Charity registration number 520900

SPRINGWELL VILLAGE COMMUNITY VENUE

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

SPRINGWELL VILLAGE COMMUNITY VENUE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	C Smiles D Taylor R Candlish R Nesbitt A Gill J Graham D Ellwood R Proctor K Reader N Foggin A Bain S Shaftoe (Secretary) A Coburn J Foggin D McIntyre J Carter
Charity number	520900
Principal address	Springwell Village Community Venue Fell Road Gateshead NE9 7RP
Independent examiner	Clover Accounting 4 The Pastures Coulby Newham TS8 0UJ

SPRINGWELL VILLAGE COMMUNITY VENUE

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SPRINGWELL VILLAGE COMMUNITY VENUE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF SPRINGWELL VILLAGE COMMUNITY VENUE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Springwell Village Community Venue (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.
I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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 that in any material respect:

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3 the financial statements do 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 financial statements to be reached.

Hatfield

Kathryn Hatfield FCCA
Clover Accounting
4 The Pastures
Coulby Newham
TS8 0UJ

Dated: 22 September 2026

SPRINGWELL VILLAGE COMMUNITY VENUE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Current financial year

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	47,784	101,818	149,602	199,674
Charitable activities	3	127,861	-	127,861	126,868
Other income		-	-	-	-
Total income		175,645	101,818	277,463	326,542
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	4	146,752	132,314	279,066	288,246
Net movement in funds		28,893	(30,496)	(1,603)	38,296
Fund balances at 1 April 2025		34,997	68,610	103,607	65,311
Fund balances at 31 March 2026		63,890	38,114	102,004	103,607

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

SPRINGWELL VILLAGE COMMUNITY VENUE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Prior financial year

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	2	22,016	177,658	199,674
Charitable activities	3	126,868	-	126,868
Other income		-	-	-
Total income		148,884	177,658	326,542
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	4	144,783	143,463	288,246
Net movement in funds		4,101	34,195	38,296
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		30,896	34,195	38,296
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		34,997	68,610	103,607

SPRINGWELL VILLAGE COMMUNITY VENUE

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

	Notes	2026 £	2026 £	2025 £	2025 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		10,300		12,890
			10,300		12,890
Current assets					
Stocks	9	-		7,528	
Debtors	10	7,595		68	
Cash at bank and in hand		86,217		86,330	
		93,812		93,926	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(2,108)		(3,209)	
Net current assets			91,704		90,717
Total assets less current liabilities			102,004		103,607
Income funds					
Restricted funds	12		38,114		68,610
Unrestricted funds - general					
Designated funds		-		-	
General unrestricted funds		63,890		34,997	
			63,890		34,997
			102,004		103,607

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 22 September 2026



C Smiles
Chair

1 Accounting policies

Charity information
Springwell Village Community Venue is an unincorporated charity, registered charity number 520900.

1.1 Accounting convention
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 “The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland” (“FRS 102”) and the Charities SORP "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)" (effective 1 January 2019). 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 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 £.

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 statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds
Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

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 Income
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.

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

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:

Furniture	20% reducing balance
Computer equipment	33% reducing balance

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 the statement of financial activities.

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 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured the lower of replacement cost and cost.

1.9 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.

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Unrestricted funds general 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Donations and gifts	47,759	-	47,759	21,890	-	21,890
Subscriptions	25	-	25	126	-	126
Grants	-	101,818	101,818	-	177,658	177,658
	47,784	101,818	149,602	22,016	177,658	199,674

3 Charitable activities

	Other trading activities 2026 £	Other trading activities 2025 £
Sections - karate	67	130
Group – children & young peoples activities	24,120	19,078
Rents	9,594	9,523
Community café & bar	88,780	89,104
Stage productions	2,665	6,828
Social & leisure	2,635	2,205
	127,861	126,868
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds – general	127,861	126,868
Restricted funds	-	-
	127,861	126,868

4 Charitable activities

	2026	2025
	£	£
Children & young peoples activities	-	1,478
Employee costs	96,534	87,336
Community café & bar	43,185	44,978
Community charge	-	-
Stage production	2,842	2,206
Social & leisure	266	121
Fund raising activities	1,041	4,030
Depreciation	2,590	3,244
Grant spend	105,013	118,114
	251,471	261,507
Share of support costs (see note 5)	26,755	25,899
Share of governance costs (see note 5)	840	840
	279,066	288,246
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds – general	146,752	144,783
Restricted funds	132,314	143,463
	279,066	288,246

