Meersbrook Park User Trust CIO

(Charitable incorporated organisation)

Charity number 1199091, Company number CE029257

Annual report for the period 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025

Meersbrook Park User Trust

Legal and administrative information

Trustees

Neil Parry
Elizabeth Martinez
Andrew Kershaw
Kathryn Morrell
Terry Scully
Mich Culloden (appointed 23/01/2025, resigned 16/06/2025)
Rhiannon Thomas (appointed 24/07/2025)

Charity number

1199091

Company number

CE029257

Principal Address

215 Shirebrook Road
Sheffield
S8 9RF

Bank

The Co-operative Bank
PO Box 250
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Meersbrook Park User Trust CIO

Trustees report for the period 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025

The trustees are pleased to present their annual trustees' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the period 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025

Chair's Report

We started with our AGM last September where we celebrated working with our stake holder organisations. We built on this over the year and have seen the start-up of the new Friends of Meersbrook Hall which we are committed to supporting moving forward to help protect this historic building in the park.

We have continued to work with the Parks department around securing the walled garden lease with Heeley City farm and are currently looking at the detail of the Heads of Terms of the lease and who will be responsible for what in the garden. We are aiming for it to exclude the listed wall. With this lease we can then move forward in raising money for the improvement of the kitchen and toilet block that is so long awaited.

We have worked with Students of Sheffield University architect and landscape department who have gathered ideas of what the new buildings might look like and canvassed public and volunteer opinion. We hope this year to build a business plan and a proposal that includes employing a worker to apply for the funds and manage the building project. We have a substantial amount already towards the new buildings that has been raised from plant and cake sales over the past 15 years.

We have had a successful series of events in the garden from Apple day, the return of the Santa Dash in collaboration with Friends of Meersbrook Bank School and our very first Wassailing day which was very well attended. We then started the new year off with Easter Sunday event, the Printers fair, Small park big run where we had a tatreez embroidery event, moth watch with Gleadless Valley Wildlife Trust and more. ** We continue to have Meersbrook Bank School reception class, woodcraft, and our very own outdoor playgroup on a weekly basis and they grow in popularity.

The strong band of 30+ Walled Garden volunteers continue to keep the garden looking fabulous. We have had record plant sales and plenty of great cakes on offer at events. We now have contactless at our events which helps with fundraising. There has been external fundraising for new raised bed areas which are currently being made. The farm have made bird boxes to go up in the garden and continue to bring their Thursday group of volunteers and grow vegetables. We are looking at water storage solutions and irrigation as the long dry summers are becoming an issue in the garden. The box hedges lost last year have been replaced with native planting and are looking brilliant.

Sunday afternoon garden opening has continued to be successful thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers. At times over 50 visitors come to enjoy the peace of the garden. The new Saturday volunteer team have opened up once a month and have already attracted new people who can't make weekdays.

The nature-based volunteers in the ravine have completed a 3rd winter of work. We collaborate with SCC and SRWT and local experts. We've been busy building dead hedges and dams as well as clearing holly and planting native species. We've had regular water surveys done by volunteers and a mini bioblitz with the Sheffield and Rotherham wildlife trust in April. The council dug up the drain at the bottom that was full of tree roots and the ravine is not overflowing in heavy rains now. We have had our first set of frogspawn in our first pond in the park this year and we hope to continue improvements in the coming months with a raking day planned.

The walled garden gained the community green flag award and the park gained the green flag too. We have continued to offer free Wednesday Tennis throughout the year with People Tennis CIC and local volunteers. We have over 250 members of the organsation now and manage communication through local posters, word of mouth, WhatsApp, Facebook and our website that is regularly updated. Working with partner organisations is fundamental to our success as a group and community and we are committed to continuing this.

We encourage new volunteers and welcome ideas of how we could improve what we do for the public, nature and for the volunteers themselves. Please get in touch if you are interested in getting involved.

Liz Martinez, Chair, September 2026

Governance and management

The charity is operated under the rules of its constitution which was adopted on 26/05/2022.

The Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) was established to take over the affairs of Meersbrook Park Users Trust, an organisation that had been in existence since 1998. The new organisation structure was needed to ensure that the group could properly engage with Sheffield City Council, the formal managers of the park, and in order to raise charitable grants and donations.

The affairs of the trust are managed by the trustees who meet on a regular basis. Trustees are appointed by the trustees for a period of three years.

