Crownway Community Centre CiO

Charity number 1169056

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ending 31 March 2026

gmcas Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service

Crownway Community Centre CiO

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Contents	Page
Trustees' report	2 to 6
Examiner's report	7
Receipts and payments account	8
Statement of assets and liabilities	9
Notes to the accounts	10 to 12

Prepared by the Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service

Crownway Community Centre CiO

Trustees' report

The Trustees during the year were:

Name	Position	Dates
Mrs June Jones	Chairperson	
Mrs Helen Marina Fitzgerald	Treasurer	
Mrs Valerie Singleton		
Daniel Wakefield	Secretary	
Lynda Garner		

Method of appointment

Trustees are elected by the members at the AGM

Principal address

Crownway Community Centre
Crown Street
Newton-Le-Willows
Merseyside
WA12 9DA

Bankers

Lloyds TSB Bank plc
Hardshaw Street
St Helens
WA10 1BQ

Governing document

Charitable Incorporated Organisation - Foundation registered 6 September 2016

Objects of the organisation

To further or benefit the residents of Earlestown and Newton-Le-Willows, St Helens, Merseyside and the neighbourhood, without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents.

In furtherance of these objects but not otherwise, the trustees shall have power: to establish or secure the establishment of a community centre and to maintain or manage or co-operate with any statutory authority in the maintanence and management of such a centre for activities promoted by the charity in furtherance of the above objects.

Independent examiner

on behalf of:
Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service
Beacon Building
College Street
St Helens
WA10 1TF

Crownway Community Centre CiO

Trustees' report continued

Chairpersons Annual General Meeting Report 2026

Good evening, everyone and thank you all for coming to our AGM. As Chair of the Management board, I want to update you on the year ending March 2026.
Unfortunately, once again we have been unsuccessful in our bid to the Lotteries Commission for ongoing funding to help with sustainability. Philomena continues to seek funding for the Community centre and has sourced a number of funding streams successfully. This obviously takes a large proportion of her time.
Over the year April 2025 to March 2026 Philomena has been able to successfully source the following funding streams.

John Moores £5000 (Salaries)
Eleanor Rathbone £3000 (Core Costs)
Awards for All £18590 (Community Café)
Baptist Church £1000 per month for 12 months = £12000 (Centre CoOrdinators Salary)
Elizabeth Rathbone £1000 (Ladies Group)
Skelton Trust £1000 (over 60s group)
St Helens Council £1768 (Community Library)
Garfield Weston £15000 (Core Costs)
Asda Foundation £600 (Mens group)
St Helens Council £700 (Bingo Machine and pool table)
Ward Grant

This makes a total of £58,658. These grants help the community centre to continue to help us provide services, activities and support for the local community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our funders for their support by granting us the much-needed funding streams, helping the work of the community centre to continue.
The Centre currently employs 5 staff, who are invaluable in the running of the centre:
Philomena, our Centre Coordinator. Philomena has been here for 4 years now and continues to keep the centre running successfully.
Once again, it has been a challenging 12 months sourcing funding streams. Again, she has been relentless in finding much needed funds to enable the centre to remain open and flourish for the benefit of the people in and around Earlestown and Newton le Willows.

The bric-a-brac table continues to be successful and regularly bring in over £100 per month. The people who bring in items for us to sell, are really appreciated and thanks to these people we can continue to keep the table going and raising much needed fund for Crownway. This along with talented people bringing in their home-made knitting, crocheting goods and craft items made with love. Thank you to everyone who help us to make ongoing funding for the centre.

Lydia is very creative and uses her talents to run activities within the centre and also to sell on the bric-a-brac table. She supervises the running of the Café ensuring it runs smoothly. Lydia also advertises on a regular basis the recruitment of volunteers for the centre, without these it would be difficult to keep the café running. During the school holidays she organises activities within the community centre and community cafe.
Gordon/Karen – Gordon has been our caretaker for many years, unfortunately, he had an accident and is unable to carry on as Caretaker for the Centre for some time. We needed to seek an alternative caretaker for the centre and we recruited Karen Boardman who is covering the role while Gordon is on sick leave. This role is so important to keep the centre in a good state of repair, and to maintain health and safety and security, highlighting any work that needs to be carried out and to make sure that the centre users are provided with the correct equipment for their groups ensuring their safety. The Caretaker also ensures the outside areas are kept clean and tidy and the centre is welcoming for visitors.

Bob, works every morning making sure the Centre is clean and tidy and ready for the groups. He does a fantastic job ensuring the centre is ready for the centre users. He has also been helping setting out and tidying away of tables and chairs since Gordons accident.

