Trustees' Annual Report – Year End 31st March 2026

1. Introduction

Ouseburn Community Centre is a local community hub providing a flexible and inclusive space for organisations, groups and individuals delivering activities that benefit the local community. The Centre supports a wide range of services and partnerships that promote health, wellbeing, education, social connection and community development.

The Centre operates as both a managed community venue and a base for long-term partners, enabling regular delivery of structured programmes alongside ad hoc and community-led activities.

2. Partnership Working and Regular Users of the Centre

A key strength of the Centre is its role as a shared space for community organisations and groups whose activities contribute directly to the charity's objectives. These partnerships combine long-term tenancy arrangements with regular programme delivery, ensuring both financial sustainability and ongoing community benefit.

Ouseburn Community Centre is proud to continue its long-standing partnership with Nourish Food School, which is based at the Centre as its registered address and operates as one of its principal training hubs. Nourish Food School is a social enterprise delivering cookery classes, food education, community workshops and partnership projects aimed at improving health, wellbeing and life skills across the Northeast. In addition to its long-term tenancy, it delivers regular cookery sessions at the Centre, supporting practical skills development, healthy eating, confidence building and social connection.

The Centre also continues to host Men's Pie Club, which brings men together through cooking and shared meals in a relaxed and supportive environment, helping to reduce social isolation and support mental wellbeing.

Seishinkan Dojo delivers inclusive, non-competitive martial arts training twice weekly, providing structured physical activity that supports fitness, discipline and wellbeing.

The Centre is also pleased to welcome a new partner and tenant, Keyfort Group, which provides specialist support services for children, young people and adults with additional needs, including SEND. Keyfort Group is based at the Centre during the week and delivers tailored support including education support, mentoring, community-based learning and care provision.

We are also delighted to continue host the meetings of Newcastle East Women's Institute, a vibrant and welcoming group that brings together women of all ages and backgrounds. The WI offers a varied programme of activities, from crafts and food tasting to educational talks and community campaigns, reflecting a modern and inclusive approach while celebrating the organisation's long-standing traditions. Their continued use of the Centre contributes to the diversity of our community programme and provides valuable opportunities for local women to connect, learn new skills, and build lasting friendships.

3. Faith, Spiritual and Community Partnerships

Ouseburn Community Centre continues to support several faith-based and spiritual organisations that use the building for regular meetings and community activity.

Maná Church uses the Centre for worship services and community gatherings, providing a space for fellowship and local engagement.

Newcastle upon Tyne Diamond Way Buddhist Centre meets regularly at the Centre and provides guided meditation sessions and introductory teaching in Buddhist practice. These sessions offer accessible opportunities for mindfulness and reflection and are open to people of all levels of experience.

Urban Tribe uses the Centre as a base for regular community sessions focused on faith, wellbeing, connection and creative participation. The group provides an inclusive space for participants to engage in structured activity that supports social connection, confidence building and positive community engagement.

4. Community, Education and Wellbeing Activities

Treehouse is an established after-school provision run in partnership with Hotspur Primary School. The service operates Monday to Friday between 3pm and 6pm and provides childcare for local families, allowing parents and carers to remain in employment or attend work commitments while knowing their children are in a safe and supportive environment. Children take part in structured after-school activities and supervised play until collection.

Junior Spanish delivers structured language learning sessions for children, supporting confidence, communication skills and educational development outside of formal schooling.

Community Art Group meets weekly on Thursdays and brings together around 20 local participants, providing a creative space for artistic expression, skill development and social connection.

The Centre also hosts a monthly Community Supper Club, which brings people together to share food and enjoy a communal dining experience, supporting social connection and reducing isolation.

The Ouseburn Connected community drop-in runs every Monday, providing a welcoming space for residents to meet, socialise and take part in informal activities including coffee, conversation, games and light-touch support with issues such as housing and benefits.

The Centre also hosts a weekly community wellbeing group offering free meditation and gentle exercise sessions based on Falun Gong practices, focused on relaxation, mindfulness and wellbeing.

The Centre hosts a fortnightly community group delivered by Friends Action Northeast, supporting people with learning disabilities and autistic people to build friendships, reduce isolation and increase social participation.

5. Community Use and Civic Engagement

The Centre plays an active civic role within the local area.

It is regularly used as a polling station by Newcastle City Council during local and national elections, ensuring accessible democratic participation for residents.

The Centre is also used by local ward councillors to hold regular surgeries, providing residents with opportunities to raise issues and access local support.

