Charity number: 1161508

The Barnes Institute

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 April 2026

STEPHENSON COATES LIMITED
West 2, Asama Court
Newcastle Business Park
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE4 7YD

The Barnes Institute

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Year ended 30 April 2026

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Reference and administrative details
Year ended 30 April 2026

Registered charity name	The Barnes Institute
Trading name	The Barnes
Charity registration number	1161508
Principle operating address	15 East Street Whitburn Sunderland SR6 7BY
Trustees	Robert Bevan Ronald Scott Cuthbert Douglas Earl Lucy Steptoe Jill Elstob Caroline Earl Jeffrey Wheeler Patricia Bevan Graeme Stimpson Laura Hind
Independent Examiner	Peter Alexander BSc Stephenson Coates Limited West 2, Asama Court Newcastle Business Park Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 7YD
Bankers	HSBC UK

Trustees' Report
Year ended 30 April 2026

The Trustees present their report for The Barnes Institute ("the charity") and unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 April 2026.

Governing document

The charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in England & Wales. The governing document of the charity is the constitution of the CIO as approved by the Charity Commission in England & Wales (CCEW).

The governing document is dated 1 May 2015 as amended on 12 August 2024.

There are no restrictions in the governing documents on the operation of the charity or on its investment powers other than those imposed by Charity Law.

The trustees are all individuals.

Objectives and Aims

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Charity should undertake in order to further the charitable purposes for the public benefit. These activities are summarised below.

The provision and maintenance of a community centre for the use of the inhabitants of Whitburn and surrounding areas without distinction of religious, political or other opinions, including use for meetings, lectures and classes, and for other forms of recreational and leisure-time occupations, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants.

Our organisation

Meetings of the committee are held monthly and the Trustees all hold communal responsibility for the day to day running and organisation of the building. They are the key holders and undertake basic maintenance.

Since the last AGM there has been a new trustee appointed, so we are at our full complement, and considerable work continues behind the scenes to ensure that the Barnes Institute is legally compliant with all current legislation.

At no time have we been diverted from our core charitable purpose, which is to provide the residents of Whitburn and its surrounding area a safe space for all sections of the community to use. In fact this has been our driving motivation for giving of our time voluntarily and without financial gain. We have also been approached by our new local councillor who has expressed an interest in becoming involved in supporting the committee.

Trustees' Report
Year ended 30 April 2026

Achievements and performance

As a result of surveying the fabric of the building and looking at how best to encourage new users, it was decided that, as a matter of priority, we needed to improve or replace the very old heating system - as the latest service had identified significant repair costs. To this end we applied for a grant from the Sir James Knott Trust, who awarded The Barnes Institute £7k and along with considerable funding from our income we were able to replace the heating system in October 2025. This now means that the Institute has a heating system fit for purpose.

The upstairs hall floor was also identified as being a Health and Safety risk, due to the state and age of the wooden flooring, and this was replaced in April 2026, and has already resulted in more users.

There has been ongoing repair and maintenance of the building, as would be expected of a building of over 120 years old. This has included replacing of a warped fire door, upgrades to the toilet facilities and ongoing repairs to the roof and damaged ceiling in the entrance hall.

We are particularly proud to have been able to place a defribrillator on the outside of the building, which now means that the centre of the village has access to this important life saving equipment. This was donated by the Red Sky Foundation, who we now support by having a collection box in our building.

The Institute opened on Christmas Day to provide a lunch club for those who wanted company and this was very well attended.

The annual updating of policies has included: suitable and comprehensive insurance, a compliant fire alarm system and fire plan, effective building checks to include emergency lighting, Safeguarding, Health and Safety, Equality and Diversity, GDPR, Complaints procedure and CCTV appropriate usage. These are all legally compliant.

Our financial system gives a very clear oversight of the income and outgoings, enabling the trustees to plan ahead.

We have a very well visited Facebook page, where news about the Barnes can be quickly shared. Our followers are increasing monthly.

Community engagement

The following groups actively use the Barnes over a 7 day period, from 9 in the morning until 10pm:

Line Dancing both modern and country, Yoga - Iyengar and Forest, Tai Chi, LE performing arts, Pilates, Warhammer, Time for change, Gym users, coffee shop, Age Concern (carers and mens group), Diamond Dancers, Stiletto Sirens, space for a school pupil to access the curriculum and a church group.

There have been various social events over the year. Halloween and Christmas events, including wreath making. Spring Big River makers craft markets, Community Action South Tyneside family summer event, and we hire the Institute for party bookings and ghost hunts on a regular basis.

Our youngest user is 4, our oldest is over 96 fulfilling our aim to provide all residents of Whitburn with a safe space for community use.

