DIG IT COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT

Charity Number: 1157047

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2025

Community 360

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DIG IT COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT

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FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2025

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DIG IT COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2025

Charity number	1157047
Trustees	Helen Payne Tessa Horner Sean Manchip Anna Taylor
Registered address	1 Audley End Audley End Saffron Walden Essex CB11 4JB
Bank	The Co-operative Bank
Independent examiners	Community360 Winsleys House High Street Colchester CO1 1UG

DIG IT COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2025

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30th of November 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by the Charities Commission, UK Government. We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

OVERVIEW

Dig It Community Allotment (Charity No.1157047) has been a registered charity in Saffron Walden since 2014. Dig It encourages activity, healthy lifestyles and peer support. We offer a significant contribution to prevention and early intervention for those in a majority of the health and wellbeing priority categories. Our work promotes self-care in a variety of ways, offering support and advice according to need. Many of our disadvantaged volunteers gain in life satisfaction, health, confidence and self-worth through participation. We have established a wide network of partners and referral sources over many years of working closely with other local organisations. As of the date of this report, we have delivered a range of 5 established sessions weekly over the space of the year. At our sessions volunteers grow produce and knowledge on how vegetables, herbs and fruits can be introduced into healthy meals they can cook at home. We work on developing new growing techniques within our site, greenhouse and polytunnel. Volunteers learn how to propagate seeds right through to harvesting what is grown. We have launched a second plot this year and have been supported by our groups, corporate teams and the local community to develop this new space. Dig It is continuously developing accessibility at the allotment to provide wheelchair access throughout the site and has installed new structures including an additional greenhouse, 2 new polytunnels, raised planters throughout and a new teahouse. Our volunteers come from a variety of backgrounds; we currently work with children, adutlts and seniors including those impacted by low mental health, isolation, physical and learning disabilities, homelessness, and many who are refugees and seeking asylum in the UK. This fantastic outdoor space offers a calm, inclusive and social setting which in turn will reduce isolation and promote community cohesion.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES FUNDING

Funding for Dig It Community Allotment comes from a variety of sources, including formal grants, donations, corporate and community support, and general fundraising activities. During 2025, the charity received total income of **£86,315**, of which **£75,666 represented restricted funds** and a further **£10,649 was unrestricted income**. 2025 proved to be a successful year for fundraising, enabling Dig It to diversify its income streams, strengthen existing projects and extend its activities to additional service-user groups.

Funding received enabled us to continue providing inclusive horticultural, outdoor, wellbeing and social activities for vulnerable and disadvantaged people across Saffron Walden and the wider Uttlesford area across both allotment plots. This included adults with learning and physical disabilities, refugees and people seeking asylum, older people, and others experiencing isolation or disadvantage.

The National Lottery Community Fund supported our Breaking Ground Project, enabling Dig It to provide weekly sessions for refugees and people seeking asylum living within the local area and temporary hotel accommodation including much needed transport. The project uses gardening and outdoor activities to improve mental and physical wellbeing while creating opportunities for friendship, community participation and integration. Following a year of using community transport, we were also delighted to secure funding from the Clothworkers Foundation for our very bus to transport service

Funding, donations and in-kind support also enabled us to continue improving the accessibility and facilities of our community allotment. This included the development of wheelchair-accessible paths and raised growing areas, helping people with limited mobility to participate more fully in activities. Donations of compost, soil improver, woodchip, equipment and materials, alongside significant volunteer support, enabled us to continue developing both allotment plots. Funding from Active Essex supported our Stretch & Grow activities, incorporating gardening, walking and yoga to encourage participants to remain active and support their physical and mental wellbeing. Dig It secured funding through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) to support the launch and development of our second community allotment plot and our Unforgettable Tea Project. The project is developing a sensory garden, creating additional space for environmentally focused activities including tea growing activities and expanding the charity's capacity to deliver services. The new space has been designed to particularly benefit older people, including those living with the early stages of dementia, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's, providing opportunities for gentle outdoor activity, sensory engagement, social connection and improved wellbeing.

The development of our second plot represented an important expansion for Dig It during 2025. The additional space will enable us to broaden our horticultural, environmental and wellbeing activities, develop new growing areas and engage in wildlife projects with a focus on our nature pond, beehives, bird/bat boxes, hedgehog homes and insect habitats, supporting pollinators, improving local biodiversity alongside providing environmental workshops. Alongside providing more space for our existing service users, the new plot has enabled Dig It to extend its reach to additional groups within the community and develop activities specifically for older people and children. The plot provides an accessible and welcoming outdoor environment where participants can connect with nature, take part in meaningful activities and build social connections.

