Registered Number: 01787316
Charity Registration Number: 289644

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

(A company limited by guarantee without share capital)

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Registered Office Address:
First Floor, Pintail House,
Duck Island Lane,
Ringwood, England,
BH24 3AA

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

(A company limited by guarantee without share capital)

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FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

(A company limited by guarantee without share capital)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Trustees	Ms. V Briggs Mrs. S Fullerlove (Appointed 1 April 2025 2025; resigned 24 April 2026) Ms. L Smith Head (Chair) Mr. James Swyer Ms. Jasmine Taylor (resigned 15 July 2026) Mr. David Waugh Mr. M Wilson
Company Secretary	Mrs Lucy Phillips
Charity Registration Number	289644
Company Registration Number	01787316
Principal Address	First Floor Pintail House Duck Island Lane Ringwood Hampshire BH24 3AA
Registered office	First Floor Pintail House Duck Island House Ringwood Hampshire BH24 3AA

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

(A company limited by guarantee without share capital)

TRUSTEES REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Governance Structure

Forest Forge Theatre Company is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 30th January 1984 and registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. The charitable company was established under a Memorandum of Association which details the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the charity being wound up, the members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding one pound. Although dated, the Memorandum of Association has been deemed fit for purpose by the Independent Theatre Council.

Objectives and activities

Forest Forge Theatre Company's charitable objective is to produce and tour theatre productions and to provide a comprehensive participatory programme, to advance education or to encourage involvement in the arts.

Forest Forge's mission is: Forest Forge uses theatre to find the extraordinary in the ordinary. Based in the New Forest, our work across touring productions, participation and artist development helps make and build connections between people, sparks joy and encourages personal shifts in perspective and experience.

The company achieves its charitable objectives and lives up to its mission by delivering three strands of work:

- Touring Theatre

Forest Forge creates flexible theatre productions that can be enjoyed in a range of venues from village halls to studio theatres, non-theatre spaces and outdoors. All touring productions celebrate the tradition of oral storytelling and engage audiences regardless of their background or experience.

- Participation

Forest Forge's successful participation programme allows people living within the New Forest the opportunity to take part in theatre making activities. Working with people of all ages, backgrounds and levels of experience, the programme shares and celebrates Forest Forge's ethos and practice.

- Artist Development

Forest Forge's Artist Development programmes exist to develop and support the future of theatre making in the New Forest.

Forest Forge delivers its mission and charitable objectives through the delivery of a Business Plan has been developed by the trustees, leadership team and with careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Review of the Year: 2025-26

Touring

In 2025-26 our largest touring production was Pinocchio, our Christmas show co-produced with Bumblefly Theatre and Mischievous Theatre. We presented 29 performances in 25 venues in the New Forest, Hampshire, Wiltshire and Dorset. Feedback on the production included: "It is a magical confection, and one that delivers its messages with a light but insistent touch" and "simply the most gorgeous bunch of joy and silliness."

We continued and developed our portfolio of Suitcase Stories, small, flexible productions that can perform in a variety of spaces. Having created Jack and the Beanstalk in 2024-25, we continued to tour this show. We developed and toured a new fairytale Suitcase Story with Little Red Riding Hood, and we worked in partnership with African Activities CIC to create and tour The Nightjar Suitcase Story, a production inspired by migration and belonging.

In 2025-26 we also spent time developing our plans for future touring, by undertaking significant research and development on our first Beacon project. Beacon productions are Forest Forge's flagship rural tours. Within the year we spent time deciding more about the work we want to make, its purpose and how it celebrates Forest Forge's ethos and experience. This strategic development culminated in a new commission for a writer, funded by Arts Council England, which was publicised at the end of the year.

