POULTON-LE-FYLDE
COMMUNITY HALL

Poulton-le-Fylde Community Hall

Report and Financial Statements
Year Ended 31 March 2026



A community space for all



















Poulton-le-Fylde Community Hall

Report and financial statements for year ended 31 March 2026

Charity Information

Registered Office
Poulton-le-Fylde Community Hall
3 Vicarage Road
Poulton-le-Fylde
Lancashire
FY6 7BE

Charity number
1158292

Trustee Board
Sarah Welsh, Chair
Amelia MacPherson, Treasurer
Chris Gannon
Dana Gledhill, Secretary
Trevor Lund
Mark Carter
Mike Rolland

Independent Examiner
Stephen Smith
46 Hodder Way
Poulton-le-Fylde
FY6 8AQ

Bankers
Virgin Money
154-158 Kensington High St
London W8 7RL

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POULTON-LE-FYLDE COMMUNITY HALL

Chairman's report for the year ended 31 March 2026

New improvements to building and facilities
We're building an extension to add a new dressing room, toilets, storage and a much larger bar. At the start of the reporting period, we secured funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) of up to £85,000, plus additional financial support from Wyre Borough Council (WBC) of £80,000. This funding will cover much-needed additions such as extra storage, a larger dressing room, backstage toilets, and a new bar space. These funds are expected to cover nearly two-thirds of the building costs.

Architectural design and construction tendering
We quickly progressed to obtaining architectural drawings, planning permission, building regulation approval and completing a tendering process for building construction. Work began on-site in October 2025, with the dressing room and backstage toilets beautifully finished and ready for use by February 2026. The majority of work on the additional storage rooms and bar was also completed within the reporting period, with a new bar opening planned for April 2026. It's been a remarkable achievement, and the positive response from hirers and visitors has been truly overwhelming.

Volunteer recognition - King's Award for Voluntary Services (KAVS)
In May 2025, trustee Chris Gannon and I attended a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace for the King's Award for Voluntary Services (KAVS). We were invited to represent all our volunteers and staff who have helped save, restore, and run the Hall. We enjoyed a very special day, and the weather was glorious.

100th Anniversary Celebrations and Poulton Gala
We celebrated the Hall's 100th anniversary and hosted a Town Quiz, Family Fun Day and a spectacular Variety Show, hosted by local comedian Steve Royle, staged during the actual week of the Community Hall's 100th anniversary. Local amateur and professional performers made for a truly memorable night. To top it all off, we built a fabulous Poulton Gala float as an almost exact replica of the Hall, complete with tower and weathervane, and won the award for the Best Gala Float.

A host of popular events and celebrations
In 2025 we staged a variety of events including VE Day Celebrations, hugely popular Comedy Nights, tribute bands, a Pre-loved Toy Fair, Burns Night Supper with a ceilidh band, 'Christmas is Better Together' Christmas Lunch, a Christmas Fair, and a Christmas Party. We also had a Children's Panto, Poulton Brass Band Concerts, Northern Soul Nights and our usual regular hirings such as Chaddeans Musical Shows and rehearsal sessions, presentation nights, children's parties, weddings, anniversaries, funeral wakes, children's shows, and fundraising events. We're excited to continue hosting these wonderful events and look forward to meeting everyone again in the coming year!

Making substantial progress
The 2025-2026 period has been unlike any other, yet we still have ongoing projects. We're transitioning to a more sustainable energy system by installing an air source heat pump and an all-electric air-conditioning and heating system, replacing an inefficient gas boiler and gas convection space heaters. This will necessitate an upgrade to a 3-phase electricity supply. We're also planning to enhance our stage lighting, relocate our audio equipment, commission safer and better stage-side extensions, and purchase additional chairs. The new dressing room is already drawing significant interest from theatre and musical groups. A key condition of our UKSPF funding is demonstrating increased visitor numbers, greater community use, and the creation of volunteer opportunities. To achieve this we are focusing more on these areas and will report on our progress in the coming months.

