REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1182100

Report of the Trustees and

Unaudited Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

for

Local and Live Music

ah partnership
Chartered Accountants
Stanley House
49 Dartford Road
Sevenoaks
Kent
TN13 3TE

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Local and Live Music

Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 December 2025

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

Charity Overview

The aims of the charity are to promote public appreciation of and education in the arts, and in particular the art of music, by delivering a festival to include the performance of live original music and spoken word and other music-related educational events and opportunities.
The charity is based in Tunbridge Wells.

The trustees continue to closely follow the guidance of the Charity Commission when developing strategies, objectives and activities relating to objects of public benefit.

Background

A small group of individuals, headed by Paul Dunton, share a passion for music. In particular they have a passion for original music performed live; they care about bringing that music to the public, to educate them about styles & genres that they may not know, and they care about the development of the musicians and composers who create and perform that music. This is the origin of the annual Local and Live Music Festival.

This festival has been running since 2006 in Tunbridge Wells; it is a free-to-attend, not for profit, community event.

It started modestly as a very small event with a handful of acts on the bandstand in The Pantiles.
The event grew substantially, and, in 2018, the main stage was in Calverley Grounds (approx. 18 acres of public parkland in the centre of the town) with a further 6 satellite venues across the town. The event took place over 4 days across the August Bank Holiday weekend, featuring over 100 acts and with audience numbers estimated at over 2000 per day.

The scale of the event with the associated planning, operations and finance, was getting beyond the scope of an informal group of individuals. The key members of the group felt it was time to create a more formal organisation and, having taken advice, agreed that a Foundation CIO would be the right way forward.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

After a very successful year in 2024, the trustees were hopeful of repeating that in 2025 in what was Local & Live's 20th year. The year began with a launch party in March at a local venue, The Old Auction House in The Pantiles. Over 100 people attended, including many from local businesses who we hoped would become supporters of the festival. At the launch we had a performance by local young and upcoming acoustic pop singer songwriter Anouska Assisi. Using a loop station to build original music live, Anouska transforms songs from a single strum on the guitar to a full-blown production in minutes using just her voice, guitar and pedals. She now performs all over the UK.

In mid-May, the parent/teacher association of Claremont School, a local primary school, put on Clarefest at their playing fields. This was a private, ticketed one-day music festival for the benefit of the children, parents and staff. Two trustees from Local & Live were closely involved in organising this and provided PA, lights, stage management, sound engineering, etc. (The two trustees run a small music production company and were able to provide the equipment and services at cost.) The event featured some eight local acts, including a teacher's band and a children's dance group. It was the third year of involvement in this event and will continue in 2026.

Over the bank holiday at the end of May, the town-wide UnFest festival was put on. This occurs at many local venues both indoors and outdoors over the Friday to Monday. It is loosely organised by the group who run both The Forum - a national status music venue - and several pubs in the town. The venues have some latitude in terms of what they put on and when, but there is an emphasis on local participation and original music. The Local & Live team put on a single-stage outdoor event in the Sussex Mews over the Saturday, Sunday and Monday featuring 24 different acts. This was free to attend, and the artists kindly gave their services at no charge. All three days were very popular.

In June, as part of our 20th Local & Live celebrations, we teamed up with Club Quantum in The Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells, for an exclusive tribute to the spirit of Local & Live. A handpicked lineup of Local & Live stars took to the stage for a superstar open mic night.

Also in June, two of the trustees were involved in the production of another local event, the Moondance Festival at Bells Yew Green. This was a ticketed event that raised money for Prostate Cancer UK.

The Festival

The charity's main event of the year was the three day festival in Calverley Park (Tunbridge Wells) over the August Bank Holiday.

This is a big event for Local & Live as it is entirely run by the charity. While almost all the artists give their services for free or just basic expenses, there are still significant production costs, and it remains a concern that these can be met. The event is free to attend - we want to promote new, original music to anyone who is interested, irrespective of their financial status - so the income to cover costs must come from donations, profit share from retail outlets at the festival, grants and sponsorship. Re the latter, the trustees are extremely grateful to Maxipay Ltd accountancy services (http://www.maxipay.co.uk/home) who, for the third year, acted as headline sponsors. This allowed the trustees to announce the festival, book the acts and production services, etc., from a position of reasonable financial confidence.

The festival itself was a great success; everything worked, the production was excellent, the acts were brilliant. The weather was not particularly warm for August and rain did affect us on occasion. Fortunately, we do have some cover in the form of stretch tents which goes someway to stop people getting too wet or leaving the venue. The importance of the weather cannot be underestimated for an outdoor festival. Some 39 acts performed on the main stage over the three days, with a further 36 acts performing late shows at The Forum, The Forum Basement, all day at the Sussex Mews, Trinity Theatre Gardens and Sankey's Seafood Kitchen & Bar on the Monday.

132 Acts applied to play at the festival, it featured first-time performers in addition to lots of familiar faces with the very best local, original music from a wide range of genres that included Pop, Folk, Blues, Country, Jazz, Rock, Punk, Americana, Indie, Alternative, Soul. Of the 82 acts that played, 25 were new to the festival and many are young acts in their teens or early twenties and the first time they have given live performances on a large stage. We continue to watch, with some pride, acts that started at Local & Live return to headline, and some are achieving national and international success.
On the Saturday the main stage hosted a set by the The Lewis Project, a charity set up to promote mental wellbeing in young musicians aged 16+ through music. During the six-month run up to the festival, four local songwriters went into the project weekly meeting to encourage and help develop their writing of original material. Having never played original material before, the project performed a half hour set on the main stage in a sought-after time slot. This set was made up purely of their own songs - created through collaboration and their own hard work.