Participation

Our participation programme continued to be busy, running throughout the year in Ringwood and across the New Forest. All our participatory work is based on our inclusive, ensemble theatre approach where every participant is equally valued, shares collective ownership and where the success of the whole is prioritised over the success of the individual. It is underpinned by our heartfelt, playful approach, informed and underpinned by a commitment to telling stories and celebrating the New Forest. The programme included:

- Forest Forge Youth Theatre

In 2025-26 we engaged 85 children and young people in weekly youth theatre sessions, with a footprint of 2,550 across the year. These sessions focus on ensemble theatre and use our artistic ethos to enhance and enrich the lives of participants. Youth Theatre participants performed in productions throughout the year, including four performances of Emma at Ringwood Waldorf School and three of Fates/ Falling at Four Acre Farm in Ringwood.

- Waterside Drama

Waterside Drama included two weekly drama sessions at the British Legion in Fawley and were targeted to children and young people living on lower incomes and with a particular focus on engaging the settled traveller community in the district. Sessions were delivered for free thanks to funding from Children in Need. This funding finished in March 2025, but we continued to run the sessions until July 2025 using our own funds to support the groups.

- Act Your Age

Act Your Age is a weekly drama session for adults age 55+ in Ringwood. In 2025-26 we held 30 sessions and engaged 13 individuals, a footprint of 390. The group presented an improv performance at Forest Forge in May 2025 and then worked towards Tales from the Forge in 2026.

From April – July 2025 we also ran Waterside Act Your Age, with the support of funding from Culture in Common. Sessions were successful and have subsequently been continued by the community.

- Branching Out

Branching Out is a weekly drama session for adults with learning difficulties, in partnership with Blue Apple Theatre. We supported Blue Apple to deliver 30 sessions in the year at Forest Forge's premises in Ringwood.

- Wordsmiths

Wordsmiths in a weekly creative writing group led by Forest Forge and funded by Culture in Common. We ran 30 sessions throughout the year and hosted a performance evening in October 2025 as part of the Play on Words Festival.

- Elevate
-

Our Elevate programme is our unique work experience project that sees young people work with the company to create and tour a piece of issue-based theatre to audiences in secondary schools. In 2025 our theme was peer pressure. We worked with 20 young people and toured the final production to 1,000 audiences across 7 schools. 2025 was the first year when Elevate was funded by Sir Mike Gooley who contributed three years of funding to support Elevate from 2025 – 2027.

Feedback on Elevate included: "Yet again, I think you and the team have excelled yourselves and delivered a fabulously entertaining and thought-provoking piece. It is such an important and valuable project; powerful for those watching it and a memory for life for those who are in it."

- Schools and Education Workshops

Throughout 2025-26 we continued to deliver a full and varied programme in New Forest schools and educational establishments. Over the year our sessions had a participant footprint of over 1,018 with a range of activities including:

- Leading the GCSE drama provision at New Forest Small School
- After School drama clubs at Weston Downland and Elm Academy
- Choreography of Priestland's School annual production
- Sessions at Arts University Bournemouth in our role as industry patron.

Artist Development

In 2025-26 we continued to support local artists and theatre makers in the New Forest by:

- Facilitating and supporting our Young Company, a group of emerging theatre makers aged 18 – 30. Throughout the year we provided weekly sessions for the group to work together to develop their own artistic practice, leading to a performance. From April – December the group ran as it had in previous years and performed Fates as part of a double bill with the youth theatre at Four Acre Farm. In January 2025 we reimagined the offer for Young Company to better suit the needs of the group. We auditioned for members, engaged a freelance facilitator and offered expenses to members.

- Following its launch in 2025, we continued to support and facilitate The Furnace, a network of regional theatre makers. The group has expanded with 95 members and throughout the year we held meetings and shared news and opportunities with the group.

- Within the year we supported a number of companies and projects via mentoring, dramaturgical support, directing, or providing studio space. These included:

    - Hosting the rehearsals of 'Becoming Simone' by Liz Garland in partnership with Mayflower Studios.

    - Hosting rehearsals and embroidery workshops for 'The Jane Austen Fan Club' by Vic Briggs and Lucy Mellors.

Throughout the year, Forest Forge continued to work in partnership and advocate for cultural activity across the New Forest, working closely with Creative Forest (formerly Folio) and Culture in Common.

