Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **1st April 2025** **Period start date**
To **31st March 2026** **Period end date**

Charity name: The Limes Community Garden

Charity registration number: 1185000

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE:- 1. TO PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION BY PROVIDING AN AREA FOR USE AS A COMMUNITY GARDEN AND OTHER ACTIVITIES FOR INDIVIDUALS IN THE LIMES, SOUTH ASHFORD AND SURROUNDING AREA WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY, OR DISABLEMENT, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES OR FOR THE PUBLIC AT LARGE IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF LIFE OF THE SAID INHABITANTS. 2. TO ADVANCE EDUCATION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT PARTICULARLY BY PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING ABOUT HORTICULTURE IN AND AROUND THE COMMUNITY GARDEN 2) TO ADVANCE EDUCATION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT PARTICULARLY BY PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING ABOUT HORTICULTURE IN AND AROUND THE COMMUNITY GARDEN.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public	Para 1.17 and 1.19	See comments in section below.

benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.		
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees had regard to the guidance issued by the charity commission on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	During the year, The Limes Community Garden continued to expand its reach within the local community, providing opportunities for social connection, learning, volunteering and improved wellbeing through a range of gardening, educational and community activities. One of the year's key achievements was increasing engagement with local families and residents through a variety of successful community events. The charity attended the Kingsnorth Parish Council Country Fayre, where it launched a sunflower and pumpkin growing competition to encourage children and families to engage with gardening and food growing. A successful Father's Day BBQ brought the community together in a welcoming outdoor environment, while a fundraising table-top sale in August helped raise funds to support the ongoing development of the garden. The charity also completed its Garden Kitchen project, significantly enhancing its facilities and creating opportunities for future educational and community programmes. Following this achievement, the Garden Kitchen was awarded a 5 Star Food Hygiene Rating, providing a strong foundation for the forthcoming "Grow, Cook & Eat" initiative, which will enable participants to learn how to grow vegetables, prepare recipes using fresh produce and develop practical cooking skills. A significant development during the year was the launch of "Little Seedlings", a weekly parent and toddler group held throughout the summer months. The sessions provided a valuable opportunity for young children to experience nature-based play and learning while allowing parents and carers to build social

		connections and reduce feelings of isolation. The charity's annual Halloween Spooktacular was its largest community event to date, attracting approximately 200 attendees. Activities included a spooky trail, tombola and refreshments, bringing together families from across the local area and helping to raise awareness of the garden's work. The charity was also grateful for the support received from the Ashford Community Sleigh. Volunteers participated in festive fundraising activities alongside Santa, helping to generate additional income while promoting the charity within the wider community. Recognition of the charity's impact was demonstrated through its selection as a finalist in the Stour Leisure Centre Ashford Hero Sustainability Awards. Being shortlisted alongside much larger and more established organisations was a significant achievement and reflected the positive contribution the garden is making to environmental sustainability and community wellbeing. In addition, the charity's founder and trustee, Councillor Heather Hayward, was shortlisted as a finalist in the Public Service Hero Award, recognising her commitment to serving the local community. Investment was also made in volunteer development, with nine members of the core volunteer team successfully completing Emergency First Aid at Work training. This has strengthened the charity's ability to provide a safe environment for volunteers, visitors and beneficiaries. The work of The Limes Community Garden has delivered tangible benefits to its beneficiaries by reducing social isolation, improving mental wellbeing, increasing confidence and providing opportunities to learn new skills. The garden continues to offer an inclusive space where people of all ages can come together, connect with nature and contribute to their local community. More broadly, the charity has helped promote environmental awareness, sustainable living, community resilience and civic pride, creating lasting benefits for society as a whole.

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	**Balance Brought Forward:** £325 **Income during the year:** **£8217.53** (1st April 2025 – 31st March 2026) **Expenses:** **£5942.13** **Balance 31 March 25:** **£2275.4**
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The charity aims to hold in reserve the equivalent of 3 months' worth of operating costs (rent, water, insurance etc). This would normally be £1000.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£2275.40
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Not applicable
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None identified

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Memorandum of Association
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Co-option

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	The Limes Community Garden
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1185000

Charity's principal address	Address for correspondence: 274 Kingsnorth Road Ashford Kent TN23 6LU

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Heather Hayward	Secretary		
2	Harriet Yeo	Chairman		
3	Ian Tregenna	Trustee		
4	Carl May	Trustee	1st April 2025 to 18th October 2025	
5	Derek Curd	Trustee		
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
none		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
none		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	n/a
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	n/a

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
none		

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

None

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Other optional information

Trustee Heather Hayward is also an elected borough councillor for Ashford Borough Council, who are the land owners of the garden.

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Heather Hayward	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	
Date	18/09/2026	

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Achievements and Performance

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Signature(s)		
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Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	
Date	18/09/2026	