Volunteers We currently have 22 Volunteers who help out in the Café and community Centre. Without volunteers giving their time freely, the centre would fail to continue. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who have helped the centre over the past 12 months. Thank you so much for your ongoing support.

Trustees Our Trustees who are also volunteers and give their time freely, ensure the legal framework is running correctly and deal with any issues that occur within the centre. We currently have 5 trustees on the Management Board. June Jones - Chair, Helen Fitzgerald - Treasurer, Daniel Wakefield - Secretary, Val Singleton and Lynda Garner. We meet 6 times per year plus we hold an AGM which is normally held every September. We continue to advertise for new Trustees to ensure the Centres future. I want to take this opportunity to thank them for their time and support.

Current Threats to the business

We continue to still encounter issues beyond our control which can have an impact on the centre. The continuous rises in fuel and utility costs. Recruitment of volunteers, and on occasions recruitment of staff. Our centre coordinator has found a number of streams of funders to enable the centre to continue but as we lost our main funder who were able to fund us for a period of 3 to 5 years it makes it difficult to plan long term for the centre's stability. All these issues continue to have an impact on the Centre. Philomena continues try to find ways to make savings and continues to seek funding streams for the centre without which we would be unable to sustain the centre and to carry on with the invaluable work we do for the wider community.

Community Centre usage

Over the last 12 months our footfall has totalled 21,011 which is higher than last year. Philomena continues to monitor the groups usage and any gaps within the room hire she will advertise to fill that gaps.

Future

The Centre continues to ask service users and local people if there are any new groups/activities they would like to see introduced at the centre. At the heart of our delivery, are the Community Centre and its service users along with the local community. We continue to invest in volunteers to offer them training and to help them to use their skills as a stepping stone to any possible progression to paid employment or our retired volunteers who want to 'give back' to the community and help with the running of our café and community centre as a whole.

Centre Anniversary

Over the year leading up to 20 years of Crownway Community Centre we held a day of celebration on 30th July 2025 the day was perfect The Mayor of St Helens Seve Gomez Aspron attended to help us celebrate along with many of our volunteers, Management Committee members both past and present along with staff members and friends of the centre. I want to thank the people who organised the day and the friends of the centre to came to celebrate with us and by making the day a perfect and informative day to enjoy for everyone.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for coming and for your invaluable support for the centre.

Thank you everyone.

Centre Coordinators Annual General Meeting Report 2026

Crownway Community Centre continues to be the hub of the community offering a wide range of activities, service and advice for local people. The community café remains very popular and a good place for people to meet and enjoy affordable drinks and snacks.

This year was our first year without any funding from the National Lottery Community Fund. I submitted a bid in late 2025 but unfortunately it was unsuccessful.

This year I found that many of the Trusts and funders who had traditionally offered grants to charities, have either stopped donating altogether or changed their strategies to only donate to one specific geographical area or one specific group of people. This has made it considerably more difficult to obtain the funding needed to keep the centre operational.

So, I spent a great deal of time seeking funding from other sources and between April 2025 to March 2026 I was able to secure £47,018 From the following:

John Moores £5000, Eleanor Rathbone £3000, Awards for All £18590, Elizabeth Rathbone £1000, Skelton Trust £1000, St Helens Council £1768, Garfield Weston £15000, Asda Foundation £600, St Helens Ward Grant £700.

This funding together with the income generated from Room rentals, café income and donations meant we fell slightly short of our target for the year. We approached the Baptist Church and they agreed to donate £1000 per month for 12 months to meet the shortfall and for this we were very grateful.

Activity

Over the past 12 months the centre recorded 21,011 visits and saw the 1020 sessions of activity delivered by external organisations including:

Daytime	**Evening**
Moo Music	Brownies
St Helens Wellbeing Walking Group	AJ Lewis dance
Head, Health Heart Gentle exercise	Lace making
St Helens CAB	Councillors surgery
Silver Swans Adult Ballet	Taekwondo
Sewing group	Christian Fellowship
Spanish	Women's AGLOW
Tai Chi	Men's Song Writing
Slimming World	Slimming World
Language Revision	
Flufftastic (Felting Crafts)	
Healing Room (parishioner)	

Crownway staff and volunteers have delivered the following:

Line Dancing
Ladies Friendship Group
Over 60’s social
Upcycling Craft group
Men’s Social group
Digital drop In
Games Afternoon

Volunteers

As with many community centres, the help we get from volunteers is immeasurable and is the heart and foundation of the centre, this has been even more apparent this year as Lydia took over the supervision of café volunteers and Lynn Garner began baking delicious pies and cakes for the café to sell. The café is run by daily teams of volunteers to whom we are extremely grateful.

