

Chorley FC Community Foundation

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT

for the year to 31 March 2026

Registered Charity Number 1183529

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Administration Details

Registration number: 1183529

Address: Chorley FC Community Foundation
Victory Park
Duke Street
Chorley
PR7 3DU

Accountants: Accounts Matters Ltd
3-2-1 Storey House
White Cross
Lancaster
Lancashire
LA1 4XQ

Chair's Introduction

Chorley FC Community Foundation is a relatively small charity with a big heart. I think this year's report shows just how much we manage to achieve with the resources we have available.

Football is obviously an important part of who we are, but much of our work now happens away from the pitch.

During the year, children spent their school holidays being active and making friends. Older people had somewhere to go each week for company and conversation. Men came together through Blokes United, veterans took part in football and breakfast groups, and hundreds of local children got the chance to experience Chorley FC on a matchday.

We opened Victory Park on Christmas Day, held a Community Sleepout, worked in local schools and recorded the memories of people connected with the football club and the town.

Across the year, our activities generated more than 11,000 participant attendances.

For a charity of our size, I think that is a figure worth celebrating. More importantly, those attendances mean people choosing to come back each week because they enjoy what we do, value the people they meet or simply appreciate having somewhere to go.

We don't have the resources of some larger organisations and we can't do everything. What we can do is make sure that the resources we do have are used well and focused on where we think they can make a difference.

There is plenty more we want to do. We want to reach age groups where our current offer is limited, expand our work with older people and build stronger relationships with organisations across Chorley.

Thank you to our staff, volunteers, partners, funders, trustees and, most importantly, everyone who has taken part in something we've delivered this year.

Darren Jenkinson

Darren Jenkinson
Chair of Trustees

2025/26 at a Glance

A small charity making a big difference

11,000+ participant attendances
across Foundation activities during the year

2,500 Blokes United attendances
from 50 sessions

1,800 child attendances at holiday activities
across 45 activity days

1,600 Walking Football attendances
across our Tuesday and Friday sessions

1,500 Friendship Group attendances
with 14 volunteers supporting the group

1,440 attendances through school activities
across four local schools

720 Matchday Experience attendances
giving local children the chance to experience Chorley FC

160 children from 12 schools
competing across 20 teams at our Under-11 National League Trust Tournament

£8,239 raised through the Community Sleepout
with 35 people taking part

40 Chorley Stories recorded
preserving memories from our club and community

These figures are participant attendances rather than a count of unique individuals. Many of our activities are regular weekly sessions, so the same person may attend many times during the year.

For us, that repeat attendance matters. It means people are coming back.

Report of the Trustees

Introduction

Chorley FC Community Foundation is an independent charitable organisation working closely with Chorley Football Club.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity are:

1. The promotion of community participation in healthy recreation for the benefit of the inhabitants of Chorley and surrounding areas by the provision of facilities for playing football.

2. To provide and assist in providing facilities for sport, recreation and other leisure-time occupation of such persons who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, poverty or social and economic circumstances, or for the benefit of the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving their conditions of life.

Our activities reflect these objects but now cover much more than football. We use sport, physical activity, social groups, schools work and community events to support people across Chorley and the surrounding area.

Our work during 2025/26 included children and young people, older people, veterans, disability and inclusion, physical and mental wellbeing, loneliness and social isolation, school activities and opportunities to connect local people with Chorley FC.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, The Trustees confirm that we follow the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, as required under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011.

Achievements and Performance

Health, wellbeing and staying active

Blokes United remains one of our biggest regular activities.

We delivered 50 sessions during the year with an average attendance of around 50 people, approximately 2,500 attendances.

Although football is what brings people through the door, the social side of Blokes United is just as important. It gives men a regular opportunity to get active, meet other people and enjoy being part of a group.

Our two Walking Football groups also continued throughout the year.

The Tuesday group delivered 50 sessions with an average attendance of 14. Friday's 50 sessions averaged 18. Across the two groups that equates to around 1,600 attendances.

Veterans Football delivered 40 sessions with an average of around 10 participants, approximately 400 attendances over the year. Six Veterans Breakfasts were also held.