Public Benefit

Forest Forge undertakes all its work for the public benefit.

The Touring Theatre strand of work sees the charity create and tour theatre to rural venues, enabling people to see professional theatre in a local venue at subsidised ticket prices. This enriches the lives of people living in the New Forest, Hampshire, Dorset, and Wiltshire. It provides accessible performances, fosters knowledge, education and recreation, to those who may not otherwise be able to access theatre due to barriers including geography, transport, finances, background or neurodiversity. By touring theatre to village halls and rural venues, the charitable company also brings isolated communities together and encourages community cohesion.

The Participation Programme provides transformative experiences for people at every age of life. By taking part in drama and theatre workshops, members of the public benefit from improved health and wellbeing, new friendships and a reduction in loneliness, and enhanced confidence and social skills. All sessions are developed to be accessible to everyone, with prices kept at around 50% of the price of commercial operators in the region.

Our Artist Development strand supports the education and development of emerging theatre makers in the New Forest. It also helps add value to established artists. This strand of work increases the availability of theatre and theatre-making opportunities in the New Forest and surrounding region and supporting the creative ecology in the region. This enables the public to benefit from arts and cultural activity and its benefits now and in the future.

The Trustees of the Forest Forge Theatre Company are aware of their responsibilities in ensuring the charities' aims are for the public benefit and follow the guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Financial Review

In 2025-26 the total income for the charity was £171,056 against expenditure of £255,661. This resulted in a planned deficit of £84,605. The trustees of the charity had previously agreed to the use of designated Strategic Delivery Reserve Fund to cover the deficit, as part of the company's plan to return to a position of financial sustainability.

Within the year the charity received £70,450 of restricted funds. The majority of this was grants from funders including £52,000 from Arts Council England, £5,000 from Children in Need, £7,950 from New Forest District Council and £5,600 from Energise Me. The funds were added to the £48,000 of restricted funding from Mike Gooley's Trailfinders Charity for the Elevate Project, carried forward into the year. Restricted expenditure amounted to £86,986, leaving an end of year restricted fund balance of £32,000, restricted for the Elevate Project in 2026-27 and 2027-28.

At the end of the year the net assets of the charity were £363,874.

2025-26 was the second year in the company's strategic recovery plan, which aimed to move the charity from a loss making to breakeven position. The financial results, which show an increase in the year-on-year deficit, have resulted in further examination of the organisation's viability, especially when considering the company received a large grant from Arts Council England which is unlikely to be replicated.

Members Voluntary Liquidation

The financial results for 2025-26 resulted in a large deficit which moved the charity further away from its ambition to move towards a breakeven position. The financial results were due to a number of circumstances including the cessation to some activities with the intention of building capacity for new work, a challenging funding climate and high overheads.

The trustees and leadership team met to discuss the long-term viability of the organisation in its current set up. It became apparent that to achieve a breakeven or surplus making position the company would have to undergo extensive changes and reduce its staffing and overhead spending to an extent that much of the work would no longer be viable. The interlinking nature of the company's work strands, based on the charity's long and successful history, meant that no individual programme of work could be removed without negatively affecting others. Furthermore, examination of future budgets showed that the fundraising targets required to change the financial trajectory were unrealistic.

Across two meetings in April 2026 the trustees of Forest Forge examined several scenarios and plans to continue the company in a financially sustainable way. None were deemed suitable or realistic and on 24 April 2026 the trustees voted to begin the process of closing Forest Forge.

The company ended its public facing work in August 2026 and will enter a Members Voluntary Liquidation in November 2026.

The board and staff have a shared ambition to manage the close ethically, responsibly and in line with the values of Forest Forge.

Reserves Policy

When the decision to close Forest Forge was made the trustees of the charity agreed to un-designate all funds so that all charity monies could be used for an appropriate and careful closure process.

