The Harwich Festival

Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2025

THE HARWICH FESTIVAL

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TRUSTEES REPORT

The Trustees present their annual report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the period year ended 31 December 2025.

Reference and Administrative Details

Registered Charity Name:	The Harwich Festival
Registered Number:	1171712
Registered Office:	8 St Georges Avenue Dovercourt Essex CO12 3RR

The Trustees

The Trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows:

K A Ririe (Chair)
P J Davis (Artistic Director)
D E J Burrell
R-R Kevlin
Dr J M Shaw (Treasurer)
S Taplin
I. Smith

General Manager Mr C Berwick

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Harwich Festival is a registered charitable incorporated organisation - foundation governed by its constitution.

Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees

The Governing Document requires a minimum of 3 trustees but there is no upper number of trustees who can be appointed. Trustees are elected from the local community or due to their relevant experience. The Trustees elect various board appointments from among the Trustees. A separate process agreed by the Trustee Board is followed for the election of the Chair. No other persons or bodies external to the charity were entitled to appoint persons to the Trustee Board.

Organisational Structure

The Harwich Festival is governed by a Board of Trustees which is responsible for setting the strategic direction of the organisation and for the policies adopted by the charity. The Trustees carry ultimate responsibility for the conduct of the charity and for ensuring that it satisfies its legal and contractual obligations. Two Trustees meet on a regular basis with the charity's management committee but delegates day to day administration of the charity to its General Manager. The General Manager manages one employee on a flexible contract as well as freelance employees, as required.

Major Risks

The most significant external risk is that of the loss of funding. The effects of this have been minimalised by the procedures that are in place, which has resulted in funding being secured from a variety of sources. The Charity continues to seek to diversify its sources of funding. Internal risks are minimalised by the implementation of procedures for the authorisation of all transactions and projects, and to ensure consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the Charity.

TRUSTEES REPORT (continued)

Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of the charity are set out in the Trust documents which specifies that the Harwich Festival seeks to:

- Promote the Arts in Harwich and the surrounding area by establishing The Harwich Festival as a regional Arts Hub that provides a diverse range of cultural activities, addressing the needs of all sectors of the community.
- Promote the development of the annual Harwich Festival of the Arts in terms of audience growth (overall numbers, age and geographical spread) and diversity of programme;
- Promote cultural events throughout the year which are located in venues that ensure full engagement with the community;
- Advance culture and the Arts within Harwich and the surrounding area through The Harwich Festival of the Arts and the Harwich Arts and Heritage Centre (HAHC) acting as an 'umbrella' for existing and new local events;
- Encourage, commission and present new works from all aspects of the Arts;
- Promote, in partnership with other local agencies, the regeneration of Harwich and Dovercourt by boosting visitor numbers to the area, raising the profile of the area as a destination, and offering employment opportunities in administration, design and performance;
- Procure services from local suppliers whenever appropriate, and offer opportunities to "grass root" local artists, musicians and performers;
- Consult with the local community on a regular basis to ensure that its Art based needs are being catered for.

Funding

The Harwich Festival would like to thank all the organisations who have provided funding and support during this period.

The charity's main funding was received from:

Arts Council England
National Heritage Lottery Fund
Harwich Town Council
Tendring District Council
The Co-op (administered by the Essex Community Foundation)
Essex County Council

Other income arises from
Ticket Sales
Patronage and income from friends of the HF
Gifts from individuals
Hire fees from the Harwich Arts and Heritage Centre.

Strategies and Achievements

The Harwich Festival continues to operate as a professional, all-year round Arts organisation. The impact of Covid-19 still impacted on overall trading and income, exacerbated by the on-going cost of living crisis. Staff hours have now returned to the pre-pandemic level and the Festival has established a new community art garden at the Harwich Arts and Heritage Centre.

The summer Festival of the Arts returned in June where over 40 events were spaced out over ten days. Some concerts were, as in previous years, funded in part by a grant from Harwich Town Council and by individual sponsors.

Regular activities and users of the Harwich Arts and Heritage Centre include:

Dovercourt Ukulele Club
CC Dance Studios
Craft Café
Harwich Sing Tendring Voices
Dovercourt Art Club
Harwich & Dovercourt Camera Club
Harwich Embroidery and Related Textiles (Heart) Group
Meditation & Yoga Group
NHS Training Groups
Funnelwick Limb Theatre Group
Catalina Carvajal (Artist)
The Electric Palace Archives

TRUSTEES REPORT (continued)

Strategies and Achievements (continued)

The HAHC remains a registered Warm Space, open from 10am to 4pm weekdays and every other Saturday morning. These are the times when the varying exhibitions are open to the public. Hot drinks are provided from the HAHC cafe. Separate craft sessions are provided for Mayflower Primary School parents from 1 to 3pm on Tuesdays.

The partnership with the Active Wellbeing Society, who promote Essex Pedal Power, has been initiated and continued throughout 2025. The Harwich Library had temporarily relocated to the Arts Centre and movedto its new site in September 2025. The charity has negotiated a 25 year lease with its landlord which will help to aid applications for larger funding pots.

