Trustees' annual report for the period

From: 1 January to 31 December 2025
Charity name: Wallasey Village Library and Community Centre
Charity registration number: 1204436

Objectives and activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	To advance the education of the public in Wallasey, Wirral and the surrounding area or communities, by operating and managing a community lending library. To promote for the benefit of the residents of Wallasey, Wirral and the surrounding area or communities, the provision of a public library for recreation and/or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and 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 residents.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The charity acquired the lease to the former Wallasey Village Library from Wirral Borough Council and this report covers the first full calendar year for the re-opened library following the new community space, café and toilets opened in the previous period.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	This report includes how the charity has carried out our charity's purposes for the public benefit. This requirement is set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (see Annex A Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008).

Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	The charity does not make grants to other charities or organisation. All funds raised are for the benefit of the charity alone.
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	The charity did not borrow money, for social investment or other purposes during the period.
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The charity is volunteer-led and relies fully on the goodwill and support of our volunteers, whether those who act as trustees and/or part of the Management Team or those who contribute their time to ensuring the building is open and available to meet the needs of the local community. The charity has approximately 50 volunteers supporting its work. The contribution from volunteers throughout the period of the report was substantial and critical to the foundation of the charity and successful transfer of the asset from the Council to the charity. A Volunteer Handbook is in use to support the work of those who help us in this way. Specific volunteer roles for the purpose of meeting of our objectives included: - Volunteer Co-ordinator - Library Team Leader - Library Volunteers The charity was recognised in national awards, organised by the Community Managed Libraries Network, for the successful ‘Read-a-thon’ to raise awareness of the joy of reading.

Achievements and performance

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	Donations of books continued to be a significant factor for the charity. By the end of the year, the library stock had grown to 7,000 and, during the year, an incredible 6,220 books had been borrowed by library members. Several thousand books were issued to children, at no charge, to encourage reading via the 'free' books stalls in the foyer or distribution to charities and voluntary groups. Surplus books were also 'sold' for a donation of £1 per book, with all funds raised used to support the charity. Hiring of the community space continued to grow, as local organisations became aware of the opportunity to use the building while a number of 'in house' events were organised.

Financial review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	This was the first full calendar year of operations. Savings from renegotiated utility charges, together with sustained fundraising, ensured the charity's income exceeded expenditure, with surpluses transferred to reserves.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The charity did not adopt a dedicated policy for reserves during the period but agreed a policy would be introduced in 2026.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Uncommitted funds held in the charity's deposit account were £16,660 at the year end.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	None
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	Not applicable – the charity was financially secure and generated considerable goodwill from the community for its work.

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The principal sources of funds were a grant from The Peter Johnson Foundation for the completion of works in the library. Revenue was received from a diverse range of sources: events; donations for books; room hire and charges relating to the Service Level Agreement with Baked.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	Not applicable – the charity does not make material investments.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The main financial risks to the charity came from higher than forecast energy costs and the impact this would have on our cashflow. Other risks were mitigated via insurance and commitment to increase fundraising in the event of one or more income streams reducing.
Government grants		The charity did not receive any government grants during the period.
Trustee payments		With the exception of reimbursement of expenses, trustees received no payments for carrying out their role.
Overseas income and activities		The charity did not seek or receive income from outside of the United Kingdom and no activities were carried out overseas.
Trading subsidiaries		The charity has no trading subsidiaries; all income is used for the benefit of the charity's agreed objectives and purpose.

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document:	Para 1.25	Constitution – adopted in July 2023 and amended in August 2023 – by the founding trustees (Sarah Jones, Ian Lewis, Raymond Lyons and Nadina McShane).
How is the charity constituted?	Para 1.25	Following advice and guidance from the Wirral CVS, the charity was established as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation ('CIO') in August 2023.
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or	Para 1.25	The four founding trustees undertook a public recruitment exercise and interviews were held throughout 2023.

body entitled to appoint one or more trustees		Once selected, each applicant confirmed their eligibility for appointment using the Charity Commission's guidance. Trustees were appointed for various terms (between one and four years) to enable continuity of business and mitigating risks from mass-retirement.
Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	A Safeguarding Policy was adopted in October 2024. Trustees were inducted throughout the period with additional training offered by the Wirral CVS and the Community Managed Libraries Network.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The Charity's full Board of Trustees meets not less than twice yearly, with functions delegated to: - Finance Sub-committee for the purposes of finance, compliance reporting and fundraising - Management Team of five trustees who ensure day-to-day and urgent decisions are taken. The Charity is a member of the Community Managed Libraries Network and seeks guidance, and support, when needed.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	The Charity maintains good relations with Wirral Council and the local community. With the exception of the lease on the building, and a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Baked, the Charity has no formal, long-term agreements in place with external organisations. We are grateful for the support of those who served as Mayor during the period, Councillors Cherry Povall and Brian Kenny, and to our MP, Rt Hon Dame Angela Eagle MP for her interest and encouragement for our charity.
Employees		The charity did not employ any staff during the period.
Safeguarding		The charity did not provide services to children or adults at risk during the period of the return.