Of the £363,874 net assets in the company at 31 March 2026, £111,773 was budgeted for use on the continuation of activity and company overheads to 30 November 2026, £82,850 for legacy projects to continue delivering Forest Forge's charitable objectives after the closure and £96,429 on the costs associated with closing the company including lease surrender, redundancies, legal and consultancy fees and other closure costs.

The remaining £32,000 Restricted Funds for the Elevate Project have been, with the funder's permission, transferred to an artist for the continuation of the project.

Any funds remaining after the Members Voluntary Liquidation will be distributed in accordance with the trustees wishes to relevant arts organisations and charities.

Throughout the closure process Forest Forge has taken professional advice from charity, employment and commercial property solicitors.

Risk Management

Throughout 2025-26 the Trustees worked with a Risk Management plan which was reviewed at quarterly board meetings. It assessed and sought to mitigate the risks to which the charity is exposed, including financial, operational, artistic, and reputational risks.

Policies, procedures and insurances are in place to reduce the risks in areas including Health and Safety, safeguarding and data protection.

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

(A company limited by guarantee without share capital)

Trustees

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mr. M Wilson
Ms. V Briggs
Ms. L Smith Head
Mr. J Swyer
Ms. J Taylor (Resigned 15 July 2026)
Mr. DMS Waugh
Ms S Fullerlove (Chair) (Appointed 1st April 2025 - Resigned 24 April 2026)

All Trustees are proposed, seconded, and appointed by the Board and hold Office for three years before re-election. All Trustees are required to sign confirmation of their ability and willingness to act in line with The Charity Commission's guidance The Essential Trustee (CC3) and The Good Governance Code.

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

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Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees, who are also the directors of Forest Forge Theatre Company for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

L Smith Head

Ms L Smith Head

Chair
Dated: 14th October 2026

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

(A company limited by guarantee without share capital)

ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Report to the Trustees on the preparation of the unaudited statutory financial statements of FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY In order to assist you to fulfil your duties under the Companies Act 2006, we have prepared for your approval the financial statements of the company which include, the profit and loss accounts , the balance sheet and the related notes from the company' accounting records of FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY for the year ended 31 March 2026 as set out on pages 15 - 17 from the Company's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given us.

As a practising member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at https://www.accaglobal.com/uk/en/about-us/regulation/rulebook.html

This report is made solely to the charity trustees of FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY, as a body, in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 1st Mary 2024. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the accounts of FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY and state those matters that we have agreed to state to the Trustees of FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY as a body in this report in accordance with the requirements of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants as detailed at: https://www.accaglobal.com/content/dam/ACCA_Global/Technical/fact/tf-163-jan-24.pdf

To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or resume responsibility to anyone other than FOREST FORGE THEATRE and its Board of Trustees as a body for our work for this report.

It is your duty to ensure that FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY has kept adequate accounting records, and to prepare statutory accounts that give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and surplus or deficit of FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY. You consider that FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY is exempt from the statutory audit requirement for the year.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit or a review of the accounts of FOREST FORGE THEATRE. For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the statutory accounts.

J Willis

Janice Willis FCCA
Cloud Eleven Accountants Ltd
Date 26th September 2026

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

(A company limited by guarantee without share capital)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Forest Forge Theatre Company ("the Company")

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts for the Company for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income did not exceed £250,000 your examiner does not need to be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act, however I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW (FCA), which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities, in accordance with the FRS 102.

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.

T Rogers

Teresa Rogers BFP FCA
Director
5th October 2026

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

(A company limited by guarantee without share capital)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

(Including Income and Expenditure Account)

Statement of Financial Activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2026 £
Income and endowments From:				
Donations and legacies	**3**	10,743	70,450	81,193
Charitable activities	**4**	67,050	-	67,050
Other trading activities	**5**	731	-	731
Investment income	**6**	11,943	-	11,943
Other income	**7**	10,139	-	10,139
Total Income		**100,606**	**70,450**	**171,056**
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	**8**	12,255	-	12,255
Charitable Activities	**9**	156,420	86,986	243,406
Total Expenditure:		**168,675**	**86,986**	**255,661**
Net income		**(68,069)**	**(16,000)**	**(84,605)**
Transfers between funds		(536)	536	-
Net movement in funds		**(68,605)**	**(16,000)**	**(84,605)**
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		**400,479**	**48,000**	**448,479**
Total funds carried forward	**19**	**331,874**	**32,000**	**363,874**