In addition, the Centre has hosted community engagement events in partnership with Newcastle City Council, including consultations on local issues such as parking and proposed developments within the ward, enabling residents to contribute to local decision-making.

6. Governance and Management

The trustees for 2025/2026:

- Kevin Anderson
- June Conway
- Christopher Armstrong
- Stephen Powers (resigned December 2025)

During the year, a significant operational change took place following the Trustees' decision to bring the management and operation of Ouseburn Community Centre in-house through the establishment of its own Community Interest Company, Ouseburn Community Centre Trading CIC.

For the previous seven years, the day-to-day management and operation of the Centre had been delivered under an outsourced arrangement with HC Horizons Community Interest Company. The Trustees formally recognise and express their sincere thanks to HC Horizons for their professionalism, commitment and contribution to the development of the Centre during this period.

It is with great sadness that the Trustees also acknowledge the sudden passing of Claire Hodgson, founder of HC Horizons Community Interest Company, during the year. Her dedication to community development and her contribution to the Centre are recognised with deep respect and gratitude.

Following a strategic review, the Trustees concluded that establishing a dedicated Community Interest Company would provide a stronger operational structure, improved governance alignment and greater long-term sustainability.

The management agreement with HC Horizons concluded at the end of March 2026, with operational responsibility transferring to Ouseburn Community Centre Trading CIC from 1 April 2026.

The Trustees remain responsible for overall governance, strategic direction and financial oversight, while the Trading CIC manages day-to-day operations, ensuring a clear separation between governance and delivery.

The Trustees would also like to record their sincere thanks to Stephen Powers, who stepped down as Chair during the year after many years of dedicated service to Ouseburn Community Centre. Stephen's commitment, leadership and unwavering support have made a significant contribution to the development of the Centre and its role within the local community. His guidance has helped shape the organisation through a period of growth and change, and the Trustees are extremely grateful for the time, expertise and enthusiasm he has given so generously. He will be greatly missed, and everyone associated with the Centre wishes him every success for the future.

We would also like to welcome Christopher Armstrong to the Board of Trustees. Christopher brings a vast amount of experience having worked in the community voluntary sector on finance and governance issues and business planning. He will be a real asset to the board and has taken on the role as treasurer.

7. Conclusion

As we reflect on the past year, we do so with immense pride in what has been achieved together. We are delighted to see the centre continue to go from strength to strength, with increasing footfall and growing participation from people representing the rich diversity of our communities. This continued growth reflects the centre's role as a welcoming, inclusive space where people feel connected, supported, and inspired.

None of this would have been possible without the dedication of our staff and volunteers, the trust of our community, and the invaluable support of our partners. By working collaboratively, we have been able to extend our reach, create new opportunities, and deliver an even greater impact than we could have achieved alone. These partnerships remain central to our success and will continue to shape our future.

As we look ahead, we are excited by the opportunities before us. With strong foundations, meaningful partnerships, and a shared ambition for the future, we are well placed to continue growing the centre's impact over the coming years. Together, we will build on our successes, embrace innovation, and ensure the centre remains a thriving, inclusive hub at the heart of our community for generations to come.

7. Acknowledgements

We would like to express our sincere thanks to all the organisations and individuals whose continued support makes the work of Ouseburn Community Centre possible. We are especially grateful to Newcastle City Council for its ongoing confidence and trust in us to manage and develop the Centre for the benefit of the local community.

We also extend our heartfelt thanks to our funders: the National Lottery Community Fund, Barchester's Charitable Foundation and the Newcastle Fund Small Grants Programme, whose generous support has enabled us to enhance our community offer, strengthen our organisational capacity, and respond to the evolving needs of our community. We are also grateful to The Reach Fund, managed by Social Investment Business, for its ongoing support in helping us become investment ready and strengthen our long-term sustainability.

Finally, we would like to thank the Ouseburn Ward Councillors for their continued commitment, advocacy and support for the Centre. Their encouragement and investment in our vision have been instrumental in helping the Centre continue to thrive as a welcoming, inclusive and valued community hub.

Together, the support of our partners, funders and local representatives gives us confidence as we continue to build on our achievements and look to the future.

