The Drigg Charity (Charity Number: 504289) - Annual Report for 2025/2026

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1. Drigg & Carleton Community Fund (DCCF) Project Funding

The DCCF is managed by the trustees of the registered Drigg Charity, with £53,045 annual funding provided by the NDA via the Copeland Community Fund. A DCCF Projects Sub-Committee is charged with reviewing project applications and presenting those projects which are considered to meet the acceptance criteria to the main Charity Committee, which comprises eight trustees (members of the Parish Council) and up to three independent trustees.

During the Financial Year 2025/2026 the following projects, annually repeating, ongoing or new project areas were considered and potentially required expenditure of funds. (See Table 1)

Table 1

Administration of the Charity
Community Events
Village maintenance
Specific, individual project applications (as detailed).

Administration of the Charity

A total of £5,051.75 was spent on administration and publicising the fund. This included expenditure of £307.80 for insurance for liabilities and audit fees. Also included was £400 for the community website which is used in communicating the work of the fund to the community, as well as software costs and hire of the domain name. A total of £1650 was spent on publicising the Charities work to those who do not have access to the internet, via a printed Parish newsletter.

Community Events

Of the normally expected Community Events or activities, three took place and were supported by the Fund with a total expenditure of £2,225.00:

- a contribution of towards a Bonfire Night event of £500.00
- a contribution to the annual Drigg & Carleton Gala of £1,750.00
-

Village Maintenance

A total of £313.43 was spent on planting of tubs and baskets and maintenance of these through the year. An amount of £6,400 was spent on grass cutting of communal parish verges, banks and selected hedges through the 2025/2026 growing season. This compared to the original budget of £6,000.00 but included extra, approved hedge cutting work.

Specific Individual Community Awards and Projects

A number of new applications for funding from the DCCF were brought forward and considered by the trustees. As in the previous year, each new application was assessed by the DCCF Projects Sub-Committee against pre-determined criteria. This assessment includes checking compliance with the NDA socio-economic vision/policy. A check is also applied to establish whether alternative or additional funding routes have or could be sought. The applicants are then informed of the Committee's decision in writing and they are requested to sign to accept any conditions attached to an award before any funding is released. Once a project is approved and progressing, the Drigg Charity Trustees continue to oversee progress and Financial spend on a regular basis.

A list of the approved projects, with a total award payment of £19,004.72 is given below, with a more detailed description of the purpose and benefits achieved.

- Contribution to the Drigg and Carleton Community Bursary Fund: A contribution of £5,000 was made to the Bursary Fund to underpin the continued availability of the bursary scheme. The pledge and ring fence of funds was in addition to a £2,500 contribution from Nuclear Waste Services who have supported the scheme since its inception. The fund is used to improve access to education or vocational and skills training for members of the local community.
- Drigg Village Hall: There was an award of £5606 to give a subsidy to hall users from the Parish.
- Defibrillator Maintenance: An award of £1148.72 was made to pay for the upkeep an ongoing maintenance of the units installed in the Parish
- Cumbria in Bloom: A contribution of £1000 was made to provide plants and compost for planters funded elsewhere
- Drigg & Carleton Warm Hub: £250 was awarded as a contribution to the running costs of this weekly community event
- Drigg & Carleton Licence to Grow Project: This community vegetable growing project was awarded £1000 towards the costs of plants, compost, tools and ancillary items. The scheme is run using community volunteers, then produce grown is distributed.
- A Christmas gift of biscuits to Seniors was made, the cost was £550.00.
- An award of £3450 was made in the form of a Bursary to assist with student's tuition and living costs when on an approved educational course.
- An award of £1000 was made to an applicant representing Team GB in Dog Agility competitions abroad. This was made to help with travel and accommodation costs.

2. Changes to Management Processes

There have been no significant changes to the management processes during the year, although the processes are continually under review.

3. Publicity

The arrangements for publicising and acknowledging the source of funding from Copeland Community Fund have continued as described in previous reports, though with the addition of more explicit conditions for acknowledgement of the sponsorship at events or on publicity material. Additional signs and banners for use at events are also made available to event organisers.

4. Good News Stories and Case Studies

<u>Benefit to members of the community</u>

The Community Events organised for the Bonfire and the Gala have all contributed to the benefit of the wider community, as opportunities for all ages across the community to come together.