Mixed Gender Social Football operated during the reporting year, averaging around seven people per session. It formed part of a longer project which ran from February 2025 to June 2026.

The National League Trust supported a number of these activities during the year, as well as contributing towards staffing, youth engagement and disability sport.
Lancashire FA continued to support our disability football and social inclusion work.

Friendship, connection and older people

Not everything we do needs a football.

The Chorley Community Friendship Group met 50 times during the year and averaged around 30 people each week. That is approximately 1,500 attendances.

Fourteen volunteers support the group. They are a big part of why it works and why people continue to come back.

Silver Spirit / Monday Bingo delivered 29 sessions with an average attendance of around 12 people, giving approximately 348 attendances.

The National Lottery Community Fund helped us establish this work with older people. When that funding ended, we were keen not to simply stop something that people had started to rely on. Support from Jigsaw Homes enabled Silver Spirit to continue.

Jigsaw Homes also supported our Community Brunch, attended by around 35 people.

We want our work with older people to continue to grow. The Friendship Group in particular shows that sometimes something as simple as having somewhere to go each week, seeing familiar faces and having a cup of tea and a chat can make a real difference.

Children and young people
Holiday activities remain one of the most visible parts of our work with children.

We delivered 45 days of holiday football activities during the reporting year, averaging around 40 children each day. That gave us approximately 1,800 child attendances.

The aim is straightforward: give children somewhere safe and affordable to be active, play football and spend time with other children during the school holidays.

Junior Magpies delivered 48 sessions across three age categories, with 16 sessions for each group. Average attendance ranged from eight to twelve children, giving approximately 480 attendances across the programme.

Volunteer coaches also help us deliver our activities outside school term time and allow us to offer more opportunities than our staffing alone would make possible.

Working with local schools

We delivered approximately 120 sessions across four local schools during the year.

Average attendance was around 12 children per session, giving approximately 1,440 child attendances.

One of the highlights was our Under-11 National League Trust Tournament in November 2025.

The event was full, with 160 children from 12 schools competing across 20 teams. There were ten teams in each category and eight children in each team.

Chorley Council also provided a small amount of funding to support engagement and research with young people who were not in education, employment or training. This gave us an opportunity to understand this group better and consider what role the Foundation could play in the future.

Bringing young supporters closer to Chorley FC

One of the advantages of being closely linked with Chorley FC is that we can give local children experiences that are difficult to recreate anywhere else.

We delivered 36 Matchday Experiences during the year, involving an average of around 20 children each time, approximately 720 attendances.

For some children, it is their first time watching a live football match.

It is also a chance for them to feel part of their local club rather than football being something they only experience on television or online.

Community events

Thirty-five people took part in our Community Sleepout in November 2025, raising £8,239. The money raised benefited Chorley FC Community Foundation, Let's Make a Difference and Home-Start Central Lancashire.

Christmas is another time when we try to use the Foundation and Victory Park to bring people together.

Around 65 people joined us on Christmas Day for food, activities and company. Our children's Christmas party was attended by approximately 70 children.

Asda Community Foundation supported Christmas packages for older people and our Christmas Day opening.

For most people Christmas is a time spent with other people. We wanted to make sure there was an option for people locally who might otherwise have spent some or all of it alone.
A proud moment for everyone involved with the Foundation came when we were named Community Club of the Year by The Non-League Paper.

It was great to receive recognition for the work happening across the Foundation, but the award really belongs to the staff, volunteers, partners and local people who give their time, support our activities and make everything we do possible.

Chorley Stories

Forty Chorley Stories were recorded during the year.

The project captures memories and experiences from people connected with Chorley FC and the wider community.

Football clubs have stories that can easily disappear as generations change. Chorley Stories gives us a way of keeping some of those memories and making sure they aren't lost.

Partnerships

We couldn't deliver this amount of activity on our own.

During the year we worked with Chorley Football Club, Chorley Council, Andy's Man Club, Inspire Youth Zone, High Five, Spring North, Lancashire FA and local schools.

Financial support was received from organisations including The National League Trust, The National Lottery Community Fund, Asda Community Foundation, Chorley Council and Jigsaw Homes.

