Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	01	2025		31	12	2025

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	Decibellas
Other names charity is known by	
Registered charity number (if any)	1197363
Charity's principal address	7 Goosebrook Close
	Comberbach
	Northwich, Cheshire
	Postcode CW9 6BX

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	Joan Mason	Chair		
2	Jaki King	Secretary		
3	Amanda Moran	Treasurer		
4	Anne Pover	Membership		
5	Caragh Ashley	Events	06/03/25 – 31/12/25	
6	Elizabeth Ostrowski	Fundraising	06/03/25 – 31/12/25	
7	Rosie Hudson	Music Librarian		
8	Helen Arnold	Fundraising & Sponsorship	01/01/25 – 06/03/25	
9	Elizabeth Robertson	Events	01/01/25 – 06/03/25	
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution adopted on 3rd March 2022
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Trustees are appointed or reappointed at the Annual General Meeting held in the spring term for a two year term of office

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The choir was granted charity status on 6th January 2022

Membership of the choir is open to all adults who sing soprano or alto and who are able to attend rehearsals in Tarporley, Cheshire.

The choir is a member of the National Association of Choirs

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

- To promote the enjoyment of music through public concerts
- To use music to improve people's wellbeing
- To support other charitable organisations through the provision of grant funding

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

In planning our activities for the year we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The choir held a number of public performances during 2025:

- A summer concert in St Boniface Church, Bunbury, in July
- A Christmas concert at St Boniface Church, Bunbury
- Carol singing at The Rising Sun, Bunbury
- Carol singing at a local village Christmas fair
- A subgroup of the choir entered the Chester Festival of Performing Arts competition.

Decibellas continued to provide training and support to an up-and-coming Music Director, Olivia Westhead, engaging her to attend choir rehearsals under the guidance of our Music Director Marcus Williams. She continues to work with the choir and conducts specific pieces at our concerts and competitions.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

In July and December 2025, we held concerts in our local venue, St Boniface Church, Bunbury, each of which attracted audiences of over 200.

Decibellas raised over £3,500 from ticket sales and sponsorship from its two concerts in 2025. With the proceeds, the committee invited a small number of local charities, whose work focuses on the alleviation of homelessness and food poverty, to submit applications for a small grant.

One of the invited charities submitted a grant request for £1,000, which was awarded in full. The charity Decibellas supported was:

> West Cheshire Foodbank (charity number 1150934) – a charity providing emergency food supplies in West Cheshire.

Decibellas also invited two local charities, Soul Kitchen Chester (charity number 1200960) and SHARE Chester (charity number 1166530), also working to alleviate homelessness and food poverty, to hold bucket collections at the end of the July and December concerts, respectively.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves	Cash at bank at 31st December 2025 was £11k of which £9k is unrestricted. £1.5k represents members music deposits which are refunded when they leave and return their music to the choir. This sum is shown as restricted funds. Around £0.4k of funds are amounts deposited by members held for their use in funding the April 2026 choir tour to Spain. This money is also shown as restricted funds. The balance is retained for working capital and unforeseen circumstances.
Details of any funds materially in deficit	Not applicable

Further financial review details (Optional information)

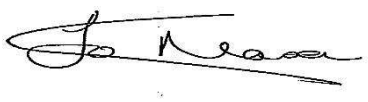
You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about: • the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising); • how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity; • investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.	Our main source of funds is membership subscriptions, which are used to fund our costs, specifically: rent of rehearsal space; payments to the Musical Director, Assistant Musical Director and Accompanist; and purchase of new music to expand the choir's repertoire. We also raised money through our July and Christmas concerts (through ticket sales and sponsorship) which enabled us to share our pleasure in singing with local audiences and to award grants to nominated charities.

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Joan Mason	Amanda Moran
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer
Date	15/2/2026	

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)
Decibellas	1197363

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/01/2025		31/12/2025

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Members subscriptions	13,675.00	110.00	-	13,785.00	12,650
Gift Aid	1,409.24			1,409.24	2,743
Dresses	455.00	-	-	455.00	390
Sundry	200.00	-	-	200.00	140
Interest received	9.96	37.20		47.16	69
Grants and donations	120.00	-	-	120.00	667
Performance choir	260.00	-	-	260.00	420
July concert	2,847.76			2,847.76	3,111
Christmas concert	3,281.80	-	-	3,281.80	3,939
Money from members - Christmas party & Tour	2,491.35	10,966.95		13,458.30	20,059
Items bought and returned	-			-	-
Paid into restricted account in error			-	-	10
***Sub total** (Gross income for AR)*	24,750.11	11,114.15	-	35,864.26	44,197
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
sale of sheet music	-	-	-	-	101
		-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	101
Total receipts	24,750.11	11,114.15	-	35,864.26	44,298
A3 Payments					
Music Director & Accompanist	10,890.00	-	-	10,890.00	11,350
Room Hire	1,255.00	-	-	1,255.00	1,950
Costs of concerts	2,604.84	-	-	2,604.84	2,502
Concert ticket refunds	10.00			10.00	140
Cost of other events	15.00			15.00	1,093
Charitable grants	1,000.00	-	-	1,000.00	500
Insurance	198.86	-	-	198.86	183
Computer security & websites, zoom	479.92	-	-	479.92	409
Sheet music	1,298.18	-	-	1,298.18	3,471
Bank charges	38.20	2.00	-	40.20	66
Payment for Christmas party	1,233.30			1,233.30	1,377
Items bought then returned	-			-	-
Performance choir costs	-			-	85
riser storage	518.40			518.40	259
Sundry	1,214.00		-	1,214.00	204
refunds to members	970.00			970.00	360
Tour payments on behalf of members	11,330.00			11,330.00	18,815
Tour funded by choir	260.00			260.00	1,186
Members Tour money returned	-	-	-	-	1,262
Sub total	33,315.70	2.00	-	33,317.70	45,213
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
		-	-	-	
		-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	33,315.70	2.00	-	33,317.70	45,213
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 8,565.59	11,112.15	-	2,547	- 915
A5 Transfers between funds	11,046.95	- 11,046.95	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	6,678.62	1,857.88	-	8,536.50	9,452
Cash funds this year end	9,159.98	1,923.08	-	11,083	8,537

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

B1 Cash funds

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Cash at Bank (current a/c)	8,550	-	-
	Music deposit account	-	1,545.13	-
	Deposit account	610	-	-
	Tour account (members' money)	-	377.95	-
	Total cash funds	9,160	1,923.08	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

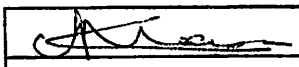
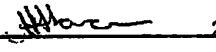
Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Risers for performance	unrestricted	-	-
Sheet music	unrestricted	-	-
Keyboard	unrestricted	-	-
Amp	unrestricted	-	-
Curtains for risers	unrestricted	-	-
Concert dresses	unrestricted	-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
Autumn rent due	unrestricted	560.00	
Dress refunds	unrestricted		on return of dress (discretionary)
Tour account (members' money)	restricted	377.95	
Music deposits	restricted	1,545.13	on return of music
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		J MASON	15/2/26
		AJ MORAN	15/02/2026

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Decibellas		
On accounts for the year ended	31 December 2025	**Charity no (if any)**	1197363
Set out on pages	3 & 4		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2025**.

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 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

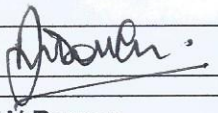
Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention ~~(other than that disclosed below *)~~ in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:		**Date:**	17 February 2026
Name:	Alan W Dowen		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	PhD		
Address:	17 Brookside Ashton Hayes Chester CH3 8BZ		

Section B	Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.