The Hall continues to flourish at an incredible pace, and I am immensely proud of our achievements, offerings and community ownership.

S. Welsh

Sarah Welsh - Chairman
28th September 2026

POULTON-LE-FYLDE COMMUNITY HALL

Strategic review for the year ended 31 March 2026

Aspiration
Building on the original trustees' founding principles, they constructed the Church Hall in 1925 for £5,000 (equivalent to about £280,000 today) entirely through public subscription. Our 2025 goal is to enhance and maintain the building for future generations. We planned to expand the footprint by 75m², adding an extra changing room with backstage toilets, additional storage for furniture, sports equipment, and playgroup toys, and an improved bar, with an estimated budget of £300,000 for the construction works. If additional funding is secured, we also intend to replace our inefficient gas heating with a low-carbon Air Source Heat Pump for smaller rooms, and add air-conditioning to provide heating and cooling for the Main Hall. During the planning phase it was also recommended that we should install a comprehensive Fire Alarm System for the safety of everyone who uses the Community Hall.

Expectation
Initially, we expected a lengthy fundraising process, but we were fortunate to be invited to apply for funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), as well as receiving support from Wyre Council (WBC) and the Lancashire Environmental Fund (LEF). We covered one-third of the costs from our own reserves and after going out to competitive tender we started construction in October 2025. The project was divided into two phases: the first finished in February 2026, the second was planned to finish by the end of May 2026. It all went smoothly, on time and within budget, and everyone is pleased with the end result and the quality of the workmanship.

Celebration
This past year was truly special for everyone involved in restoring, volunteering for and maintaining our community hub. We can't thank them enough for their hard work. We hope their efforts inspire future generations to invest in and support the Community Hall for another century. In 2025, we celebrated the Hall's opening on Armistice Day 1925 with a series of anniversary events catering to all ages and interests. In June, we unveiled a mobile replica of the Hall complete with a tower and weather vane, which won the prize for best float in the town's annual Gala procession. Our anniversary celebrations continued throughout 2025 and culminated in a grand variety concert hosted by local comedian Steve Royle on the eve of the Hall's 100th Anniversary. We also honoured the late Peter Barcock, our friend and benefactor. Through his charity, the Payback Time Trust, Peter played a crucial role in saving the building from demolition in 2016. and motivated us to complete the restoration work using much of our own volunteer labour. To mark this occasion, his widow, Kath, and the Barcock family were invited to plant a memorial tree in our community garden.

Affirmation
Following our presentation of the King's Award for Voluntary Service (KAVS) in January 2025, our Chairman Sarah Welsh and long-serving Trustee Chris Gannon travelled to London to represent the Community Hall Charity at a Royal Garden Party. It was a wonderful recognition for all our volunteers, part-time staff, and loyal followers for their support and dedication over the past decade. After completing the construction work in May 2026, we celebrated by opening our new bar with a party and inviting everyone connected with the Community Hall to view the improvements. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and we received congratulations and much appreciation for the new, improved facilities, especially for the increased storage and new dressing room with backstage toilets. This is endorsed by an increase in the number of visitors to our entertainment events, demand for room hire for social gatherings and from our regular users.

Determination
We are as proud as punch to have achieved so much in such a short span of time. Having completed enhancements to the building's fabric and shell, we're now focusing on the interior. Our goal is to refurbish the sprung wooden dance floor, improve the theatrical stage by resurfacing the platform, enhance the 'drop-in' portable stage extensions and upgrade the stage lighting and sound systems for easier operation and to meet the demands of visiting professional performers. We relish the challenge and can't wait to begin our next phase of improvements!



