HPFA Annual Report to HIngham Town Meeting 2025

HPFA (rcn 286060) is responsible for managing and maintaining Hingham Sports Centre and playing fields, as well as the Welcomme Space, a one acre playspace situated in The Fields, Hingham. In 2025, the introduction of new members to the committee and the appointment of a new Chair and Secretary led to increased resilience and a new focus on future planning to ensure the facilities are developed for future generations.

The overall strategy for the Sports Centre is to provide high quality sports and leisure facilities for the local community. The immediate focus for 2025 was to increase income by generating bookings, and reviewing payment processes and pricing. This was successful with the centre achieving a small profit in 2025 and investing in playspace refurbishment, which is subject of a separate report. Anticipated income for 2026 is forecast to exceed day to day running costs.

In line with the Neighbourhood Plan and faced with an aging building, a long term strategy for replacing the facility and possibly moving the site should be actively considered.

The facilities:

A fundraising initiative was launched in December 2025 in order to finance the refurbishment of the hall floor. This received extensive local support and attracted a £6075 grant from Sport England. In total, around £17,000 was raised. The initial intention to refurbish the old and unstable Granwood floor tile has not been realised due to contractual breach and rising concern that it has been previously sanded beyond its limits, thus rendering the tiles friable.

No monies have been expended to date, and the hall is currently closed to hirers. It is hoped that it may reopen on 20 April after minor remedial works to increase the frictional qualities of the surface as a temporary measure. After discounting other systems due to risk of failure, high maintenance costs or unaffordable installation costs, the Committee is considering the installation of a modern PU overlay flooring system. This is compliant with Sport England standards for various sports, as well as being suitable for community events. It is anticipated that the cost will be around £40K and two companies are currently shortlisted. With the funds already raised, together with reserve funds and proposed fund raising activity, it is hoped this permanent improvement may be expedited.

Beyond this priority, the Committee are mindful that both the carpark and changing rooms are in need of improvements, these will subject to further grant applications later in 2026.

Our Clubs:

Hingham Sports Centre is proud of its wide range of clubs and activities. These include:
Archery; Badminton; Pickleball; Tennis; Tabletennis; Judo; Short Mat Bowls (local, county and over 60's teams); Football; Cricket and Exercise classes.

Governance:

HPFA is currently run as a charitable trust, governed by a constitution initially developed when the Welcomme Space was purchased in the 1980s. The Charity Commission recommends that bodies that own land, employ staff and enter into contracts should be incorporated. To this end, the Committee have instructed Community Action Norfolk to draw up a draft constitution to register HPFA as a Charitable Incorporated Institution. This draft has been reviewed, revised and is soon to be submitted for registration with the Charity Commission. Following this, the assets of the trust will be transferred to the new charity by legal process. This action will complete the first step in Tier A of the Sports England Governance Guidelines for Sports Centres, and will facilitate future applications for grant funding.

Marketing:

HPFA applied to Norfolk Community Action's Skill Exchange Programme and received pro-bono support from an experienced professional Marketing Director. She developed logos/brand colours and templates for social media posts; advised on development of the website and designed posters for the fundraising campaign. Her support is ongoing and it is hoped that the new website will be launched in the near future. A new Sponsorship Board scheme has recently been instigated to raise funds and engage local businesses. We are also improving road-side advertising.

Summary

There is no question that Hingham Sports Centre and associated playspaces play a vital role in the life of not just Hingham residents, but many residents of surrounding villages. The range of sports available for such a small facility is impressive but more importantly the social connection and peer support fostered amongst its users plays a vital role in supporting the mental and physical health of our community. Abrahams Bar & Clubhouse is a family friendly bar and clubhouse, and events such as the free annual Senior Citizens Christmas Party are popular and well supported.

Running the Sports Centre is undoubtedly challenging at times, but so worthwhile. We welcome new Committee Members joining us in future-proofing this valued community asset.