<u>Benefits to local amenities</u>

Improved appearance of the Parish: routine cutting of communal grass verges; the provision of floral tubs and planters. The entry in the Cumbria in Bloom competition builds pride in the community.

The cost of the village hall to hirers from the Parish has been subsidised. The village hall has become more energy efficient, reducing usage costs for the future.

In summary, this year we have spent £28019.90 from the DCCF.

5. Future plans for the charity

i) <u>Community Led Plan</u>

The Community Led Plan launched in 2016, is regularly reviewed and maintained as a 'live' document and is used to guide the future work planned and undertaken by the Parish Council and its partners. The Plan was reviewed at a publicised event in May 2023, open to members of the public, and has been revised with comments received.

ii) Web Site

The community web site is used to enhance awareness and communication for the community; and further improvements to improve transparency, publicity and feedback and regularly reviewed.

iii) Newsletter

With the demise of a local 3 parish newsletter, Drigg & Carleton have produced their own Newsletter which has been well received. We plan to have these communications on a regular basis featuring local content and publicising upcoming local events. The newsletter helps to communicate with members of the community who do not have access to the internet. This has been delivered free to all of the community by volunteers.

iv) Drigg Village Hall

Further repair and improvements are planned to the Village Hall, a prime asset in the Parish, to include new storage facilities and access to a currently unused attic space; a permanent internal staircase is being considered.

v) Public Rights of Way

Discussions are underway to improve existing footpaths and bridleways in conjunction with Cumberland Council. In addition, we are looking to enhance pathway links to neighbouring parishes.

vi) Also under consideration are possible inclusion of electric vehicle charge facilities, uses for potential additional land such as a games and play area, picnic areas and environmental improvements such a further planting, along with 're-wilding' schemes.

vii) We plan to continue to support Drigg & Carleton PC with their Licence to Grow project. This scheme uses currently unused land for vegetable and plant cultivation in a project open to all which offers access to all.

Parts of the above are currently speculative plans, which will require more detailed planning and consideration. Whilst some are being firmed up for possible execution in 2026-2027.

6. Financial Statements

An annual statement of accounts is routinely prepared and available.

7. Audit Certificate

A letter from our accountant will confirm that a satisfactory audit of the annual accounts of the Drigg Charity has taken place, and this will be made available.

	Name	Charity Role	Signature	Date
Author	Chris Gigg	Chair	CGigg	30/09/26
Approver	John Jennings	Vice-Chair		30/09/26

Drigg Charity Fund Financial Statement 1st April 2025 until 31st March 2026

Income	2025 - 2026	2024 - 2025
Drigg Society		
Cambridge & Counties (31 day notice) Interest	£ 1,365.87	£ 1,375.53
Cambridge & Counties (95 day notice) Interest	£ 2,233.62	£ 2,149.88
Shawbrook Interest on CF Bond	£ 467.91	£ 465.16
Cumberland Building Society Interest	£ 3,649.27	£ 4,510.52
Hampshire Trust Bank Interest	£ 3,427.69	£ -
Redwood Bank Interest	£ 3,299.60	£ -
Total added to Society Account	**£ 14,443.96**	**£ 8,501.09**
Drigg Bursary Fund		
LLWR donation to Bursary	£ 6,250.00	£ -
Community Fund Donation to Bursary	£ 5,000.00	£ 5,000.00
Total Drigg Bursary Fund	**£ 11,250.00**	**£ 5,000.00**
Drigg Community Fund		
Drigg Community Fund Allocation	£ 53,045.00	£ 53,045.00
Total Community Fund	**£ 53,045.00**	**£ 53,045.00**
TOTAL CHARITY INCOME	£ 78,738.96	£ 66,546.09