The Community Sleepout also saw us work alongside Let's Make a Difference and Home-Start Central Lancashire.

For a charity of our size, partnerships are particularly important. They give us access to expertise, facilities, funding and, in many cases, people we might struggle to reach ourselves.

The Trustees would like to thank everyone who worked with or supported the Foundation during the year.

Staff and Volunteers

Our work during the year was supported by a Project Manager and a Veterans and Older Persons Worker.

Volunteers are also a major part of what we do.

Fourteen volunteers regularly support the Community Friendship Group, while volunteer coaches help with activities outside school term time.

We simply couldn't deliver the amount of activity in this report without people being prepared to give their time.

The Trustees would like to thank our staff and volunteers for everything they have contributed during the year.

Safeguarding

The Trustees recognise their responsibility for safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk who take part in Foundation activities.

Safeguarding applies across our work, including holiday activities, school sessions, disability provision and activities involving older or potentially vulnerable adults.

The Foundation operates safeguarding procedures, with appropriate requirements and checks applied to staff and volunteers according to their roles.

There were no serious safeguarding incidents during the reporting year and no serious incidents were reported to the Charity Commission.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when planning and delivering the Foundation's activities.

Our work provides opportunities for people across Chorley and the surrounding area to take part in sport and recreation, improve their physical and mental wellbeing, meet other people and become more involved in their community.

Some of our work is specifically aimed at people who may face barriers to taking part, including children and young people, older people, veterans, disabled people and those experiencing loneliness or social isolation.

Where possible, activities are free, subsidised or kept affordable so that cost does not become an unnecessary barrier.

The Trustees are satisfied that the activities undertaken during the year furthered the charitable purposes of Chorley FC Community Foundation for the public benefit.

Financial Review

The Foundation had income of £101,041 (2025 - £84,150) and expenses of £107,007 (2025 -£74,470), leaving a deficit of £5,966 (2025 – surplus £9,680). The Foundation's overheads and support costs are minimal and the majority of the expenses are on charitable activities.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have a policy of carrying minimum free reserves of £12,000 to cover two months' overheads and any unexpected costs. Free reserves at 31 March 2026 were £19,676 (2025 - £13,802).

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

Financial sustainability remains one of the main risks facing the Foundation.

Many funding opportunities are for fixed periods, while the people attending a successful activity understandably want it to continue. Silver Spirit during this reporting period is a good example of why finding follow-on funding matters.

Other areas considered by the Trustees include safeguarding, health and safety, staffing and volunteer capacity, meeting the requirements attached to funded projects, data protection and reputational risk.

No significant operational issues arose during the reporting period.

The Board keeps the charity's activities, finances and risks under review as part of its normal governance responsibilities.

Plans for the Future

We want the Foundation to have something to offer people at every stage of life.

There are still gaps.

One is provision for children aged 0–5, where we want to develop new activities. Another is teenagers. We already do a lot with younger children, but our offer for young people aged 12–16 is much more limited. We want to change that.

At the other end of the age range, we want to expand our work with older people. The success of the Friendship Group and the development of Silver Spirit have shown us both the demand and the value of this work.

We also need to raise more money.

That means increasing our fundraising activity, looking for a broader range of funding and developing stronger relationships with local statutory organisations. We want to understand where the gaps are locally and where a small, flexible community organisation like ours can be useful.

We don't need to become a huge charity.

We do want to become a stronger and more sustainable one, capable of supporting more people while keeping the local approach that has allowed so much of our existing work to succeed.

We are a small charity with a big heart, and there is plenty more we want to do.

Structure, Governance and Management

Chorley FC Community Foundation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales under charity number 1183529.

The Foundation is governed by its constitution.

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the constitution and are responsible for the strategic direction, governance and oversight of the charity.

The Board met quarterly during the reporting year. Meetings covered the Foundation's activities, finances, funding, safeguarding, risks and future plans.

Day-to-day management and delivery is delegated to Foundation staff, with oversight from the Board of Trustees.

The Trustees seek to maintain a Board with the skills, experience and local knowledge needed to support the Foundation's work.