Chris Gannon - Communications Trustee
28th September 2026

POULTON-LE-FYLDE COMMUNITY HALL

Financial review for the year ended 31 March 2026

Financial review
The year ended 31 March 2026 has been transformative for the charity, following the receipt of £85,000 in funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and an additional £80,000 from Wyre Borough Council (WBC). The trustees are extremely grateful to UKSPF and WBC for their generous support, which has made a significant contribution to the hall's future. This funding has enabled us to undertake both Phase 1 and Phase 2 of our renovation programme. During the year, we invested £156,866 in capital works, including the refurbishment of the backstage dressing rooms, the construction of a new bar, and the creation of additional storage space. These costs have been capitalised as fixed assets in the year. Further expenditure on the project has been incurred since the year end as the renovation programme concludes.

Increase in revenue
Excluding the exceptional grant income and associated capital expenditure in the current year, together with the £40,000 grant received in the prior year for the installation of solar panels, underlying revenue increased by 24%, from £134,027 to £165,812. We have maintained a high level of hall occupancy and demand throughout the year. While remaining committed to our objective of providing an affordable and inclusive community space, we have implemented modest price increases where appropriate to help meet rising operating costs.
The reported surplus for the year was £156,288 (2025: £47,869), primarily reflecting the receipt of the substantial grant from Wyre Borough Council during the year. Excluding the impact of the capital grants received in both years and the associated depreciation on the related capital expenditure, underlying surplus for the year decreased by 14% to £22,002 (2025: £25,636).

Operating costs
The reduction in underlying surplus reflects the increase in operating costs across the board during the year. We have increased staff wages and experienced significant increases in the cost of stock and other supplies. While we have implemented price increases where appropriate to help offset these pressures, we have absorbed a portion of the higher costs to continue providing an affordable community facility.
The charity held a strong cash position at the year end, with cash balances of £105,166 (2025: £95,717), and was awaiting receipt of a further £14,052 from HMRC in respect of a VAT refund. Cash balances are expected to decline in the months following the year-end as we complete the remaining renovation work.

Principal risks and uncertainties and financial risk management
The Charity's activities expose it to financial risks, namely cash flow risk and capital management risk.

Cash flow risk
The Charity held significant cash at the year end, and with regular hirers each week, the trustees believe the cash flow risk to be mitigated. The Charity ensures that it manages this risk by regular re-forecasting and monitoring of the cash flow position. Any future capital projects require a prudent forecast, approved by the trustees, to provide evidence of available funds.

Capital risk management
The Charity's objectives when managing capital are to safeguard the Company's assets and its ability to continue as a going concern, and to support the Community Hall for the people of Poulton-le-Fylde. The directors do not believe the Company is exposed to significant interest rate risk, fair value estimation risk, price risk, or foreign exchange risk.

Reserves policy
The Charity has developed a minimum reserves policy based on the assumption that, in the event of the Charity's wind-up, there would be sufficient funds to settle all outstanding liabilities, taking into account any costs associated with the winding-up. The reserves policy also ensures that sufficient reserves and cash balances are maintained to support the Charity's ongoing operational requirements and charitable commitments. Minimum reserves are calculated on an annual basis.

Going concern
At the time of signing these accounts, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that, for a period of at least 12 months, the charity can meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The government grants received mean the charity has a strong cash position, and careful monitoring of costs over the next year will ensure it remains liquid. As such, the accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Amelia MacPherson ACA – Treasurer
28th September 2026

Independent examiner's report

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of the Poulton-le-Fylde Community Hall
I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Poulton-le-Fylde Community Hall for the year ended 31 March 2026, which are set out on pages 8 to 12.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Regulation 31 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the statement I have made.

Responsibilities and basis for report
As the charity trustees of the Poulton-le-Fylde Community Hall 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 Poulton-le-Fylde Community Hall 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 giving me cause to believe:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the Poulton-le-Fylde Community Hall as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of the 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; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities.