Dig It launched its new Unforgettable Senior Tea Club, a weekly dementia-friendly session held Thursdays from 11am–1pm. The club was developed as part of our commitment to extending Dig It's services to older residents and preparing for the full use of the new sensory garden and second allotment plot. The sessions provide a friendly and welcoming outdoor space for older people, including those living with dementia and memory loss. Corporate and community partnerships continued to make an important contribution to the charity. In addition to financial support, our partners provided volunteer time, professional expertise, equipment and materials, helping us to clear and build the new site, improve the existing site while ensuring that a greater proportion of our funding could be directed towards frontline activities and our beneficiaries. Community donations also provided practical support to our service users. This included donations of clothing and household items for refugee families, with coats, gloves and wellington boots helping participants to take part safely and comfortably in outdoor activities throughout the year.

The combination of grant funding, unrestricted fundraising, donations, corporate partnerships, community support and volunteering has enabled Dig It to maximise the impact of its resources. Importantly, the diversification of income during 2025 has supported both the continuation of established activities and the development of new opportunities to reach additional groups within our community.

The Trustees would like to extend their special thanks to all Dig It staff, volunteers, service users, funders, donors and community partners whose support made our work possible

In particular, we would like to acknowledge the support of LPA Group, Saffron Walden Building Society, Tees Law, Saffron Walden Rotary, Saffron Walden Round Table, Saffron Walden Mencap Society, The Clothworkers Foundation, Essex Active, Saffron Community Fund, Uttlesford District Council, Saffron Walden Town Council, The Tudwick Foundation, UKSPF, National Lottery Community Fund, ASDA Foundation, Tesco Saffron Walden, Waitrose Saffron Walden, Essex Community Foundation, Enterprise East Group, Louise Newman, Audley End Estate, Cllr Richard Freeman and Cllr Heather Asker, The Percy Bilton Charity, Annie Tranmer Charitable Trust, Nineveh Trust, Lord Barnaby's Foundation, The National Garden Scheme, The Finnis Sc=ott Foundation.

The Trustees remain committed to maintaining and further diversifying the charity's funding base to support long-term sustainability, respond to emerging local needs and ensure Dig It continues to provide an inclusive, welcoming and accessible community space for those who need it most.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

1. Open to All One day per week we ran open to all sessions, available to anyone within our community. Individuals attend on their own or alongside their children or carers to take part in activities on site.

2. Growability – Dig It & Saffron Walden Mencap Society Our Mencap Dig-It Club meets every Wednesday morning at the plot, where Mencap adults with learning disabilities learn all about growing their own food. Members are supported by a sessional worker from Dig It and the Saffron Walden Mencap Society team. There is a regular group in attendance including service users from the ECL in Saffron Walden. Members are encouraged to take some produce home.

3. Café Cornell "Plot to Plate" in collaboration with Enterprise East Group Dig It has hosts participants from Enterprise East Group with supporting volunteers to deliver groups focused on the joint "Plot to Plate" project, to learn how to plant, tend, harvest and maintain the fruit and vegetable plots across all four seasons. Once the produce is ready, it is brought to the community café where the chefs teach participants how to prepare and cook tasty and nutritious meals, from the fruits of their labours.

4. Breaking Ground - A weekly session for Refugees and Asylum Seekers living in local hotel accommodation and who have been moved to the local community. We provide transport to our site and create a space for gardening, friendship and integration within the fantastic community that we live in.

5.Unforgettable Senior Tea Club - The club was developed as part of our commitment to extending Dig It's services to older residents and preparing for the full use of the new sensory garden and second allotment plot. The sessions provide a friendly and welcoming outdoor space for older people, including those living with dementia and memory loss.

FINANCIAL REVIEW
Principal funding sources In 2025 Dig It Community Allotment received a total income of £86,315, this was increased by £59,023 compared to 2024 (£27,292). This represents steady fundraising from the charity as most of the increase is represented by additional staff costs for our Unforgettable Senior Tea Club and Breaking Ground Projects, Corporate Days and design, development and implementation of the new plot. This includes £16,384 carried forward in restricted funds to 2026.

Dig It spent a lot of the last 3 years diversifying our funding streams, this has included the creation of a Give As You Live donation page and increase to individual donors that raised unrestricted donations to £855. LPA Group has selected us as their Charity of the Year for the second year running, raising £1,835 and £500 following a talk at the Saffron Walden Freemasons. Dig It was also supported by Saffron Walden Building Society and LPA who all offered their skills and time on corporate volunteer days at our site. Saffron Walden Mencap Society and Enterprise East Group also pay monthly donations (£7,280 in 2025) towards the closed sessions we deliver for their service user groups on a weekly basis to cover use of the site, tools, materials, refreshments, venue, staffing and management costs.