5 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2026	Support costs	Governance costs	2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Utilities	10,526	-	10,526	11,935	-	11,935
Insurance	2,982	-	2,982	1,305	-	1,305
Postage & stationery	2,554	-	2,554	3,511	-	3,511
Refuse & sundry	-	-	-	-	-	-
Repairs & renewals	3,136	-	3,136	4,467	-	4,467
Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sundries	1,212	-	1,212	-	-	-
Professional fees	6,085	-	6,085	4,421	-	4,421
Accountancy fees	260	840	1,100	260	840	1,100
	26,755	840	27,595	25,899	840	26,739
Analysed between						
Charitable activities	26,755	840	27,595	25,899	840	26,739

Governance costs includes payments for the independent examination of £840 (2025: £840).

6 Trustees

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

7 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings	Computer	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2025	20,000	778	20,778
At 31 March 2026	20,000	778	20,778
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2025	7,200	688	7,888
Depreciation charged in the year	2,560	30	2,590
At 31 March 2026	9,760	718	10,478
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2026	10,240	60	10,300
At 31 March 2025	12,800	90	12,890

9 Stocks

	2026	2025
	£	£
Bar stock	-	7,528

10 Debtors

	2026	2025
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Other debtors	7,527	-
Prepayments and accrued income	68	68
	7,595	68

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2026	2025
	£	£
Deferred income	-	-
Accruals	2,108	3,209
	2,108	3,209

12 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	Movement in funds: Incoming resources	Resources expended	Revaluations, gains and losses	Balance at 31 March 2026
	£	£	£	£	£
National Lottery Community Fund – Reaching Communities Programme	9,777	42,986	(37,545)	-	15,218
Awards for All England National Lottery Grant	3,545	-	(3,545)	-	-
Awards for All	-	19,534	(2,104)	-	17,430
Sir James Knott Trust	8,333	-	(8,333)	-	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	16,000	-	(16,000)	-	-
The Ballinger Trust	8,000	15,000	(23,000)	-	-
Sport England Award	13,500	-	(10,800)	-	2,700
Community Foundation	7,122	-	(7,122)	-	-
Arnold Clark Community Fund	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
Sir John Priestman	1,333	-	(1,333)	-	-
Sunderland City Council	-	1,658	(1,658)	-	-
Sunderland City Council – 60th Anniversary	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Sunderland City Council Resident Engagement	-	4,915	(4,915)	-	-
Sunderland City Council Festival & Events	-	1,875	(1,875)	-	-
Rothley Trust	-	1,250	(1,250)	-	-
Hedley Grant	-	2,000	(1,333)	-	667
The Joicey Trust	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Catherine Cookson	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Archer Trust	-	1,500	(1,500)	-	-
Durham Freemasons	-	2,100	-	-	2,100
	68,610	101,818	(132,314)	-	38,114

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2026	2026	2026	2025	2025	2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances are represented by:						
Tangible assets	10,300	-	10,300	12,890	-	12,890
Current assets/(liabilities)	53,590	38,114	91,704	22,107	68,610	90,717
	63,890	38,114	102,004	34,997	68,610	103,607

14 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2025 - none).

Springwell Village Community Venue



APRIL 2025 - MARCH 2026

Annual Report

Charity No 520900

www.svcv.co.uk

0191 4162630

svha@live.com

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About Us

Springwell Village Community Venue (SVCV) is a registered charity managed by a voluntary board of trustees.

Established in 1965, SVCV is a long established, successful, well-run community association that provides a wide range of services, activities and a meeting space for people of all ages and abilities within the community.

We provide resources for activities, groups, entertainment, events and projects that bring people together and help them develop social networks and support. We inspire and promote learning, creativity and participation through a variety of weekly groups and events throughout the year.

SVCV is the hub of village life and creates an important venue for services to be delivered and we believe that by providing and facilitating services and activities from the venue, local people of all ages and backgrounds have the chance to both benefit individually from our work, and importantly, contribute to their community, in terms of geography, identity and interest.

Vision

The charitable purpose of the organisation as per our CONSTITUTION is to further, or benefit the residents of Springwell Village and surrounding areas, by associating together, residents, local authorities, voluntary and other organisations, in a common effort to provide facilities in the interest of health, education, employment, environmental and social welfare, for recreation and leisure time, with the objective of improving the conditions of life for local people.

Mission

Improve the quality of life for the local community. Provide an accessible welcoming venue and focal point for the community.