This year we had 17 volunteers in the café, one volunteer who facilitates the men's group, one volunteer who facilities the Over 60, s group, one volunteer who supports Gordon with Line dancing, one volunteer who looks after the garden and one volunteer who attends every Thursday to offer a Digital drop-in service.

Room Rentals

We have continued to have many organisations renting our rooms over the year.

Care tech Children's Care rent rooms two to three times every month for training of their staff.

We have also had

- Gradan Care book for staff training,
- Truly Timeless book for staff meetings,
- St Helens Library Service book for Adult Reading,
- Liverpool City region book for staff away day,
- Torus book for tenants Association Meetings,
- Ultima Skills Training book for exams,
- Combined Services Provider book for Recruitment Days,
- Mediation Solutions book for mediation sessions,
- Local solutions book for Team meetings
- Halton & St Helens VCA book for community training
- Homestead CSL book for an AGM
- Newton Garden Association book for AGM.

We hosted the Newton Flower Show For the fourth time and they have booked again for 2026.

We have had a number of Gold and Vintage collectable businesses running road shows at our centre with a surprising number of people coming for valuations each time.

Café

Lydia looks after all the volunteers in the café and coordinates all activity. Throughout the year Lydia has continued to recruit volunteers with an aim of having 3 to 4 volunteers in the café each day, this has proved quite difficult as volunteers come and go for various reasons, however by the end of the year we have 11 steady volunteers helping in the café.

The Café remains popular with people who attend the activities that run in the centre. Over the past year we have delivered a number of special luncheons to attract new people and fill the gaps when the children are on School holidays.

The café had its annual inspection by Environmental health in April 2025 and retained its five-star rating. Lydia and the volunteers ensured all food hygiene procedures are always adhered to and records are kept up to date weekly. As we do not sell any high-risk food items, going forward we will only need to have inspections every 18 months.

Other activity

Once again, we shared two coach trips out with the Baptist Church to Llandudno and Lytham St Annes, the trips were really popular with both community centre people and parishioners and on both days, we had fabulous weather.

In July we celebrated the Centres 20th Birthday, we held an afternoon of celebrations, we invited all our community and volunteers, the Management Committee and founders of the centre, our local Councillors and the organisations who have supported the centre over the years.

The Mayor Seve Gomez Aspron was invited to help us celebrate. Everyone had a great time and Gordon and Dave provided music and staff and volunteers served a lovely buffet.

This year was a very busy year with activity every day and many new people coming to the centre for the first time. We have brilliant volunteers and staff who offer a friendly welcome to everyone.

Philomena Zilinski

Crownway Community Centre CiO

Independent examiner's report on the accounts of Crownway Community Centre CiO for the year ending 31 March 2026

I report on the accounts of the charity set out on pages 7 to 11

Respective responsibilities of the Management Committee and the examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts using procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission and to state whether matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent examiner's report

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 consideration 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 matter has come to my attention:

1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- ❑ to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
- ❑ to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Jane Williams

Jane Williams
MAAT

Greater Merseyside Community Accountancy Service
Beacon Building
College Street
St Helens
WA10 1TF

21st September 2026

Crownway Community Centre CiO

Receipts and payments account

for the year ending 31 March 2026

	Notes	2026 Unrestricted funds £	2026 Restricted funds £	2026 Total funds £	2025 Total funds £
Receipts					
Receipts from Charitable Activities	(2)	60,643	43,658	104,301	130,021
Voluntary Receipts	(3)	6,556	-	6,556	3,947
Total receipts		67,199	43,658	110,857	133,968
Payments					
Salaries & NI		9,567	67,326	76,893	80,014
Payroll costs		738	-	738	765
Café Expenses		4,711	-	4,711	7,557
Centre Equipment		464	1,502	1,966	320
Insurance		2,137	-	2,137	2,090
Utilities		10,914	493	11,407	12,300
Telephone		467	490	957	2,191
Printing, postage and stationery		861	240	1,101	3,095
Cleaning & Materials		601	551	1,152	1,186
Repairs & Maintenance		2,657	594	3,251	6,752
Subscriptions & Fees		764	95	859	784
Resources		509	480	989	1,596
Independent Examination		225	-	225	225
Volunteer Expenses		57	-	57	119
Bank Charges		278	67	345	336
Total payments		34,950	71,838	106,788	119,330
Net receipts / (payments)		32,249	(28,180)	4,069	14,638
Transfers between Funds		(2)	2	-	-
Cash fund balances brought forward		68,990	29,193	98,183	83,545
Cash fund balances carried forward		101,237	1,015	102,252	98,183

