13th April 2026 ORC AGM Chairman's Report for the year 2025

Good evening everyone and welcome to our Overton Recreation Centre Annual General Meeting for the calendar year 2025. Many thanks to all of you for setting the time aside for this evening's meeting.

The purpose of this meeting is to offer some insights into what happened during the last calendar year of 2025 so that we can review what we achieved, look at our key challenges and how we have dealt with them, then convey what plans we have set in motion for 2026 and beyond. After I have finished I'm happy to take questions from the floor.

Our treasurer Ian Clarke will review our financial position in a little more detail later.

It is worthwhile at the outset to remind us all what we, as an organisation, are trying to achieve overall and to remember our roots. In 1966 a group of enthusiastic local residents decided that they'd like to manage their own sporting destiny by managing their sports ground at Bridge Street. Little did they know that 60 years later we would be running 30 acres of green space on three different sites! Helping the young, middle aged and old to develop a healthier lifestyle.

Strategically, the ORC is a facilities business that is a sports charity. We are trying to provide good quality playing fields and pavilions that offer the local community the opportunity to organise and play sports and activities that lead to a healthy outcome for our participants. And at a price that is fair and allows us to reinvest so that we can make improvements. In fact, during the earlier part of the year an in-depth analysis of each ground was undertaken in order to better understand our cost base and therefore attribute more realistic prices for clubs and societies.

The grounds staff were faced with different weather challenges once we had got past a wet start as warm then hot weather set in. During the summer the public were faced by a hosepipe ban which we were able to circumnavigate due to the nature of our business.

It is testament to those managing the grounds that we continue to see a rise in participation and use of all facilities – continuing to improve beyond pre-pandemic levels. Year on year improvements in usage has shown a 15% growth, and it has been particularly noticeable amongst youth football where

we have seen the development of more than 20 teams. And we have also witnessed the creation of more girls and ladies teams in both football and cricket clubs. A fantastic achievement for our local community, where the volunteers deserve a special mention.

As expected our main focus for improvements in 2025 was the replacement of the heat source system at Berrydown – a significant potential cost of £40,000. There was no way to avoid this necessity. However, our Treasurer successfully persuaded the local Parish Council to support our endeavour and all costs were met for which we were extremely grateful.

Our grounds machinery was kept in good order under the careful eye of Dennis Rowles liaising successfully with Ian Clarke making sure that all grounds people were being kept fully utilised during the winter and busier summer months. Many thanks to John Troman, a local retired engineer, for his diligence and repair work to our equipment whenever needed through the year.

The health of our groundsman has settled down and he has returned to full duties. And we have allocated a part time grounds support person to each ground for the spring/summer months in order to improve the quality of our offer. This approach seems to have been effective as we have received positive feedback from the users of each location.

In the meantime we will focus our efforts in presenting our grounds to the best of our ability mindful of the fact that there are a number of things we can do to improve conditions without spending a lot of money.

There is no doubt that it is now more expensive to manage grounds facilities and we have made good use of the increase budget award from BDBC but clubs have had to recognise that prices needed to rise and we will continue a policy of repositioning prices every year according to inflation.

With the growth of sports and activities locally of course comes the challenge of availability. We continue to discuss the possibility of an all-weather ground at Berrydown although we are currently not seen as a priority. Therefore we have also begun to develop a conversation with local land owners to help with our controlled growth.

The Town Meadow lease has been renewed for 25 years and is just awaiting sign off at the BDBC planning department.

Once again this year it's good to remember that the success of the ORC is due to the continuous efforts of a large number of dedicated and hard working people virtually all of whom are volunteers. Our management committee of more than twelve people who meet every month to discuss relevant matters keep their clubs engaged in developments. Whilst clubs and societies appear to have discovered a decent vein of support from volunteers we have not yet been able to find an Administrator

As always there are people who are worthy of a special mention:

The Grounds Team – Kevin Ratcliffe dedicates his time every day to making our facilities as good as they can be – ably supported by our team of part time workers during Spring/Summer at each ground.