Expenditure	2025 - 2026	2024 - 2025
Community Fund Administration		
Insurances for Liabilities / Audit Fee	£ 307.80	£ 191.00
Secretary & Treasurer Fees	£ 2,288.95	£ 1,770.31
HMRC - PAYE	£ 305.00	£ -
HMRC/PAYE Support	£ 100.00	£ -
Publicity & Communication / Newsletter	£ 1,650.00	£ 825.00
Website	£ 400.00	£ 400.00
Total Administration Costs	**£ 5,051.75**	**£ 3,186.31**
Community Events		
Gala/Bonfire	£ 1,750.00	£ 1,750.00
Christmas Singalong	£ 500.00	£ 475.49
Total Community Events Costs	**£ 2,250.00**	**£ 2,225.49**
Village Maintenance		
Parish Grass & Hedge Cutting	£ 6,400.00	£ 4,530.00
Planting of Tubs and Watering / Bulbs / Wildflowers	£ 313.43	£ 1,050.21
Total Village Maintenance	**£ 6,713.43**	**£ 5,580.21**
Community Awards / Projects		
St Peter's Church grass cutting	£ -	£ 720.00
License to Grow/Cumbria in Bloom	£ 2,000.00	£ -
Warm Hub	£ 250.00	£ -
Bursary Fund	£ 5,000.00	£ 5,000.00
Defibrillator Maintenance and Repairs	£ 1,148.72	£ -
Village Hall hire subsidy	£ 5,606.00	£ 2,061.00
Village Hall Shutters	£ -	£ 1,560.00
Village Hall Energy Efficiency Project	£ -	£ 9,280.00
Total Community Awards	**£ 14,004.72**	**£ 18,621.00**
Drigg Community Fund Expenditure Total	**£ 28,019.90**	**£ 29,613.01**
Seniors Christmas Gifts (from Society Acc)	£ 550.00	£ 349.00
Society Awards	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,400.00
Bursary Awards to Applicants	£ 3,450.00	£ 7,210.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£ 33,019.90	£ 38,572.01

Balance 31st March 2025 Bank Accounts	2025	2024
Cumberland Society Savings Account	£ 28,684.42	£ 25,368.02
NatWest Society Account	£ 44,097.79	£ 42,321.38
Shawbrook Bank Society Account	£ 4,306.07	£ 3,840.91
Hampshire Trust Society Account	£ -	£ -
Cumberland Bursary Fund	£ 6,422.16	£ 5,228.04
NatWest Bursary Account	£ 631.93	£ 2,841.93
Redwood Bank Community Fund Acc	£ 75,000.00	£ -
Hampshire Trust Bank Community Fund Acc	£ 75,000.00	£ -
Shawbrook Bank Community Fund Acc	£ 75,000.00	£ 75,000.00
Cambridge & Counties Community Fund Acc	£ 85,000.00	£ 85,000.00
Cumberland Community Fund Acc	£ 85,000.00	£ 85,000.00
NatWest Community Fund Acc	£ 23,263.69	£ 149,831.70
TOTAL	**£ 502,406.06**	**£ 474,431.98**
Audit Check	£ 581,145.02	£ 540,978.07

Balance 31st March 2026 Bank Accounts	2026	2025
Cumberland Society Savings Account	£ 31,266.96	£ 28,684.42
NatWest Society Account	£ 49,446.88	£ 44,097.79
Shawbrook Bank Society Account	£ 4,773.98	£ 4,306.07
Hampshire Trust Society Account	£ 3,427.69	£ -
Cumberland Bursary Fund	£ 7,488.89	£ 6,422.16
NatWest Bursary Account	£ 8,431.93	£ 631.93
Redwood Bank Community Fund Acc	£ 105,000.00	£ 75,000.00
Hampshire Trust Community Fund Acc	£ 75,000.00	£ 75,000.00
Shawbrook Bank Community Fund Acc	£ 75,000.00	£ 75,000.00
Cambridge & Counties Community Fund Acc	£ 85,000.00	£ 85,000.00
Cumberland Community Fund Acc	£ 85,000.00	£ 85,000.00
NatWest Community Fund Acc	£ 18,288.79	£ 23,263.69
TOTAL AVAILABLE TO SPEND	**£ 548,125.12**	**£ 502,406.06**
Audit Check	£ 581,145.02	£ 540,978.07

Internal Audit check by Mrs F Roberts J Roberts 27/06/2026

Acting Treasurer: C. Gigg C Gigg 01/07/26

Fiona Roberts (AAT)

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27th June 2026

The Treasurer
Drigg & Carleton Charity
Langstrath
Drigg
Holmrook
Cumbria
CA19 1XD

To Mr Chris Gigg

I have reviewed the Financial Statement of the Drigg & Carleton Charity for the year ending 31st March 2026. The bookkeeping records have been well maintained and both timely and properly recorded to produce the Financial Statement.

The records for the accounting transactions reconcile with the bank statements and the payments have been substantiated with appropriated vouchers or invoices and recorded in the minutes of the charity.

Kind regards,

Fiona Roberts.

Fiona Roberts (AAT)