A place for people and local organisations to meet and socialise.

Sustain and develop activities that connect and engage people with their communities and each other to help tackle isolation and loneliness.

Provide educational, recreational, social, leisure and cultural activities that are accessible to all.

Provide a local resource which promotes and encourage learning and development.

Promote and advocate the needs of groups based in the centre and provide opportunities for more integration and inclusion between users.

To maintain and forge relations with partners, local authority and funding bodies.

Chairperson's Report

This last financial year has been another successful period for Springwell Village Community Venue, thanks to the commitment and motivation of our incredible team of staff and volunteers. Your spirit and wholehearted dedication are second to none, and I am so proud of you all. You are the heart and soul of SVCV, and I cannot thank you enough for all of your hard work.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank our funders for their continued support as your investment in SVCV allows us to deliver vital services, create opportunities, and respond to the needs of our community. Without your support, many of the activities and initiatives we are so proud of simply would not be possible.

Recent changes to our staff team have been extremely positive and have helped develop a stronger and more streamlined delivery of our community service provision. This will be reviewed and developed further over the coming months, enabling us to build a consistent, face-to-face approach for all who use our facilities. Well done to you all.

We extended the opening hours of our cozy café to include Sundays, where our amazing team provide delicious, home-cooked Sunday dinners at an affordable price. We are seeing regular customers coming along to meet and make new friends, and we also have customers who choose to take advantage of our takeaway service.

Another new initiative which is thriving is our Community Cupboard, available every fortnight and offering a wide variety of day-to-day provisions to the community at a huge discount, which we feel is essential in this current socio-economic climate. I would like to thank our team of volunteers for your continued support with this important venture.

We continue to host annual events, such as Family Fest which grow from strength to strength and, once again, would not be possible without the hard work of our staff team and volunteers. We also continue to offer a warm and welcoming facility for outside organisations and groups. We will continue engaging with others and to strengthen our finances to enable us to continue to thrive.

This year also marks the retirement of Pauline. She has been involved with our Drama Group and many other activities over the past 45 years, and has given so much of her time, energy and heart to our performances and to producing our pantomimes, bringing laughter, confidence and joy to generations of families in our community. She has been a huge inspiration to so many people over the years, encouraging others to take part, believe in themselves and shine on stage. Her dedication and passion have helped shape what our Drama Group is today. On behalf of everyone at SVCV, I would like to say a truly huge and heartfelt thank you for everything you have given. You will be greatly missed, but your legacy will continue to live on in all those you have inspired. We wish you every happiness in your retirement.

As we look to the year ahead, I am excited about the future of Springwell Village Community Venue and all that we can continue to achieve together. Our community remains at the heart of every decision we make, and we will continue to listen, develop and adapt to ensure SVCV remains a welcoming, inclusive and sustainable place for generations to come. I am incredibly proud of everything we have achieved this year and look forward to building on this success together.

Carole Smiles - Chair

Community Development Manager's Report

This year has been a particularly special one as we proudly celebrated our 60th anniversary. It provided an opportunity not only to celebrate how far the charity has come, but also to reflect on the important role the venue continues to play within our community and the responsibility we have to ensure it remains strong and sustainable for future generations.

I have continued to oversee the overall development and day-to-day direction of the venue, working closely with our staff, trustees, volunteers, community groups and partners. Our focus remains firmly on listening to our community, identifying where support is needed and developing activities, services and opportunities that make a genuine difference to people's lives.

Throughout the year we have continued to grow and strengthen our programme, creating opportunities for people of all ages to connect, learn, socialise and feel part of their community. It is incredibly rewarding to see new people coming through our doors, existing groups growing in confidence and friendships developing through the activities we provide. Just as importantly, we continue to see people who first came to the venue as children returning years later with children of their own. For me, that is one of the strongest reminders of the lasting place this charity holds within our community.

None of this would be possible without the commitment of the people behind the venue. Our volunteers give an extraordinary amount of their time across every area of our work, from supporting the café and community activities to helping at events, maintaining the building and simply making sure everyone who walks through our doors receives a warm welcome.

I am equally proud of our staff team. Their contribution extends far beyond their paid roles, with staff regularly volunteering additional time to support events, activities and the wider running of the charity. We are a small, committed team who work closely together, often stepping outside our individual roles when something needs to be done. That willingness to support one another and give extra time to the venue is something I value enormously and is a real strength of our organisation.