West Kent Radio participated in the main festival with artist interviews and some live music broadcasts.

The festival has to be considered the most successful yet in that it put on more acts, drew in the biggest audience so far and still covered all its costs - financial details are listed in the relevant section of the trustees report.

In summary, 2025 was a very successful year for the charity.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1182100

Principal address

No 4
Bretland Road
Tunbridge Wells
Kent
TN4 8PB

Trustees

J Dorman
P Dunton
P Taylor
P Coe
P Reader
S Goodwin
A Howie
H Tilston (appointed 24.10.2025)

Independent Examiner

ah partnership
Chartered Accountants
Stanley House
49 Dartford Road
Sevenoaks
Kent
TN13 3TE

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 26 October 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

P Taylor - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Local and Live Music

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Local and Live Music
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Local and Live Music (the Trust) for the year 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. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of 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.

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.

J A Gibbs

ah partnership
Chartered Accountants
Stanley House
49 Dartford Road
Sevenoaks
Kent
TN13 3TE

29 October 2026

Local and Live Music

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	28,912	-	28,912	16,540
Other trading activities	3	45,333	-	45,333	39,869
Investment income	4	275	-	275	214
Other income		3,180	-	3,180	4,118
Total		77,700	-	77,700	60,741
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		2,406	-	2,406	1,389
Charitable activities					
Local and Live		63,729	-	63,729	61,282
Total		66,135	-	66,135	62,671
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		11,565	-	11,565	(1,930)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		7,854	-	7,854	9,784
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		19,419	-	19,419	7,854

The notes form part of these financial statements

Local and Live Music

Balance Sheet
31 December 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Intangible assets	7	-	-	-	1,050
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	-	-	-	843
Cash at bank and in hand		19,419	-	19,419	46,281
		19,419	-	19,419	47,124
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	-	-	-	(40,320)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		19,419	-	19,419	6,804
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		19,419	-	19,419	7,854
NET ASSETS		19,419	-	19,419	7,854
FUNDS	10				
Unrestricted funds				19,419	7,854
TOTAL FUNDS				19,419	7,854

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 26 October 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:

P Taylor - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

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.

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

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Donations	28,912	14,665
Grants	-	1,875
	28,912	16,540

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
TWBC Sound of the Wells	-	1,875

continued...

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Merchandise sales	2,333	1,869
Sponsorships	43,000	38,000
	45,333	39,869

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deposit account interest	275	214

5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2025 nor for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2025 nor for the year ended 31 December 2024.

6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund	Restricted fund	Total funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	16,540	-	16,540
Other trading activities	39,869	-	39,869
Investment income	214	-	214
Other income	4,118	-	4,118
Total	60,741	-	60,741
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	1,389	-	1,389
Charitable activities			
Local and Live	61,282	-	61,282
Total	62,671	-	62,671
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(1,930)	-	(1,930)

continued...

6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	9,784	-	9,784
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	7,854	-	7,854

7. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Computer software £
COST	
At 1 January 2025 and 31 December 2025	5,250
AMORTISATION	
At 1 January 2025	4,200
Charge for year	1,050
At 31 December 2025	5,250
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2025	-
At 31 December 2024	1,050

The intangible asset above represents the capitalisation of the website created for the charity. The charity will amortisatise the asset over a 5 year period.

8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Other debtors	-	843

continued...

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Other creditors	-	40,320

Included within other creditors for 2024 is deferred income of £40,000. This amount relates to sponsorship received during 2024 relating to 2025.

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.25	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.25
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	7,854	11,565	19,419
TOTAL FUNDS	7,854	11,565	19,419

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	77,700	(66,135)	11,565
TOTAL FUNDS	77,700	(66,135)	11,565

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.24	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.24
	£	£	£
Unrestricted fund	9,784	(1,930)	7,854
TOTAL FUNDS	9,784	(1,930)	7,854

continued...

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted fund	60,741	(62,671)	(1,930)
TOTAL FUNDS	60,741	(62,671)	(1,930)

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.24	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.25
	£	£	£
Unrestricted fund	9,784	9,635	19,419
TOTAL FUNDS	9,784	9,635	19,419

Net movement in funds included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted fund	138,441	(128,806)	9,635
TOTAL FUNDS	138,441	(128,806)	9,635

11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

N Bent also granted the charity a loan of £Nil (2024: £5,000) to aid cashflow, this was fully repaid at the year end.

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12. ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

During the year the charity was controlled by the appointed Trustees.

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	28,912	14,665
Grants	-	1,875
	28,912	16,540
Other trading activities		
Merchandise sales	2,333	1,869
Sponsorships	43,000	38,000
	45,333	39,869
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	275	214
Other income		
Event program adverts	3,180	4,118
Total incoming resources	77,700	60,741
EXPENDITURE		
Other trading activities		
Purchases	2,406	1,389
Charitable activities		
Event management	7,647	5,715
Hire of equipment	43,418	46,867
Subcontractors	3,745	75
Health and safety	2,652	1,728
Waste collection	980	1,800
Computer software	1,050	1,050
Grants to institutions	1,200	-
	60,692	57,235
Support costs		
Management		
Postage and stationery	-	105
Advertising and promotional	2,679	3,604
	2,679	3,709

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Management		
Finance		
Bank charges	198	216
Information technology		
Domain costs	-	42
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	160	80
Total resources expended	66,135	62,671
Net income/(expenditure)	11,565	(1,930)