Crownway Community Centre CiO

Statement of assets and liabilities

as at 31 March 2026

	2026 Unrestricted	2026 Restricted	2026 Total	2025 Total
Cash funds	£	£	£	£
Community Centre Account	22,868	-	22,868	19,156
Deposit Account	30,202	49,182	79,384	78,845
Cash in hand	-	-	-	181
Total cash funds	53,070	49,182	102,252	98,183
Assets retained for the organisation's own use	£	£	£	£
Fixtures and fittings	20,141	-	20,141	20,141
Equipment	14,353	7,280	21,633	21,633
	34,494	7,280	41,774	41,774
Liabilities			£	£
HMRC			-	-
Pension contributions			-	-
Accountancy			-	-
			-	-

Approval of the accounts

The annual report and accounts were approved at a meeting of the Trustees held on 21st September 2026.

June Jones

June Jones

on behalf of the Trustees

Crownway Community Centre CiO

Notes to the accounts

for the year ending 31 March 2026

1 Accounting Policies

a Basis of accounting

The Trustees have taken advantage of section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and have prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

b Taxation

As a registered charity the organisation benefits from rates relief and is generally exempt from income tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

c Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are either:

Unrestricted general funds

These are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds

These are funds that 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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the accounts.

2 Receipts from Charitable Activities	2026 Unrestricted funds £	2026 Restricted funds £	2026 Total funds £	2025 Total funds
National Lottery Community Fund	-	-	-	15,267
Café Income	12,057	-	12,057	14,355
Room Hire	34,383	-	34,383	30,327
John Moores Fdtn	-	5,000	5,000	-
Steve Morgan Fdtn	-	-	-	13,213
Garfield Weston	-	15,000	15,000	-
Awards for All	-	18,590	18,590	-
Elizabeth Rathbone Trust	-	1,000	1,000	-
Skelton	-	1,000	1,000	-
ASDA	-	600	600	-
St Helens Council Ward Grant	-	700	700	-
St Helens Council Community Library	-	1,768	1,768	-
Baptist Church	12,000	-	12,000	-
Hemby Charitable Trust	-	-	-	1,500
Foyle Foundation	-	-	-	7,500
Postcode Neighbourhood Lottery	-	-	-	25,000
Albert Hunt	-	-	-	5,000
Cancer Research	-	-	-	1,055
PH Holt	-	-	-	10,000
Eleanor Rathbone	-	-	-	3,000
St Helens MBC	-	-	-	250
Rainford Trust	-	-	-	2,000
Donations	2,203	-	2,203	1,554
	60,643	43,658	104,301	130,021

2a Restricted funds summary	Balance b/f £	Incoming £	Outgoing £	Transfers £	Balance c/f £
National Lottery Community Func	17,538	-	17,538	-	-
Arnold Clarke	148	-	148	-	-
Steve Morgan Fdtn	3,770	-	3,770	-	-
Garfield Weston	-	15,000	14,599	-	401
John Moores Fdtn	-	5,000	5,002	(2)	-
Awards for All	-	18,590	18,589	1	-
Elizabeth Rathbone Trust	-	1,000	819	-	181
Skelton	-	1,000	1,000	-	-
ASDA Fdtn	-	600	600	-	-
St Helens Ward Grant	-	700	270	-	430
St Helens MBC Library	-	1,768	1,765	-	3
Cheshire & M'side Cancer Allianc	894	-	895	(1)	-
PH Holt	3,843	-	3,843	-	-
Eleanor Rathbone	3,000	-	3,000	-	-
	29,193	43,658	71,838	(2)	1,015

Purpose of restricted funds

TNL CommunityFund, Eleanor Rathbone, John Moores Fdtn, Steve Morgan Foundation & Garfield Weston provided funding towards our salary costs.

St Helens MBC provided funding towards our community Library.

3 Voluntary Receipts	2026 Unrestricted funds £	2026 Restricted funds £	2026 Total funds £	2025 Total funds £
Office Services & Photocopying	6,017	-	6,017	3,122
Bank Interest	539	-	539	825
	6,556	-	6,556	3,947

4 Staff costs and numbers

	2026	2025
	£	£
Gross salaries	76,893	80,014
Pension	-	-
	76,893	80,014

The average number of employees during the year was 2.2 (2025:2.2)

5 Trustee remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration or expenses during the accounting period.

6 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the accounting period