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

(A company limited by guarantee without share capital)

Prior year	Note	2025 Unrestricted funds £	2025 Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
Income and endowments From:				
Donations and legacies	**3**	63,283	73,044	136,327
Charitable activities	**4**	62,604	-	62,604
Other trading activities	**5**	155	-	155
Investment income	**6**	2,598	-	2,598
Other income	**7**	803	-	803
Total Income		**129,443**	**73,044**	**202,487**
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	**8**	10,606	-	10,606
Charitable Activities	**9**	207,263	53,011	260,274
Total Expenditure:		**217,869**	**53,011**	**270,880**
Net income		(88,426)	20,033	(68,393)
Transfers between funds				
Net movement in funds				
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		**488,905**	**27,967**	**516,872**
Total funds carried forward	**19**	**400,479**	**48,000**	**448,479**

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

(A company limited by guarantee without share capital)

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 March 2026

Balance Sheet

	Note	£	2026 £	£	2025 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	**14**		**10,164**		17,722
			10,164		17,722
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	**15**	**34,331**		21,406	
Cash at bank and in hand		**331,663**		422,503	
		365,994		443,909	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	**16**	**(12,284)**		(13,152)	
NET CURRENT (LIABILITIES)/ ASSETS			**353,710**		430,757
Total assets less current liabilities			**363,874**		448,479
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year			-		-
NET ASSETS			**363,874**		448,479
Funds of the Charity:					
Restricted income funds			32,000		48,000
Unrestricted Funds			40,822		-
Designated Funds			291,052		400,479
TOTAL FUNDS	**20**		**363,874**		**448,479**

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

(A company limited by guarantee without share capital)

BALANCE SHEET (continued)

AS AT 31 March 2026

The charitable company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 March 2026.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 16th October 2026.

L Smith Head

Ms L Smith Head (Chair)
Trustee

Registered Number: 01787316
Charity Registration Number: 289644

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

(A company limited by guarantee without share capital)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

1. Accounting Policies

Charity information

Forest Forge Theatre Company is a private charitable company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The Registered Office is First Floor, Pintail House, Duck Island Lane, Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 3AA.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statement the Trustees had made the decision to cease the future operations of the Charity. These accounts have been prepared on the realisation basis with any adjustments to assets and liabilities made.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes. Designated funds are unrestricted funds which have been earmarked for a particular purpose, within the objects of the charitable company by the Trustees. Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.
Income from grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

1.5 Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probably that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category, where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular heading they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.
Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Asset Class	Depreciation method and rate
Fixtures and fittings	20% on reducing balance basis
Computers	33% on straight line basis
Motor vehicles	20% on reducing balance basis
Leasehold Improvements	16.67% straight line basis in line with the life of the lease.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset and is recognised in net income/ (expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received. Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

The annual depreciation charge is considered with reference to the estimated useful economic lives and residual value of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are re-assessed annually.

Income recognition is considered with reference to the service level agreement, grant agreement or other supporting documentation, to ensure cut off is correctly stated at the point of entitlement.

Allocation of costs are considered and allocated accordingly between direct, support within the relevant category.
There were no other key sources of estimation uncertainty or judgements.