Serious incidents		No serious incidents occurred during the period of the return.

Reference and administrative details

Charity name	**Wallasey Village Library and Community Centre**
Other name the charity uses	**None although can be shortened to 'WVLCC'**
Registered charity number	**1204436**
Charity's principal address	**St George's Road, Wallasey Village CH45 3NE**

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity:

Name:	**Office (if any)**	**Dates acted if not for the whole year:**	**Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any):**
Wendy Alderton	Chair, Finance Subcommittee; Management Team		
Christopher Stephen Byrne			
Lisa Duggan			
Sarah Elizabeth Jones	Management Team		Founder
Ian Lewis	Chair of Trustees, Management Team		Founder
Raymond John Lyons	Management Team		Founder
Veronica Jane Pugh			
Susan Simpson	Management Team		
Eleanor Sarah Sturgess			
Stephenie Walsh			
William ('Bill') Wyllie		Ceased as a trustee in July 2025	

The Charity did not appoint any Corporate Trustees during the period and no trustees hold title to property belonging to the charity or act as custodian trustees on behalf of others.

We are grateful for the services of Joanna Barker for agreeing to be appointed as Verifier for the accounts and to Mr C Parkinson for serving in the role of Secretary to the Board, in a non-voting capacity.

Declarations

The company has taken advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the report above.

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees/directors

Signature(s): 

Full name(s): Ian Lewis

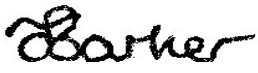
Position (for example Secretary, Chair, etc): Chair of Trustees

Date 28 October 2026

WALLASEY VILLAGE FUND ACCOUNT
1 January 2025 to 31December 2025

This is to certify that I the undersigned have examined Wallasey Village Library Fund Account (see attached balance sheet and notes) and am satisfied that they are a true and accurate record.

I have completed this audit in a private capacity and not as an employee of the LMS Team, Wirral Council. I confirm that there is no liability to Wirral Council in relation to the audit findings and recommendations.

Signed ……  ….. J Barker

Date ……26/10/26……

WALLASEY VILLAGE FUND ACCOUNT

1 January 2025 to 31December 2025

Opening Cash Book Balance 01/01/25				**8,754.86**
Audit Adjustment:	Out of date cheques			
		0.00		
Total Income Received as recorded			£87,182.17	
Gross Interest for the Period			£0.00	
Total Income Received				£87,182.17
Total Expenditure as recorded			-£88,275.72	
Bank Charges for the Period			£0.00	
Total Expenditure				-£88,275.72
Balance carried forward at 31/12/25				**£7,661.31**

BANK STATEMENT

Balance as at 31/12/25 - Statement No. 619				**£6,833.69**
Uncleared Deposits				
24.12.25	BAKED EST21 CHAPTE WVL&CC 221225	816.25		
24.12.25	WORLD OF BOOKS LTD 10605019	11.37		
			827.62	
Less unpresented chqs				
	Chq no.			
			£0.00	
				£7,661.31
				£0.00

Notes:
1. The receipts/invoices that were available to me are marked with an R on the following page.

WALLASEY VILLAGE FUND ACCOUNT

1 January 2025 to 31December 2025

Total Expenditure as recorded

DONATIONS and GRANTS	0.03	
Fundraising and events	910	
ENERGY REIMBURSED	451.7	
BUILDING WORKS	41351.64	
FITTINGS	3351.47	
LIBRARY	4984.73	
UTILITIES	26888.14	
IT	2251.42	
PUBLICITY & POSTAGE	808.03	
SAFETY, SECURITY AND COMPLIANCE	301.6	
Licences & Memberships	653.06	
INSURANCE	1632.24	
MISC	4691.66	
Total Expenditure		88275.72

Total Income received as recorded

DONATIONS and GRANTS	25414.36	
Fundraising and events	3046.28	
BOOK SALE	9708.82	
SERVICE CHARGE	13050	
ENERGY REIMBURSED	15200.18	
ROOM HIRE	6251.25	
BUILDING WORKS	13397.4	
UTILITIES	703.68	
MISC	410.2	
Total Income received		87182.17