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity name: Chorley FC Community Foundation

Registered charity number: 1183529

Legal structure: Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Governing document: Constitution

Principal and correspondence address:

Chorley FC Community Foundation
Victory Park
Duke Street
Chorley
PR7 3DU

Trustees who served during the year

Darren Jenkinson – Chair

Paul Clarkson – Trustee

Carole Ann Turner – Trustee

Craig Wilson – Trustee

Jamie Vermiglio – Trustee

Lindsey Ann Parkinson – Trustee

Christopher Gary Andrew Blackburn – Trustee

Alistair Leggat – Trustee

David James Murphy – Trustee (resigned 20 February 2026)

Approval

This Trustees' Annual Report was approved by the Board of Trustees of Chorley FC Community Foundation on:

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Darren Jenkinson

Signed: .....

Name: Darren Jenkinson, Chair 05 Oct 2026

Dated: .....

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Chorley FC Community Foundation

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended (date) which are set out on pages 14 to 16.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

C Harwood

Signed: .....

Name: Christine Harwood ACMA
Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

05 Oct 2026

Dated: .....

Accounts Matters Limited
3-2-1 Storey House
White Cross
Lancaster
Lancashire
LA1 4XQ

Chorley FC Community Foundation
For the year ended 31 March 2026

Receipts and Payments Accounts

	Unrestricted 2026	Restricted 2026	Total 2026	Total 2025
Receipts				
Charitable Activities	49,616		49,616	40,912
Donations and Gifts	22,438		22,438	3,915
Fundraising income				569
Other grants	8,837		8,837	18,301
National League Grant		19,826	19,826	19,195
Sporting Memories				935
Youth Zone	324		324	324
Total Receipts	**81,215**	**19,826**	**101,041**	**84,150**
Payments				
Advertising & Marketing	1,435		1,435	4,126
Audit & Accountancy fees	1,738		1,738	569
Bank Fees	404		404	408
Charitable Donations	9,855		9,855	1,125
Coaches	15,381		15,381	21,606
Consulting	885		885	3,862
Computer Software	108		108	
General Expenses	143		143	1,457
Insurance	472		472	386
Legal Expenses	135		135	274
Pension	581		581	58
Printing & Stationery	34		34	
Project Costs	16,644	13	16,657	3,794
Repairs & Maintenance	1,135		1,135	212
Room/Pitch Hire		19,813	19,813	18,504
Staff Training	640		640	360
Travel - National				269
Schools engagement officer				4,308
Subscriptions	85		85	
Wages - Project Manager & Older People and Veterans Lead	25,666	11,840	37,506	13,151
Total Payments	**75,341**	**31,666**	**107,007**	**74,470**
Net of Receipts and Payments	**5,874**	**(11,840)**	**(5,966)**	**9,680**

Chorley FC Community Foundation
As at 31 March 2026

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	Unrestricted 2026	Restricted 2026	2026	2025	Notes
Current Assets					
Cash funds					
Current Account	19,676	500	20,176	26,142	
Total Cash funds	**19,676**	**500**	**20,176**	**26,142**	
Total Current Assets	**19,676**	**500**	**20,176**	**26,142**	
Net Current Assets	**19,676**	**500**	**20,176**	**26,142**	
Total Assets	**19,676**	**500**	**20,176**	**26,142**	
Net Assets	**19,676**	**500**	**20,176**	**26,142**	
Charity funds					
Current Year surplus	5,874	(11,840)	(5,966)	9,680	
Funds brought forward	13,802	12,340	26,142	16,462	
Total Charity funds	**19,676**	**500**	**20,176**	**26,142**	1

Approved by Chorley FC Community Foundation Trustees and signed on their behalf by Darren Jenkinson (Chair).

Darren Jenkinson — **Signed**

05 Oct 2026 — **Dated**

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 **Restricted Funds**

RESTRICTED FUND MOVEMENT YEAR TO 31ST MARCH 2026

	Balance 01/04/2025	Received During year	Paid in year	Balance 31/03/2026
National League		19,826.00	19,826.00	
Miller	500.00			500.00
National Lottery	11,840.00		11,840.00	
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	12,340.00	19,826.00	31,666.00	500.00