	<u>136,478</u>
<b>9. <u>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</u></b>		
Trade creditors	498	-
VAT	736	-
PAYE	709	-
Accruals	4,061	4,187
	<u>6,004</u>	<u>4,187</u>

**Secretary & Chairs Report to the Trustee's & Management Committee**  
**For the financial Year 2023/24**

Come November 18<sup>th</sup> This Year the Centre Celebrates it's 24<sup>th</sup> Year since we moved from our old Centre into the new building, we all still have very fond memories of the old Centre and what we achieved over the years along with all the wonderful people who helped to support it. Our main aim then was to provide an amenity that people loved to come to and enjoy themselves our aim today is no different, it is still the same nothing has changed at all in that time. We still want to be able to offer a very special service to our members & clients, a service that will keep them wanting to come back with confidence, time & time again. The only thing that has changed is what today's people want us to provide to encourage them to keep coming time & time again, Dancing is still a popular activity but not as popular as it once was "Old Time Dancing I mean" because there are so many different sorts of dance out there encouraging people to become part of them but not many of them manage to attract the huge numbers that old time dancing did. Having said that one style of Dance we started in the Old Centre 35yrs ago Known as "Country & Western" people then said it was just another fad & wouldn't last but here we are our Group have just Celebrated 35 yrs of Dance, Music & Friendship, "Yes" the style of music they dance too has varied over the years anything from C&W to modern day Pop Music, with Dance choreographers creating dance scripts to suit the music. A very "Big" special thanks to the celebration event that the girls organised & delivered.

We have in past reports tried to express how the world changed due to the Pandemic, changed not just for us here at CSWC but the world in so many very different ways. Closing the Centre until further notice was the beginning of a very long process to get opened back up again that is still ongoing. I would like to say to you at this point which is more than 2 years after the last lockdown ended that everything was back to normal but sadly it's not. The main problem is with the fact there are still many members who haven't yet gained the confidence to get their life back to normal by coming back to join in with everyone else, it is a slow process. Not helped one little bit as there are still signs of Covid hanging round. We have kept some restrictions in place to help keep or should I say retain the confidence of those users who do come along some that have other health conditions it is surprising how many still use the Hand Sanitising stations so we're happy to retain the cleaning regime we have in place which is for the safeguarding of all. As also previously stated all we can do is to keep working at trying to bring those members back to join us.

We are delivering training sessions for some of our clients as the bookings come in, more clients are looking to resume their normality in offering training sessions for staff with us here in the Centre as they feel delivering training by zoom or online wasn't delivering the same level of Training.

It was evident the way clients budgets had been restricted as we have been asked to provide estimates for virtually every training session dates enquiries are made about. It does take quite a bit of time up but we don't mind that it has to be done because of the way the food prices have been altering at the suppliers & in the shops.

After speaking with the Editor of the ABC magazine to ask his advice on putting together something to try and encourage people back to user groups, his advice was that we have already tried that in previous magazine adverts we have to accept that it was now down to individuals to decide when they have the confidence to get back to normal life. Until that happens all we can do is the same as we always have to continue to deliver the best service we can and to work at building the fact we are still here and open for business.


Sadly Mr. R. Scott our Choir master has decided to retire mainly due to his failing eyesight making it difficult to travel to & from his home in Newcastle to the Centre in the winter months. He has helped the Choir to find a replacement choir master, the choir organised a farewell night for him with a surprise buffet that everyone including Richard enjoyed. One of the Choir re wrote the words to a song that the choir sang on many occasions, the words & chorus were about his time as their "Choir Master" I don't think I have ever seen RS smile or enjoy anything as much as hearing the Choir sing that song. He did however make a threat as he was leaving that worried quite a few people he said he would call back now & again to make sure everyone was doing as they were asked.

Over the last few years (since the Pandemic really) there have been many changes taking place with companies & Organisations that we have to work & cooperate with. Many of these changes being implemented might be to simplify things with them but to be honest it is making working life difficult for the Centre, so I've got no doubts if it is causing us problems other people like ourselves are having problems. Charity Commission in simplifying their form so they say in explanation for the need for changes, yet you need to be an auditor for you to complete or understand some of the questions. Companies House have made changes that have further implications for us and not them. Barclays Bank this used to be a half hour job in our operational week now we have to put aside 4 hours to do the banking if we are lucky that is. When you try & ring them again we have to be prepared for a 4 hour wait hanging on to speak to someone. Likewise if we have the need to ring HMRC to speak with them be prepared for 3 to 4 hour wait. All of this extra demand takes away what we are here to do run a Community Centre to our best ability but find we are the victims of unreasonable people in positions that have lost sight of while chasing the big fish the little fish are being sacrificed, I can go on & on but whats the point we just have to get on with it.

Over the time while I have been connected with the Centre there are a number of people I have got to know have decided to call it a day because of the extra demand on the time they had available to do the job, I have to say I can see why. I have spoken with 3 people trying to get new Trustee's and once they see the commitment they decline.

Having mentioned earlier that about this time next year we will be approaching the Centre's 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday well in recent weeks members have been asking if we are planning anything special to celebrate it. I said Yes probably on the lines that we did for the 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday, however as we are still some time away we have many other things we need to work towards before that becomes an important issue.

Secretary..........S. N. Rice

Chair..........J. E. Young

