Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 30 June 2026 Mirfield Piano Walk CIO

Registered Charity Number: 1214967

1. Objectives and Activities

Mirfield Piano Walk CIO exists exclusively for charitable purposes as defined under the Charities Act 2011. Its principal purpose is **the advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science**, one of the thirteen recognised charitable purposes under UK law.

The charity achieves this by curating and delivering an annual public event that integrates live piano performances with heritage interpretation across multiple accessible venues in Mirfield, West Yorkshire. Programming includes professional and amateur musicians, with a deliberate emphasis on inclusivity, intergenerational engagement, and cultural enrichment.

During the year, the charity delivered the inaugural **Mirfield Piano Walk** on **17 May 2026**, a free cultural walking event featuring 16 performers across eight venues. The event was designed to strengthen community connections, celebrate local heritage, support emerging musical talent and increase participation in arts and culture.

2. Achievements and Performance

The inaugural Mirfield Piano Walk was a major success, transforming Mirfield town centre into a walkable cultural experience. Key achievements include:

- **16 performers** delivering **16 concerts** across **8 venues**, including churches, community buildings, historic spaces, a cricket club, library, fire station and Masonic Hall.
- **1,314 occupied seats**, representing roughly **two-thirds of all available seating**.
- **50 volunteers**, including 5 recruited directly and the remainder provided by venues.
- A strong **audience satisfaction rating of 96% "Excellent"**, with **100% recommending** the event.

- **98% of respondents intend to attend again in 2027**.

Cultural Impact

The event removed barriers to classical music by offering free access, informal settings, and familiar community venues. Feedback showed many attendees had little or no prior experience of classical piano concerts.

The Piano Walk enhanced Mirfield's cultural identity, positioning the town as a destination for innovative community arts.

Community Impact

Participants reported feeling more connected to their community, proud of Mirfield's cultural ambition, and inspired by seeing local venues used creatively.

Accessibility was a core principle. A fully step-free route linked all venues, and a dedicated accessible transport service enabled older residents and those with limited mobility to attend multiple concerts.

Economic Impact

The event increased footfall across Mirfield. One café opened specially and was extremely busy; venues offered refreshments; and a local transport company benefited from minibus hire. International visitors stayed locally and dined in Mirfield restaurants.

Talent Development

The programme supported musicians at different stages, from internationally recognised performers to local students. The Piano Walk competition awarded a masterclass opportunity with Wibi Soerjadi in the Netherlands.

3. Public Benefit Statement

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Public benefit is demonstrated through:

- Free or low-cost access to all performances.

- Opportunities for amateur and student performers to gain exposure and mentorship.
- Community cohesion through shared cultural experiences.
- Activation of historically significant venues for public enjoyment.

These activities are accessible to the public without unreasonable restriction, and trustees are satisfied that the organisation meets the public benefit requirement.

4. Financial Review

For the year ending 30 June 2026, the charity recorded **total income of £12,968.54** and **total expenditure of £11,407.84**, resulting in a **positive financial result of £1,560.70**.

Income sources included:

- Grants (unrestricted): **£11,809.16**
- Sponsorship: **£950.00**
- Friends Circle: **£185.85**
- Interest: **£23.53**

Direct costs totalled **£10,581.55**, including:

- Soloists travel & accommodation: **£2,931.68**
- Outreach & engagement: **£2,484.35**
- Piano rental: **£2,800.00**
- Printing: **£851.85**

Overheads totalled **£826.29**, including website/IT costs, professional fees, insurance and bank charges.

The balance sheet shows:

- CAF Bank balance: **£1,555.03**
- Loans payable to Albert Wassenaar: **£5.67**
- Result for the year: **£1,560.70**

As income remained below £25,000, the charity was **not required to undergo an independent examination**.

5. Structure, Governance and Management

Mirfield Piano Walk CIO is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed by its constitution.

The trustees are responsible for strategic direction, financial oversight, and ensuring activities further the charity’s purposes. No trustee received remuneration or personal benefit during the year.

The charity works closely with:

- Mirfield Town Council
- Kirklees Council
- Scops Arts Trust
- Venue partners
- Local businesses
- Volunteers and performers
- Local music schools

6. Risk Management

Key risks reviewed during the year included:

- Event safety and safeguarding
- Financial sustainability
- Volunteer recruitment challenges
- Reputational risk
- Accessibility and transport logistics

Mitigations included insurance, venue assessments, accessible transport, and strengthened volunteer planning.

7. Plans for the Future

Priorities for 2027 include:

- Expanding audience participation
- Increasing involvement from schools and youth groups
- Growing volunteer opportunities
- Attracting additional regional and national performers
- Strengthening partnerships with local businesses
- Enhancing accessibility and digital streaming

The next Mirfield Piano Walk will take place on **23 May 2027**.

8. Trustees

Trustees who served during the year:

- **Albert Wassenaar (Chair and Treasurer)**
- Simon Reiss (Secretary)
- Paula Cox

9. Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and Charity Commission requirements for small CIOs.

Signed on behalf of the trustees:

Name: Albert Wassenaar

Position: Chair and Treasurer

Date: 08-07-2026

Mirfield Piano Walk CIO

Receipts and Payments Accounts

For the year ended 30 June 2026

Receipts	
Friends Circle	£ 185.85
Grants (unrestricted)	£ 11,809.16
Sponsorship income	£ 950.00
Interest received	£ 23.53
Total receipts	**£ 12,968.54**

Payments	
Event costs	£ 1,117.67
Soloists travel & accommodation	£ 2,931.68
Outreach & engagement costs	£ 2,484.35
Competition cost	£ 396.00
Piano rental	£ 2,800.00
Printing	£ 851.85
Website, social media & IT	£ 505.97
Professional fees	£ 160.00
Insurance	£ 111.72
Bank charges	£ 48.60
Total payments	**£ 11,407.84**

Net Receipts for the Year	
Total receipts	£ 12,968.54
Total payments	£ 11,407.84
Net receipts	**£ 1,560.70**

Cash funds	
Cash at bank at start of year	£ 0.00
Net receipts for the year	£ 1,560.70
Cash at bank at end of year	**£ 1,555.03**

(Difference explained by the –£5.67 over-repayment of trustee loan.)

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Assets **Category**	
Cash at bank (CAF Bank)	£ 1,555.03
Petty cash	£ 0.00
Prepaid expenses	£ 0.00
Other assets	£ 0.00
Total Assets	**£ 1,555.03**

Liabilities **Category**	
Loan balance (over-repaid)	–£ 5.67
Total Liabilities	**-£ 5.67**

Net Assets	
Total Assets	£ 1,555.03
Total liabilities	-£ 5.67
Net Assets	**£ 1,560.70**