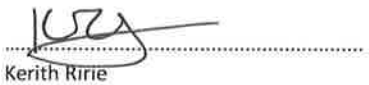
Trustees' Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:-

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles of the SORP;
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is appropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on ..... and signed on its behalf by:



Kerith Ririe
Chair of the Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Harwich Festival

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Harwich Festival (the Trust) for theyear ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 that in any material respect:

1. the accounting records were not kept in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or

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.

Simon Welling
Certified Accountant

TC Group
Accountants
Town Wall House
Balkerne Hill
Colchester
Essex
CO3 3AD

Date: .....

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Unrestricted income funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total £	*31/12/2024 £*
Receipts				
Grants				
Charles French (2026 Creative Arts Conference)	-	2,500	2,500	-
Electrical Safety Grant	2,500	546	3,046	-
Essex Association of Local Councils	947	-	947	-
Essex Community Fund	3,000	1,000	4,000	-
Essex County Council Winter Essentials Fund	-	-	-	*990*
Essex Lottery	-	-	-	*7*
Fowler Garden Fund	-	2,000	2,000	-
Harwich Sing (Dementia)	-	1,000	1,000	-
Harwich Town Council Harwich Festival 25	-	4,000	4,000	*3,500*
Harwich Veterans Fund	-	4,708	4,708	*4,801*
Matthew Lindley	-	-	-	*2,000*
Phone Box Art	-	-	-	*980*
Postcode Lottery Fund	19,000	-	19,000	-
Tendring District Council Banners and Flags	2,500	2,500	5,000	-
Tendring District Council Rural Fund/Garden	-	1,967	1,967	*3,226*
Tendring District Council Town Centre Project	-	-	-	*12,760*
Tendring District Council Warm Spaces	-	-	-	*24,276*
Tudwick Foundation	1,500	-	1,500	-
Veolia Garden Fund	1,000	-	1,000	-
All Year Programme Income	1,592	-	1,592	*2,619*
Donations	1,097	-	1,097	*750*
HAHC Rent and Room Hire	20,733	-	20,733	*18,887*
Harwich Festival 2025 Income	8,151	-	8,151	*8,400*
HMRC Gift Aid	1,885	-	1,885	-
Patrons and Friends	-	-	-	*75*
Year 5 Creative Arts Conference	-	-	-	*4,000*
Total Receipts	63,905	20,221	84,126	*87,271*
Payments				
Accountancy	413	-	413	*413*
All Year Round Programme Artists	2,660	-	2,660	*3,562*
Art Fair and Sales	-	-	-	*955*
Chinese New Year	-	-	-	*32*
Consultancy Fees	784	-	784	*2,464*
Electrical Safety Fund	-	380	380	-
Essex County Council Piano Tuition	-	-	-	*210*
Galloper	-	-	-	*980*
General Manager's net Salary	16,430	4,561	20,991	*21,546*
General Overheads	1,077	-	1,077	*1,525*
HAHC administrators salary	3,921	2,050	5,971	*7,182*
HAHC caretaking and cleaning	516	-	516	*907*
HAHC building improvements/repairs	892	-	892	-
HAHC Miscellaneous	1,362	-	1,362	*4,418*
HAHC Rent	5,540	-	5,540	*7,500*
Harwich Festival 2025	7,657	3,100	10,757	*9,466*
Harwich Sing (Dementia)	-	400	400	-
Harwich Veterans Fund	-	7,659	7,659	*1,866*
Insurance	1,113	-	1,113	*1,117*
Legal Fees	2,909	-	2,909	-
Matthew Lindley	-	1,500	1,500	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	*380*
Tax, NI and pension contributions	5,527	-	5,527	*4,937*
Tendring District Council Banners and Flags	-	2,497	2,497	-
Tendring District Council Town Centre Fund	-	325	325	*2,585*
Tendring District Council Warm Spaces	-	-	-	*5,556*
Tendring District Council Rural Fund/Garden	512	-	512	*1,523*
Veolia Garden Grant	1,000	-	1,000	-
Year 5 Arts Conference	-	-	-	*1,021*
Total payments	52,313	22,472	74,785	*80,145*
	11,592	(2,251)	9,341	*7,126*
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-
	11,592	(2,251)	9,341	*7,126*
Cash Funds brought forward at 1 January 2025	21,807	*4,935*	26,742	*19,616*
Cash Funds carried forward at 31 December 2025	33,399	2,684	36,083	26,742

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £	*31/12/2024*
Fixed Assets				
Piano	-	-	-	-
Portable Staging	-	-	-	-
Laptop	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Current Assets				
Cash funds				
Cash at bank	33,399	2,684	36,083	*26,742*
Petty cash	-	-	-	-
HBO cash at bank	-	-	-	-
	33,399	2,684	36,083	26,742

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on ..... and were signed on its behalf by:

K Ririe
Trustee

J M Shaw
Trustee