3. Donations and Grants

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2026	Total 2025
	£	£	£	£
Donations	243	-	243	55,727
Grants	10,500	70,450	80,950	80,600
Others		-	-	-
	10,743	**70,450**	**81,193**	**136,327**

4. Charitable activities

	Charitable activities 2026	Charitable activities 2025
	£	£
Production	3,845	3,764
Creative Learning	43,443	38,788
Branching Out	1,435	1,120
Earned Income-Touring Theatre	18,327	18,932
	67,050	**62,604**

5. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2026	Total 2025
	£	£	£
Friends Scheme	731	731	**155**

6. Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2026	Total 2025
	£	£	£
Interest receivable and similar income			
Interest receivable	11,943	11,943	**2,598**

7. Other income

	Unrestricted funds	Total 2026	Total 2025
	£	£	£
Rental and hire income	105	105	800
Sundry Income	-	-	3
Other income (Theatre Tax Relief)	10,034	10,034	-
	10,139	**10,139**	**803**

8. Raising Funds

	Unrestricted funds General	Restricted Funds	Total 2026	Total 2025
	£	£	£	£
Expenditure on raising funds				
Sundries	474	-	474	475
Marketing	-	-	-	-
Other fundraising costs	-	-	-	-
Staff costs	11,781	-	11,781	10,131
	12,255	**-**	**12,255**	**10,606**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

9. Charitable Activities

Description	Creative Learning 2026 £	Production 2026 £	Other Costs 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Staff costs	60,081	35,342	-	95,423	51,330
Production costs	54,397	182	-	54,579	53,370
Freelance fees	21,867		-	21,867	15,799
Marketing	447	447	-	894	15,074
Insurance	641	641	-	1,282	2,292
Rates and water	1,232	1,232	-	2,465	1,300
Postage & stationery	20	19	-	39	-
Telephone	1,596	1,596	-	3,192	2,387
Computer costs	1,551	1,551	-	3,102	4,350
Maintenance costs	14,587	14,587	-	29,174	33,595
Motor and travel	657	711	-	1,368	1,379
Subscriptions	362	362	-	724	449
Sundries	356	356	-	712	711
Educational support	-	-	-	-	-
Total	**157,795**	**57,026**	**-**	**214,821**	**182,036**
Share of support costs (see note 10)	8,270	5,658	7,835	21,763	39,455
Share of governance costs (see note 10)			6,822	6,822	38,783
Share of Other costs(see note 10)			-	-	-
	166,065	**62,684**	**14,657**	**243,406**	**260,274**
Analysis by fund					
Unrestricted funds	131,079	10,684	14,657	156,420	207,263
Restricted funds	34,986	52,000	-	86,986	53,011
	166,065	**62,684**	**14,657**	**243,406**	**260,274**

10. Support costs

Basis of allocation	Other Costs £	Support Costs £	Governance Costs £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Staff costs	-	10,602	-	10,602	6,079
Depreciation	-	2,720	-	2,720	4,853
Freelance fees	-	2,258	-	2,258	1,625
Marketing	-	894	-	894	15,074
Insurance	-	1,283	-	1,283	2,291
Maintenance and computer costs	-	961	-	961	6,478
Educational support	-	-	-	-	-
Support costs heading 8	-	-	-	-	-
Sundries	-	2,767	-	2,767	2,770
Bank charges	-	278	-	278	285
Legal and professional			5,880	5,880	37,888
Recruitment	-	-	692	692	895
Entertainment			250	250	
	-	**21,763**	**6,822**	**28,585**	**78,238**
Analysed between Charitable activities	**-**	**21,763**	**6,822**	**28,585**	**78,238**

11. Net movement in funds

Net movement in funds is stated after charging/ (crediting):

	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	2,720	4,853

12. Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

13. Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:	**2026**	2025
	4	3

Employment costs

	2026	2025
Wages and salaries	99,488	60,580
Social security costs	12,276	5,595
Other pension costs	2,319	1,354
	114,083	**67,529**

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

14. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Leasehold improve-ments	Fixtures & Fittings	Motor Vehicles	Computer Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
COST					
At beginning of year	8,739	105,932	3,350	36,944	**154,965**
Disposals	-	104,645	-	378	**105,023**
Additions	-	-	-	4,563	**4,563**
At end of year	**8,739**	**1,287**	**3,350**	**41,129**	**54,505**
DEPRECIATION					
At beginning of year	2,079	95,982	2,472	36,710	**137,243**
Disposals		95,478		144	**95,622**
Charge for the year	1,457	156	176	931	**2,720**
At end of year	**3,535**	**661**	**2,648**	**37,497**	**44,341**
NET BOOK VALUES					
As at 31 March 2026	**5,204**	**626**	**702**	**3,632**	**10,164**
As at 31 March 2025	6,661	9,949	878	234	**17,722**

15. Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:	**2026**	2025
	£	£
Trade debtors	**-**	5,275
Other debtors	**26,076**	9,698
Prepayments and accrued income	**8,255**	6,433

	34,331	**21,406**

16. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2026	2025
		£	£
Bank loans	17	-	-
Other borrowings	17	-	-
Other taxation and social security		**2,529**	2,811
Trade creditors		**6,130**	4,878
Other creditors		**44**	-
Accruals and deferred income		**3,581**	5,463
		12,284	**13,152**

17. Loans and overdrafts

	2026	2025
	£	£
Bank loans		-
Director's Loans	-	-
	-	-
Payable within one year		-
Payable after one year		-
Amounts included above which fall due after five years:		
Payable by instalments		-

No loans were required during the year.

18. Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

The charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes was £2,319 (2025 - £1,354).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

19. Restricted Funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Balance at 1 April 2025	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Balance at 31 March 2026
	£	£	£	£
Restricted Funds				
Arts Council England-Across the Generation divide		52,000	-52,000	-
Energise Me -Wordsmiths	-	3,400	-3,400	-
Mike Gooley- Elevate	48,000	536	-16,536	32,000
Children In Need	-	5,000	-5,000	-
New Forest District Council	-	7.950	-7,950	-
Energise Me- WAYA/Intergen	-	2,000	-2000	-
Energise Me- Film project		100	-100	-
Total Funds	48,000	70,986	-86,986	32,000

Arts Council England grant of £36,468 was received in the year with the balance due upon submission of the grant report and accountants report. This was submitted post year end, therefore the balance of £15,532 was accrued. This grant was to support Forest Forge's artist development, participation and touring work.

New Forest District Council grants were received to support Forest Forge's community work.

The Children in Need Grant relates to monies received to aid in the provision of drama workshops and group theatre work for children and young people from settled gypsy and traveller communities.

Energise me provided three grants, one for the support of the Wordsmiths project and one for the support of the WAYA/Integen project and one for a creative filming project.

The Mike Gooley Elevate project developed its first year of activity out of three years. £536 was transferred from unrestricted funds to contribute towards the project running costs.

FOREST FORGE THEATRE COMPANY

(A company limited by guarantee without share capital)

	Balance at 1 April 2025	Transfers in	Transfers out	Balance at 31 March 2026
	£	£	£	£
Designated and Unrestricted Funds				
Forest Forge Emergency reserves/winding up costs/closure costs	50,000	46,429	-	96,429
Strategic delivery fund	124,793		(124,793)	-
Maintenance, facilities, and capital replacement fund	22,686	-	(22,686)	-
Special projects/Legacy	20,000	63,250	(400)	82,850
Youth Theatre Bursary fund	5,000	-	(5,000)	-
Operating costs to final closure in 2026	-	111,773	-	111,773
New building fund	178,000		(178,000)	-
Designated Funds	400,479	221,452	(330,879	291,052
Unrestricted funds		40,822	-	40,822
Total Funds	400,479	262,274	(330,879)	331,874

20. Analysis of net assets between funds

Funds balances at 31 March 2026 are represented by:	2026 Unrestricted £	2026 Restricted £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Tangible assets	**10,164**	**-**	10,164	17,722
Current assets/(liabilities)	**321,710**	**32,000**	353,710	430,757
Long term Liabilities	**-**	**-**	-	-
Total net assets	**331,874**	**32,000**	363,874	448,479

21. Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2026	2025
	£	£
Within one year	-	-
Greater than one year	-	-

22. Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel
The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

	2026	2025
	£	£
Aggregate compensation	**99,488**	60,580