The objects of the CIO are;

1. to assist in the protection, conservation, promotion and development of Meersbrook heritage park in Sheffield for the leisure, recreation, enjoyment and benefit of the people of Sheffield;

2. the care, maintenance, development and management of the Victorian walled garden in Meersbrook park, Sheffield and its enjoyment and development as an ornamental leisure garden and for growing food, for the benefit of the public.

Financial Review

The trust has made a surplus of £3,915 in the year and has been able to transfer £3,799 to the Walled Garden Development designated fund. This fund is needed to enable the trust to take on a long-term lease for the Garden and will be used for significant improvements to the buildings. The Walled Garden Development fund now stands at £26,671.

The trustees have agreed to maintain general reserves of £3,000 to ensure the continued use of the gardens in case we should be unable to carry out our usual fundraising activities in any year.

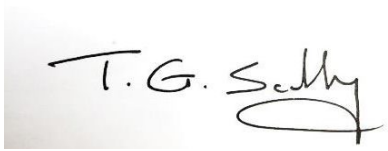
Meersbrook Park User Trust CIO
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period 1 January to 31 December 2025

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Events	3,533	-	3,533	2,592
Garden Sales/Donations	1,808	-	1,808	2,216
Donations	1,627		1,627	527
Grants	-	3,010	3,010	3,000
Other Income	200	-	200	28,759
	7,168	3,010	10,178	37,094
Events / Activities	747	-	747	116
Garden repairs and maintenance	1,501	-	1,501	1,182
Garden materials	541	-	541	669
Sports activities	-	473	473	4,087
Park development	520	1,926	2,446	3,490
Insurance	167	-	167	157
Administration	238	-	238	363
Volunteer costs	150	-	150	220
Accountancy	-	-	-	-
	3,864	2,399	6,263	10,284
Surplus/(Defecit)	3,304	611	3,915	26,810
Total funds brought forward	26,810	-	26,810	-
Total funds carried forward	30,114	611	30,725	26,810

Meersbrook Park User Trust CIO
Balance Sheet
At 31 December 2025

	note	2025 £	2024 £
Current Assets			
Balance at bank and Cash		30,725	30,085
		30,725	30,085
Current Liabilities			
Creditors	3	-	(3,275)
		-	(3,275)
Net current assets		30,725	26,810
Net Assets		30,725	26,810
Funds			
Restricted		611	-
Unrestricted		30,114	26,810
Total Funds		30,725	26,810

Approved by the Trustees on 10th September 2026 and is signed on their behalf by:
Terry Scully, Treasurer



Meersbrook Park User Trust CIO
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the period 1 January to 31 December 2025

1 Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of preparation

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102 (effective from January 2015 and updated with effect from January 2016) - (the Charities SORP (FRS102)), as modified for smaller charities.

The Charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as defined under FRS102.

(b) Income

Grant donations and Income from charitable trading activities are recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the year in which they relate. Any income received in advance is accounted for on an accrual basis.

(c) Resources expended

Governance costs of the charity relate to the costs of running the charity such as the costs of meetings, professional costs and statutory compliance, and includes any costs which cannot be specifically identified to another expenditure classification. In the opinion of the trustees all support costs relate to charitable expenditure.

(d) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its useful life.

(e) Fund accounting

Remaining funds held by the charity are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees. Restrictions of funds arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. These funds are allocated within the P&L and utilised in the year they are raised

(f) Other income

Other income for 2020/21 included a grant of £1,749 from the coronavirus job retention scheme. (2021/22 £nil)

2 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	-	-
	-	-

3 Accruals

These are expenses that have been incurred but have not been paid or invoiced for during the accounting period.

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade Creditors	-	3,275
Accruals	-	-
	-	3,275

4 Grants

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2025 £	2024 £
SCC SIL	-	1,600	1,600	3,000
SCC Area Panel	-	910	910	-
RBG Kew	-	500	500	-
	-	3,010	3,010	3,000

6 Restricted Funds

	Balance at 01/01/2025	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance 31/12/2025
Sheffield City Council - SIL	-	1,600	(1,426)	-	174
SCC Area Panel	-	910	(473)	-	437
RBG Kew	-	500	(500)	-	-
	-	3,010	(2,399)	-	611

Restricted funds were received for the following purposes:

Sheffield City Council - SIL	For building condition survey / student design project
SCC Area Panel	For sports activities in the park
RBG Kew	For work with young people on our ravine project

7 Fund Balances

	2024 £	2023 £
Restricted Funds	611	-
Designated fund - Walled garden Development	26,671	22,872
Designated fund - Sports Activities	383	383
Designated fund - Playgroup	60	555
General unrestricted funds	3,000	3,000
	30,725	26,810