We would like to thank all who have donated and supported Dig It projects and activities during the year. Your generous support is highly valued, both financially and by volunteering.

Investment policy and objectives
Monies not immediately required for the objectives of Dig It are held in a deposit account, in line with the investment policy. The charity does not have any other investments.

Reserves policy
The trustees have set a level equivalent to 2 months of operating costs for the organisation as a desired level of reserve. This fund is a contingency in the event of a sudden reduction in income, in order to protect the future operation of the organisation from the effects of any unforeseen variations in its income and expenditure. It also provides a cash flow for grants and contracts that are paid in arrears. The trustees have designated reserves where there are planned commitments that cannot be met by anticipated future income alone. These reserves at Dig It Community Allotment relate to the organisation's responsibilities as an employer to hold sufficient funds to provide proper notice and in the event of closure. This also allows us to prepare service users for changes in delivery and refer to alternative organisations where appropriate upon closure.

The reserves policy and the levels of reserves required are reviewed yearly as part of the annual

Unrestricted Funds represented by:	Desired Reserves	Balance as at 31st November 2025	Description of Funds
Salaries Reserve	£3,360	£518	Two months salaries

Reserves update after year end: At 30 November 2025, reserves were below our target. By April 2026, they had recovered. The trustees are regularly reviewing the level of reserves needed as Dig It's projects and commitments grow. A plan is in place to build and maintain reserves through individual giving, corporate donations and fundraising activities planned throughout the year.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT
Governing document
The charity is controlled by its Constitution document.

DIG IT COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2025

Charity Constitution
Dig It Community Allotment is a Charitable incorporated organisation (CIO)registered with the Charity Commission, registration number 1157047.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees
The Board assesses its skills base on a regular basis and fills identified gaps by advertising and recruiting new Trustees. Trustees are chosen for their complementary skills, breadth of experience and contribution to the charity in a range of ways. The minimum number of Trustees is three. New Trustees will meet with Helen Payne (Chair) and Laura Thompson-Harper (Project Manager) as part of an induction process. A strategic planning and review day is held annually by the Board, to review the strategy and consider key issues emerging.

Organisational structure
The Board of Trustees meets quarterly and is responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. Responsibility for the day to day running of the charity and delivery of activities is delegated to the Project Manager.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT
Risk management
The Trustees have reviewed the major strategic, business and operational risks, which the charity faces at this stage of its development and have identified key risks. Actions to address key risk areas have been agreed and progress is reviewed regularly. In addition, strong financial controls are in place to mitigate the risk of financial losses due to theft or fraud, and these controls are regularly reviewed. The charity also has in place a Safeguarding Policy which applies to all staff and trustees, volunteers or consultants working on behalf of Dig It Community Allotment.

Objectives and activities
The charity's objectives are, for the public benefit, throughout Uttlesford and surrounding areas:
A. Education/training
B. The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives
C. Environment/conservation/heritage
D. Economic/community Development/employment

How do we do this?
- To teach volunteers of all ages how to grow organic food and the benefits of organic local food productions.
- To provide opportunities for local people who are unemployed or economically inactive to gain gardening and job skills and build their confidence to enable them to re-enter the job market.
- To promote careers in environmentally sustainable sectors by providing volunteering experience and education.
- To promote social gardening activities for all members of the community especially including those with a mental or physical disability as we particularly recognise the benefits of community gardening to these groups.
- To provide gardening education and play activities to children and young people.
- To promote and encourage community spirit through gardening.
- To work with other local organisations



Approved by order of the board of trustees on and signed on 25th September 2026 its behalf by Helen

DIG IT COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2025

I report on the accounts of Dig It Community Allotment for the year ended 30 November 2025 which are set out on pages eight to eleven.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner
The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (The Act) but that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charaties Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's Statement
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes considerations of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement
In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention 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

I 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.