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: 

Name: Stephen Smith

Address: Stephen Smith
46 Hodder Way
Poulton-le-Fylde
FY6 8AQ

28th September 2026

POULTON-LE-FYLDE COMMUNITY HALL

Income statement for the year ended 31 March 2026

	2026	2025
Income	**£**	**£**
Rental Income	33,558	31,948
Bar Income	69,128	50,127
Wedding Income	7,343	5,458
Donations	20,241	7,734
Grant income	155,500	40,000
Fundraising	35,542	37,386
Gift Aid	-	1,374
Total Income	**321,312**	**174,027**
Cost of Sales		
Cost of bar sales	47,399	40,105
Cost of events	24,196	13,315
	71,595	**53,420**
Expenditure		
Management costs	30,488	22,586
Utilities	8,041	6,725
Rent and rates	1,839	938
Fittings	208	2,647
Repairs and maintenance	5,102	5,170
Governance costs	5,511	4,325
Insurance	3,134	2,582
Depreciation	21,214	17,767
Cleaning	6,939	6,594
Accountancy	1,950	1,775
Marketing	3,702	861
Other	5,737	1,694
Total Expenditure	**93,865**	**73,664**
Interest received	436	926
Profit for the year	**156,288**	**47,869**

The notes on pages 10 to 11 form part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet at 31 March 2026

	Note	2026 £	2026 £	2025 £	2025 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	3		**367,555**		231,902
Current assets					
Cash at bank and in hand		**105,166**		95,717	
Stock		**5,078**		5,140	
Gift Aid debtor		**-**		1,374	
VAT debtor		**14,052**		-	
		124,296		102,231	
				–	
Current Liabilities		**11,567**		7,634	
Deferred income		**-**		2,503	
VAT liability					
		11,567		10,137	
			480,284		323,996
Net assets					
Capital and reserves					
General funds			**323,996**		276,127
Profit for the year			**156,288**		47,869
Total reserves			**480,284**		323,996

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 28th September 2026.

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026

1. Accounting policies

The Poulton-le-Fylde Community Hall is a charity registered with the Charity Commission (charity number 1158292). The address of the registered office is given on the contents page and the nature of the charity's operations and its principal activities are set out in the strategic report.

Basis of preparation
The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting for charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland issued on 16 July 2014 and Bulletin 1 to the Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The functional currency is £ sterling.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Fund accounting
General Funds are unrestricted funds which 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. The charity has no restricted funds.

Revenue recognition
Revenue is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received, and the income receivable can be recognised reliably.

Rental income
Rental income is recognised at the point that the Poulton-le-Fylde Community Hall is hired.

Bar income
Bar income is recognised at the point of sale.

Grant income
Grants, whether of a capital or revenue nature, are recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions have been met and it is probable that the income will be received.

Donations
Donations from individuals and other bodies are recognised when receivable.

Tangible Fixed Assets
Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost of the assets over their useful lives on the following basis:

Leasehold Improvements	5% - 7% straight line
Fixtures and Fittings	10% straight line

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026

Stock
Stock comprises bar stock and is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. At each reporting date, an assessment is made for impairment.

Deferred Income
Deferred income comprises deposits for hall hire in future reporting periods.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement
Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors. The charity makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. In the opinion of the Trustees, there are no critical accounting estimates or judgements.

1. **Trustees' remuneration**
   No Trustees received payment for their services during the year (2025: none).

2. **Employees**
   The average monthly number of persons employed by the charity during the year was 20 (2025: 12).
   No member of staff received employee benefits of £60,000 or more.
   The highest paid member of staff received £2,872.00.

Income statement for the year ended 31 March 2026

3. Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 31 March 2025	235,097	83,660	318,757
Additions	136,883	19,984	156,866
At 31 March 2026	**371,980**	**103,644**	**475,624**
Depreciation			
At 31 March 2025	52,202	34,653	86,855
Provision for year	10,718	10,496	21,214
At 31 March 2026	**62,920**	**45,149**	**108,069**
Net book value			
At 31 March 2025	182,895	49,007	231,902
At 31 March 2026	**309,060**	**58,495**	**367,555**