Signed:



Kevin Anderson

Chairperson

Ouseburn Community Centre

4th September 2026

Ouseburn Community Centre

Balance Sheet

As of March 31, 2026

	TOTAL
Fixed Asset	
Total Fixed Asset	
Cash at bank and in hand	
Current	3,746.88
Savings	61,573.86
Total Cash at bank and in hand	**£65,320.74**
Debtors	
Debtors	4,458.12
Total Debtors	**£4,458.12**
Current Assets	
Undeposited Funds	350.00
Total Current Assets	**£350.00**
NET CURRENT ASSETS	**£70,128.86**
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	
Trade Creditors	
Creditors	230.82
Total Trade Creditors	**£230.82**
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**£230.82**
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	**£69,898.04**
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	**£69,898.04**
Provision for liabilities and charges	1,500.00
TOTAL NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	**£68,398.04**
Capital and Reserves	
Opening Balance Equity	39,747.92
Retained Earnings	4,238.00
Profit for the year	24,412.12
Total Capital and Reserves	**£68,398.04**

Ouseburn Community Centre

Profit and Loss

April 2025 - March 2026

	TOTAL
Income	
Room Hire Permanent	6,755.67
Room Hire Sessional	45,106.51
Sales	424.00
Solar Income	3,338.61
Total Income	**£55,624.79**
Cost of Sales	
Direct Costs	
Lottery Awards for All - Resources	1,000.00
Newcastle Fund - Board games and craft resources	96.33
Total Direct Costs	**1,096.33**
Direct Labor Costs	3,354.00
Total Cost of Sales	**£4,450.33**
GROSS PROFIT	**£51,174.46**
Expenses	
Accountancy & Bookkeeping Fees	573.00
Advertising & Marketing	10.00
Cleaning & Consumables	1,064.23
Insurance	1,055.28
Internet & Telephone	1,443.88
Legal Costs	615.00
Premises Expense	1,323.40
Printing & Stationary	362.36
Professional Fees	46,029.01
Purchases	933.91
Repairs & Maintenance	575.56
Software	660.87
Uncategorised Expense	25.49
Utilities	44.40
Electricity	4,447.03
Gas	2,558.54
Water	2,135.62
Total Utilities	**9,185.59**
Total Expenses	**£63,857.58**
NET OPERATING INCOME	**£ -12,683.12**
Other Income	
Bank Interest	590.74
Donations Received	625.00
Grant Income	35,879.50
Total Other Income	**£37,095.24**
NET OTHER INCOME	**£37,095.24**
NET INCOME	**£24,412.12**

Ouseburn Community Centre

Balance Sheet

As of March 31, 2026

	TOTAL
Fixed Asset	
Total Fixed Asset	
Cash at bank and in hand	
Current	3,746.88
Savings	61,573.86
Total Cash at bank and in hand	**£65,320.74**
Debtors	
Debtors	4,458.12
Total Debtors	**£4,458.12**
Current Assets	
Undeposited Funds	350.00
Total Current Assets	**£350.00**
NET CURRENT ASSETS	**£70,128.86**
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	
Trade Creditors	
Creditors	230.82
Total Trade Creditors	**£230.82**
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**£230.82**
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	**£69,898.04**
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	**£69,898.04**
Provision for liabilities and charges	1,500.00
TOTAL NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	**£68,398.04**
Capital and Reserves	
Opening Balance Equity	39,747.92
Retained Earnings	4,238.00
Profit for the year	24,412.12
Total Capital and Reserves	**£68,398.04**

Ouseburn Community Centre

Profit and Loss

April 2025 - March 2026

	TOTAL
Income	
Room Hire Permanent	6,755.67
Room Hire Sessional	45,106.51
Sales	424.00
Solar Income	3,338.61
Total Income	**£55,624.79**
Cost of Sales	
Direct Costs	
Lottery Awards for All - Resources	1,000.00
Newcastle Fund - Board games and craft resources	96.33
Total Direct Costs	**1,096.33**
Direct Labor Costs	3,354.00
Total Cost of Sales	**£4,450.33**
GROSS PROFIT	**£51,174.46**
Expenses	
Accountancy & Bookkeeping Fees	573.00
Advertising & Marketing	10.00
Cleaning & Consumables	1,064.23
Insurance	1,055.28
Internet & Telephone	1,443.88
Legal Costs	615.00
Premises Expense	1,323.40
Printing & Stationary	362.36
Professional Fees	46,029.01
Purchases	933.91
Repairs & Maintenance	575.56
Software	660.87
Uncategorised Expense	25.49
Utilities	44.40
Electricity	4,447.03
Gas	2,558.54
Water	2,135.62
Total Utilities	**9,185.59**
Total Expenses	**£63,857.58**
NET OPERATING INCOME	**£ -12,683.12**
Other Income	
Bank Interest	590.74
Donations Received	625.00
Grant Income	35,879.50
Total Other Income	**£37,095.24**
NET OTHER INCOME	**£37,095.24**
NET INCOME	**£24,412.12**