David Courtier FMAAT AATQB for and on behalf of:
Community360, Winsley's House
High Street, Colchester, Essex
CO1 1UG



Date 29/09/2026

DIG IT COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2025

	Note	2025 Unrestricted £	2025 Restricted £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Receipts					
Donations		3,140	-	3,140	2,014
Grants	**2**	-	75,666	75,666	17,580
Earned income		7,509	-	7,509	7,698
Total receipts		**10,649**	**75,666**	**86,315**	**27,292**
Payments					
Administration costs		3,089	-	3,089	735
Advertising and marketing		197	-	197	-
Sundries		683	359	1,042	113
Self employed		869	37,332	38,201	27,545
Rent of allotments		155	-	155	65
Allotment expenses		166	2,381	2,547	4,071
Training		12	-	12	-
Travel costs		997	2,911	3,908	-
Insurance		158	-	158	141
Project fees		640	21,901	22,541	1,821
Professional fees		-	-	-	224
Total payments		**6,964**	**64,884**	**71,848**	**34,714**
Transfers between funds		(4,052)	4,052	-	-
Net of Receipts /(Payments)		**(366)**	**14,834**	**14,468**	**(7,422)**
Cash funds as at 30 November 2024		884	1,550	2,434	9,857
Cash funds as at 30 November 2025		**518**	**16,384**	**16,902**	**2,434**

Notes on pages 10 and 11 form part of these accounts

DIG IT COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT

STATEMENT OF ASSET AND LIABILITIES
AS AT 30 NOVEMBER 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Monetary Assets			
Cash at Bank & In Hand	**4**	16,902	2,434
		16,902	**2,434**
Represented by Funds			
Restricted funds		16,384	1,550
Unrestricted General Fund		518	884
		16,902	**2,434**
Non Monetary Assets and Liabilities			
Fixed Assets			
Plant & Equipment	**3**	35	46
		35	46
Current Assets			
Prepayment (Insurance)		-	24
		-	24
Creditors due within one year			
Accountancy Fee	**6**	340	275
		340	275
Total Assets Less Liabilities		**(306)**	**(206)**

These accounts were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by :

Signed: _____ Date: 28th September 2026

T Horner

DIG IT COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2025

1.1 These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis. The income did not exceed £250,000 and the charity is not a registered company.

1.2 Non-monetary Assets and Liabilities are shown as actual values at the end of the year.

1.3 Plant and Equipment is to be depreciatied at the rate of 25% on a reducing balance basis.

1.4 Going Concern
The trustees of the charity deem that there are sufficient funds available to continue operating on a going concern basis for the forseeable future

1.5 Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

2. Income	**Unrestricted**	**Restricted**	**2025**	**2024**
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**
Grants	-	75,666	75,666	17,580
	-	**75,666**	**75,666**	**17,580**

3. Tangible Fixed Assets	**Plant & Equipment**
Cost of Valuation	**£**
As at 1st December 2024	1,226
Additions	-
As at 30th November 2025	**1,226**
Depreciation	
As at 1st December 2024	1,180
Charge for the year	12
As at 30th November 2025	**1,192**
Net book value	
As at 30th November 2025	**35**
As at 30th November 2024	46

4. Cash funds	**2025**	**2024**
	£	**£**
The Co Operative Bank	16,902	2,434
	16,902	**2,434**

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2025

5. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Prepayment (Insurance)	-	24
	-	**24**

6. Creditors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accountancy Fee	340	275
	340	**275**

7. Funds Analysis

	Balance at 01/12/2024	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfer	Balance at 30/11/2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted	884	10,649	(6,964)	(4,052)	518
	884	**10,649**	**(6,964)**	**-**	**518**

Restricted	Balance at 30/11/2024	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfer	Balance at 30/11/2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Clothworkers	-	13,800	-	-	13,800
Essex Active	-	3,000	(3,064)	64	-
Uttlesford District Council	-	650	(819)	169	-
Annie Tranmer CT	-	500	(582)	82	-
Nineveh Trust	-	5,000	(5,489)	489	-
Lord Barnaby	-	2,000	(2,001)	1	-
National Garden Scheme	-	5,000	(5,013)	13	-
National Lottery - Com. Fund	-	20,000	(20,896)	896	-
The Tudwick Foundation	-	3,000	(4,400)	1,400	-
The Finnis Scott Foundation	-	2,000	-		2,000
Rotary Club of SW	-	500	(507)	7	-
Saffron Walden Round Table	-	1,500	(1,501)	1	-
Essex Community Foundation	-	3,116	(3,121)	5	-
Asda Foundation	800	600	(1,108)	292	584
UKSPF	-	15,000	(15,033)	33	-
Percy Bilton	750	-	(1,350)	600	-
	1,550	**75,666**	**(64,884)**	**4,052**	**16,384**
Total Funds	**2,434**	**86,315**	**(71,848)**	**-**	**16,902**