A special thanks must be extended to Andy Galvin and his friends at the cricket club who worked tirelessly through their season to manage the standards of the cricket squares at both Bridge Street and Berrydown. And a special mention must be extended to those people who were involved in the relocation of the Bridge Street all weather strip with subsequent development of the grass area.

Membership & Prize Draw – every month we have seen Emma and her team manage the prize draw effectively and efficiently distribute the winning monies of £2050. Membership is stable and continues to hover around 3500. And after 20 years of continuous service Emma has decided to retire from her ORC duties – what an innings! Your diligence and due care and attention to detail will be missed!

Many thanks to Dennis Rowles who continues to provide energy and support for the variety of projects that are necessary to maintain the three sites we operate – his experience and advice is invaluable.

Ian Clarke's contribution to Treasury, grounds, and both youth football and cricket is outstanding – your support and efforts definitely lubricate the ORC machinery making it the successful organisation that it is

Finally it's important to understand and remind ourselves that as a charity we have an obligation to set aside a fund of money which is ring fenced - £75,000 – for stability and financial security.

During 2026 we will continue to focus on cost management as demand for our facilities grows due to local population growth. Our pavilions and machinery will require maintenance and upgrading but we will find grants to support our activities. This model for operation in conjunction with the Parish Council serves us well.

2026 will see the return of the Scarecrow Festival – a fabulous community event accommodated by the ORC at Bridge Street – thousands of people can be expected to enjoy the events and also find out more about the history of the ORC as we celebrate 60 years of life.

So let's keep helping each other – you may be in a separate club but you're trying to help the local community enjoy their sports and activities. To become healthier and enjoy more from life! When you have the opportunity to cooperate with your colleagues be helpful & please remember to always be kind!

And now I'm pleased to hand over to our Treasurer, Ian Clarke who will review our financial position with you.

ENDS

Profit and Loss Report

For the year ended 31 December 2025

	2025
Turnover	
Car Parking Fees	2,837.50
Contribution Payments from Clubs	1,779.04
Donations	4,190.00
Fees (Golf)	20,059.00
Grants	65,079.45
Hire Fees	20,258.84
Insurance Claims	2,111.39
Interest Income	1,144.26
Levies	15,850.00
Membership	78,824.96
Refunds (from Paid Invoices)	839.62
Utility payments from Clubs	9,762.75
Total Turnover	**222,736.81**
Gross Profit	**£ 222,736.81**
Administrative Costs	
Audit & Accountancy fees	800.00
Bank Fees	188.82
Capital Project (Berrydown Heating)	16,658.00
Cleaning (Berrydown)	10,569.97
Cleaning (Bridge Street)	5,972.46
Cleaning (Town Meadow)	1,596.29
Cleaning Materials	939.26
Donation Transfer	250.00
Grant Transfer	1,987.61
Grounds Consumables	20,299.64
Grounds Fuel	2,370.72
Grounds Servicing and Maintenance	11,557.84
Insurance	8,985.23
IT Software and Consumables	350.78
Lottery Prize Money	25,610.00
New Machinery	10,837.95
Pensions Costs	2,299.13
Rent (Bridge Street)	250.00
Repairs & Maintenance (Berrydown)	3,586.77
Repairs & Maintenance (Bridge Street)	4,452.27
Repairs & Maintenance (Town Meadow)	2,705.69
Salary (Head Groundsman)	27,986.33
Subscriptions	133.00
Telephone & Internet	765.80
Utilities (Berrydown)	9,571.73
Utilities (Bridge Street)	12,748.63
Utilities (Town Meadow)	4,001.94
Wages (Other Grounds Staff)	13,961.97
Waste Collection (All Sites)	5,877.75
Total Administrative Costs	**£ 207,315.58**
Operating Profit	**£ 15,421.23**