Trustees' Report
Year ended 30 April 2026

Public Benefit

The trustee's continue to promote the availability of the rentable space within the building and gym use.

The trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in managing the activities of the charity.

Financial Position

During this accounting year, there has been continued financial security and we have been able to pay all regular day-to-day/annual expenses and minor repairs normally covered by room hire.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have reviewed the charity's needs for reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity commission and it is the charity's aspirational aim to have six months reserves to support cessation costs relating to staff and property were the charity unable to continue operating. The reserves policy is revisited annually.

Going Concern

The Trustees constantly review funding opportunities and will continue to accelerate its service delivery in order to meet the needs of its beneficiaries and anticipate continued growth into 2026/27.

Principle Risks and Uncertainties

The principal risk to the charity is short-term grant funding and restricted income sources. The change in funding priorities may impact the charities ability to meet a growing demand for services into the future. Whilst there are more opportunities for core funding these are limited as a result of the competitive nature of these funding posts due to cost-of-living pressures.

Trustees

The Trustees who served during the year were:

Robert Bevan	
Ronald Scott	
Caroline Earl	
Jeffrey Wheeler	
Patricia Bevan	
Graeme Stimpson	
Lucy Steptoe	
Jill Elstob	
Cuthbert Earl	
Laura Hind	Appointed 8 September 2025 Resigned 21 August 2026

Trustees' Report
Year ended 30 April 2026

Exemptions from Disclosure

There are no exemptions from disclosure.

Funds Held as Custodian Trustee on Behalf of Others

There are no funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others.

Major Risks

Major risks have been reviewed and systems or procedures have been established to manage those risks.

Policies and Procedures for Induction and Training of Trustees

The charity recognises that an induction programme Is vital to ensure they understand the work, demands and requirements of their role. All Trustees:

- Receive links to key documents and have access to all policies and procedures of the organisation, their purpose and implementation. This includes general organisational policies, organisational chart, board skills and experience, minutes of meetings, charity commission guidance i.e., the essential trustee
- Receive training relevant to their role, responsibilities and individual needs. This includes Safeguarding, Health and Safety, Employment Law, Diversity and Inclusion, Financial Management
- Trustees are kept up to date with regards to organisational developments, alongside updates from regulators and partners.
- Annual appraisal and opportunities for mentoring and training.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

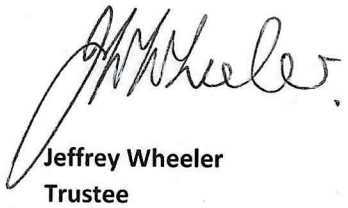
The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then 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; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

Trustees' Report
Year ended 30 April 2026

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity, and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the charities governing document. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees' annual report was approved on 7 September 2026 and signed on behalf of the Trustees by:



Jeffrey Wheeler
Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Barnes Institute
Year ended 30 April 2026

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2026, which comprise the statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account), balance sheet and the related notes to the accounts.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

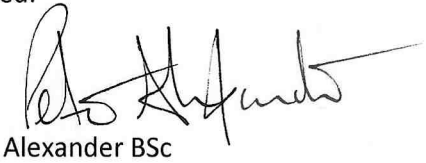
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

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 that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; or
- the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements 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.



Peter Alexander BSc
Stephenson Coates Limited
West 2, Asama Court
Newcastle Business Park
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE4 7YD

Date: 7 September 2026

Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure Account)
Year ended 30 April 2026

	Note	2026			2025
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies		27,540	-	27,540	1,190
Charitable activities		28,082	-	28,082	26,648
Other trading activities		4,027	-	4,027	3,848
Total income	**3**	59,649	-	59,649	31,686
Expenditure					
Charitable activities		71,816	-	71,816	14,332
Governance costs		975	-	975	900
Total expenditure	**4**	72,791	-	72,791	15,232
Net (expenditure)/ income		(13,142)	-	(13,142)	16,454
Funds brought forward		839,224	-	839,224	822,770
Total funds carried forward	**11**	826,082	-	826,082	839,224

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Balance Sheet As At 30 April 2026

	Note	2026	2025
		£	£
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	**8**	800,000	800,000
Current Assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		26,532	59,599
		26,532	59,599
Creditors: amounts due within one year	**9**	(450)	(20,375)
Net current assets		26,082	39,224
Total assets less current liabilities		826,082	839,224
Net assets		826,082	839,224
Charity Funds			
Unrestricted funds		826,082	839,224
Restricted funds		-	-
	11	826,082	839,224

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 7 September 2026, and are signed on behalf of the board by:

Jeffrey Wheeler
Trustee

Notes to the Financial Statements
Year ended 30 April 2026

1. General Information

The charity is a registered charity in England and Wales and is a charitable incorporated organisation (charity number 1161508 and company number CE004034). The address of the principal office is 15 East Street, Whitburn, Sunderland, SR6 7BY.