Roy Pickerill
Chair of HPFA

Hingham Playing Field Association

Registered charity 286060

Balance Sheet

Year Ended 31st December 2025

	2024			2025		
Fixed Assets						
Sports Hall	**250,000**			**250,000**		
Tennis Courts						
Garage	**-**			**-**		
Solar Panels	**-**			**-**		
Playspace	**25,000**		**275,000**	**25,000**		**275,000**
Current Assets						
Bank balances	**47,893**			**61,691**		
Prepayments/Debtor	**-**	**47,893**		**-**	**61,691**	
Current Liabilities						
Short Term Loan						
Creditors	**350**	**350**		**1,100**	**1,100**	
Net Current Assets			**47,543**			**60,591**
			322,543			**335,591**
Represented By:-						
Reserves B/fwd			**323,895**			**322,543**
Investment Revaluation			**-**			**-**
Surplus/Deficit for the year			**- 1,352**			**13,048**
Closing Balance			**322,543**			**335,591**

26/10/2026

Hingham Playing Field Association

Registered charity 286060

Income and Expenditure Account

Year Ended 31st December 2025

UNAUDITED

	2024		2025	
INCOME				
Bank Interest	574.24		1,100.49	
HSSC Rent	9,000.00		9,900.00	
Cricket	1,280.00		1,025.00	
Football	810.00		1,780.00	
Shortmat Bowls	3,866.80		4,138.24	
Norfolk & Over 60s Bowls	7,390.00		7,311.00	
Badminton	4,600.00		4,219.25	
Tennis	360.00		745.00	
Pickle Ball	13,445.70		21,363.15	
Archery	2,120.00		1,865.00	
Judo	1,260.00		1,515.50	
Post-Natal	10.00		-	
Line Dancing	820.10		966.00	
Table Tennis	980.00		1,032.00	
Sports Hall Hire	4,990.00		5,635.30	
Fuel - tokens	993.00		775.00	
General Fund Raising			2.00	
Other Income	-		-	
Total Income		**52,499.84**		**63,372.93**
EXPENDITURE				
Admin	4,369.99		5,649.58	
Bins & Bottle Bank	2,688.81		1,626.64	
Insurance	4,930.36		5,077.74	
Rent& Rates	481.49		960.17	
Play Field	858.00		2,472.87	
Play Space				
Caretaker	10,933.50		10,725.50	
Cleaning and Materials	10,536.41		11,583.10	
Heating Oil	1,836.97		1,427.88	
Electricity	7,711.04		3,097.93	
Water	1,223.41		2,791.21	
General Hall Maintenance	7,005.39		8,929.92	
Total Expenditure		52,575.37		54,342.54
Running Surplus/ Deficit(-) for the year		**-£ 75.53**		**£ 9,030.39**
Other Income				
Donations from Clubs for Outside Sign	800.00			
SNC Grant for Outside Sign	700.00			
Play Areas				
Hingham Town Council Grant for Play Area	21,557.00			
South Norfolk Council Grant for Play Areas	20,000.00			
Grant - Hingham Town Council - Roundabout			4,188.00	
Grant - National Lottery - Play Equip			15,839.00	
Grant - Police - Play Equip			2,500.00	
Grant - Community Grant - Play Equipt			500.00	
Grant - Norfolk County Council - Play Equipt			500.00	
Donation - Hingham Charities- Play Equipt			2,000.00	
Donation- Hardingham Allotment -Play Equipt			500.00	
Donation - Hingham Rectory Bowls			414.00	
Donations from Local Business for Play Are	8,265.00		1,000.00	
Fund Raising and donationsfor Play Areas	1,323.71		1,051.67	28,492.67
Seniors Party				
Hingham Town Council - Seniors Party			800.00	800.00
Sports Hall Floor				
Donations from Clubs for Floor			350.00	
Fund Raising and donations for Hall Floor			180.00	530.00
Anglian Water Mast				2,000.00
FITS Income	2,403.22			2,059.55
TOTAL Other Income		55,048.93		**33,882.22**
Extraordinary Expenditure				
Storage of Free Play Equipment			540	
Outside Sign	2,857.20			
Sports Equipment	142.90			
Play Area Revamp - Watton Road & Welco	53,325.60		28,524.30	
Seniors Party			800.00	
Total Other Expenditure		56,325.70		29,864.30
Net Extraordinary Expenditure		**-£ 1,276.77**		**£ 4,017.92**
Net Income less Expenditure	LOSS	- 1,352.30		13,048.31
		-£ 1,352.30		**£ 13,048.31**

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name: Hingham Playing Field Association

On accounts for the year ended: 31 December 2025

Charity no (if any): 286060

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

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's trustees, 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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. *Delete [ ] if not applicable.*~~

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report 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: [signature] **Date:** 27 OCTOBER 2026

Name: Mark Lamb

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body: FCCA

(if any):	
Address:	Saxon House
	Hellesdon Park Road
	Norwich NR6 5DR

Section B	Disclosure
	Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.	