Balance Sheet (Cash Assets)

As at 31 December 2025

Account		31 Dec 2025
Assets		
	Bank	
	HSBC Current	1,776.41
	HSBC Savings	98,144.26
	Santander	7,391.23
	Total Bank	**107,311.90**
	Other Assets	
	Accounts Receivable	6,420.09
	Total other Assets	**6,420.09**
Total Cash Assets		**113,731.99**
Charity Reserve		75,000.00
Berrydown Heating Reserve		16,500.00
Total Cash Available		**£ 22,231.99**

Property/Machinery Assets (as stated in CC16a)

As at 31 December 2025

		31 Dec 2025
Assets		
	Bridge Street Buildings	635,950.00
	Bridge Street Stock and Machinery	97,450.00
	Town Meadow Buildings	267,950.00
	Town Meadow Stock and Machinery	23,000.00
	Berrydown Buildings	770,500.00
	Town Meadow Stock and Machinery	50,600.00
Total Assets		**£ 1,845,450.00**

EXAMINATION STATEMENT

Independent Examiner's Report to the members of the Overton Recreation Centre

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025**.**

Respective responsibilities of the Overton Recreation Centre and Independent Examiner

The Overton Recreation Centre considers that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

• to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or

• to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Tim Light FMAAT,AATQB
Licence Number 8057
Lightatouch
7 Hodder Close
Chandlers Ford
Hants
SO53 4QD
08 April 2026

INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

We have noted the introduction of Dropbox and Xero for 2025 to record financial transactions. This method in more secure and provides good financial control over the financial management of the Recreation Centre.

We have checked the following records as part of my independent examination and have the following observations.

Bank Accounts

- a completed bank reconciliation should be recorded in the Committee minutes twice a year to record the totals in the bank accounts.
- If any further cheques are issued for HSBC Current Account, the stubs should be initialled as authorisation and approval of payment.
- We continue to report that consideration should be given if the Santander bank account be closed, and the balances transferred into the HSBC current account.

Purchase Invoices

- Consideration should be given on how evidence can be shown that good and services have been agreed before payment is made to suppliers and contractors for those posted through Xero.

Sales Invoices

- Consideration should be given to produce a bad debts policy which sets out the formal arrangements where monies are not collected or have to be written off by the Recreation Centre Management Committee.
- We have noted the outstanding sales invoice for Little Steps Nursery which is 120 days overdue. The Committee should consider what action to take to clear the debts outstanding.

Minutes of the Committee

- We are pleased to see the minutes of committee meeting during 2025. We have noted the financial information is reported to the committee which includes profit and loss information.
- We have noted that income is down in 2025 and is not sufficient to sustain future membership subsidy without an increase in the membership fees.
- The Recreation Centre may also wish to consider the multi-use of the centre and look for other income streams from a different cohort of users.
- It is good to see that the Committee are also looking at way to become more financially efficient with reducing overheads where possible.

General

- Xero information is up to date and shows relevant transactions that confirm the financial management position of the Recreation Centre during 2025.

ORC COMMITEES FINANCIAL FOCUS FOR 2026

- Action where possible the recommendations of the Independent Examiners
- Increase ORC Membership Income through new online sign up focused on new members (online signup went live in March 2026)
- Continue to transfer those on existing Standing Orders onto Direct Debit via the new online sign up; support will be needed from the individual clubs. Without doing this we are not unable to increase our Standard ORC members fees from £24 to a figure agreed by the Committee
- Increase Golf Membership Fee Income through the new online sign up
- Continue with identifying grants
- Decrease Expenses based on 2025 figures under each line item where possible
    - £2000 savings already realised from Utilities, Internet and Waste Collection (additional Utility savings could be realised with additional measures put into place)
    - £2500 savings already realised on Berrydown Cleaning

Overton Recreation Centre – 2026 Annual General Meeting

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