2. Accounting Policies

2a. Basis of Accounting

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019, the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, and UK Generally Accepted Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £1.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

2b. Income

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income.

Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable.

Investment income is included when receivable.

2c. Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred. Funding provided through contractual agreements and performance related grants are recognised as goods or services are supplied. Other grant payments are recognised when a constructive obligation arises that results in the payment being unavoidable.

Costs of generating funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating office property costs by floor areas, management and human resources costs by the number of staff, and finance and IT costs by work done.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
Year ended 30 April 2026

2d. Taxation

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

2e. Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

2f. Tangible Fixed Assets

Land and buildings are held for charitable purposes and is measured initially at cost, which includes price and any direct attributable expenditure.

2g. Debtors and Creditors Receivable/Payable Within One Year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

2h. Cash at bank and in Hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and instant access bank accounts.

2i. Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the charity has an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount can be reliably estimated.

2j. Financial Instruments

The charitable company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

2k. Preparation of the Accounts on a Going Concern Basis

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
Year ended 30 April 2026

2l. Donated Services and Facilities

No amount is included in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with the SORP. Further detail is given in the Trustees' Annual Report.

3. Income and Endowments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	**Total 2026**	**Total 2025**
Voluntary income				
Donations and legacies	540	-	540	1,190
Grants	27,000	-	27,000	-
	27,540	-	27,540	1,190
Charitable activities				
Letting of property for charitable purposes	25,552	-	25,552	24,359
Gym fees	2,530	-	2,530	2,289
	28,082	-	28,082	26,648
Other trading activities				
Income from fundraising	4,027	-	4,027	3,848
	4,027	-	4,027	3,848
Total income	59,649	-	59,649	31,686

4. Analysis of Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	**Total 2026**	**Total 2025**
Charitable activities				
Rates and water charges	790	-	790	432
Light, heat and power	2,745	-	2,745	4,159
Repairs and maintenance	61,268	-	61,268	3,663
Other premises costs	3,176	-	3,176	2,470
Telephone and internet	663	-	663	455
Software licences	230	-	230	172
Insurance	2,215	-	2,215	1,933
General expenses	315	-	315	585
Licences and permits	320	-	320	372
	71,722	-	71,722	14,241
Other costs				
Professional fees	50	-	50	-
Bank charges	44	-	44	91
	94	-	94	91
	71,816	-	71,816	14,332

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
Year ended 30 April 2026

5. Trustees' Remuneration and Benefits

There were no Trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30 April 2026 (2025: £nil).

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the trustees.

6. Net Movement in Funds

Net movement in funds is stated after charging:

	2026 £	2025 £
Depreciation	-	-

7. Independent Examiner's Remuneration for the Year

The independent examiner's remuneration amounts to an independent examination fee of £975 (2025 - £900). This includes preparation of the financial statements.

8. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Land & Buildings	Total 2026
Cost		
As at 1 May 2025	800,000	800,000
As at 30 April 2026	800,000	800,000
Depreciation		
As at 1 May 2025	-	-
Charge for year	-	-
As at 30 April 2026	-	-
Net book value		
As at 30 April 2026	800,000	800,000
As at 30 April 2025	800,000	800,000

9. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2026 £	2025 £
Other creditors and accruals	450	375
Deferred income (note 10)	-	20,000
	450	20,375

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
Year ended 30 April 2026

10. Deferred Income

	Under 1 year	Total
	£	£
At 1 May 2025	20,000	20,000
Additions during the year	-	-
Released to the statement of financial activities	(20,000)	(20,000)
At 30 April 2026	-	-

Deferred income is money received in advance for future specific projects.

11. Analysis of charitable funds

	At 1 May 2025	Income	Expenditure	At 30 April 2026
Unrestricted				
General fund	839,224	59,649	(72,791)	826,082
	839,224	59,649	(72,791)	826,082

	At 1 May 2024	Income	Expenditure	At 30 April 2025
Unrestricted				
General fund	822,770	31,686	(15,232)	839,224
	822,770	31,686	(15,232)	839,224

12. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2026	Total funds 2025
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	800,000	-	800,000	800,000
Current assets	26,532	-	26,532	59,599
Current liabilities	(450)	-	(450)	(20,375)
Non-current liabilities	-	-	-	-
	826,082	-	826,082	839,224

13. Related Party Transactions

There were no transactions undertaken by, or on behalf of the company, in which a member of the board of directors or connected person had a material interest, during the financial year ended 30 April 2026.