Our achievements are also made possible through the confidence placed in us by our funders and partners. Their support enables us to turn ideas into meaningful projects, respond to emerging needs and continue reaching people who may otherwise have limited opportunities to participate. We never take that support for granted, and we remain committed to demonstrating that funding entrusted to us is used responsibly and delivers genuine benefit within our community.

Looking ahead, my priority is to continue developing the venue in a way that balances community need with long-term sustainability. This means continuing to seek funding and develop partnerships, while also increasing opportunities to generate our own income and make the best possible use of our building and resources. As demand for our services grows, ensuring the charity remains financially resilient will be increasingly important.

Our 60th anniversary celebrations reminded us how much has changed over six decades, but also how much has remained the same. At the heart of Springwell Village Community Venue are people: those who established it, those who have supported it over the years and those who continue to give their time, skills and enthusiasm today.

I am immensely proud to lead such a dedicated team and proud of what we have achieved together. Most of all, I am proud that after 60 years the venue continues to be a place where people feel welcome, supported and connected.

Suzanne Shaftoe
Community Development Manager

Treasurer's Report

This has been another busy and successful year for Springwell Village Community Venue. The charity continues to deliver a wide variety of projects, activities and services that provide lasting benefits to people of all ages within the local community, as highlighted throughout this Annual Report.

The year was particularly significant as the venue celebrated its 60th anniversary. This important milestone provided an opportunity to reflect on six decades of serving the community while celebrating the achievements of the many volunteers, staff, trustees, supporters and community members who have contributed to the venue's success since 1965.

The accounts demonstrate that the charity has remained financially stable through careful budgeting and responsible financial management. When comparing this year's figures with previous years, there are noticeable differences in both income and expenditure. These differences are largely due to the accounting treatment of grant funding. Grant income is recognised when it is received, whereas the associated expenditure may take place over the following financial year or, in some cases, over a few years. As a result, year-on-year comparisons do not always provide a complete reflection of the charity's operational performance.

The charity continues to maintain appropriate reserves and sufficient resources to meet its current commitments. However, the Trustees recognise that the funding environment remains challenging. As existing grant funding comes to an end, the charity will continue to manage its finances prudently, actively seek new funding opportunities and develop sustainable income streams to ensure the long-term future of Springwell Village Community Venue and the valuable services it provides.

During the year, the charity was fortunate to secure a variety of grants to support both core operating costs and a wide range of community projects. In addition, income generated through room hire, the community café, fundraising events, donations and other charitable activities continues to make an important contribution to the organisation's financial sustainability.

The Trustees would like to place on record their sincere thanks to all grant funders, donors, supporters, volunteers and staff whose commitment and generosity have enabled the charity to continue supporting the local community throughout the year. The venue would simply not exist in it's current state were it not for the loyalty that they all provide. In addition, I would like to thank Suzanne personally for her dedication and support that she has given over the last 22 years as our Community Support Officer, not forgetting the many hours she gives voluntarily throughout the year.

Acknowledgement: The Trustees would also like to recognise the outstanding contribution of Pauline Clark following her retirement from the Adult Drama Group after many years of dedicated service to Springwell Village Community Venue.

Pauline first became involved with the drama group as a young member before going on to become its producer. Over many years she gave her time, talent and enthusiasm to countless productions and played an important role in the success of the group's activities. Her commitment to the venue extended beyond the stage through her service as a member of the former Management Committee and later as a Trustee, where she continued to support the charity with dedication and professionalism.

The Trustees wish to record their sincere appreciation for Pauline's exceptional commitment, loyalty and many years of voluntary service. Her contribution has helped shape the organisation and has left a lasting legacy that will be remembered by generations of members, volunteers and audiences alike.

While Pauline's retirement marks the end of an important chapter in the venue's history, the friendships, memories and positive impact she has created will remain an important part of Springwell Village Community Venue. The Trustees extend their heartfelt thanks and wish her every happiness, good health and success in the future.

Diane Ellwood - Treasurer

Financial Statements

GRANTS & DONATIONS

National Lottery Community Fund - Reaching Communities Programme
Core costs. Capital costs - kitchen/cafe refurbishment project 2024

The Ballinger Trust - Unrestricted funding support

Garfield Weston Foundation - Core Support

Awards For All - Together Time Group

Rothley Trust - PA System support costs

Archer Trust - Community Shop

Joicey Trust - Core Support

Hedley Foundation - Youth Support

Catherine Cookson - New chairs and storage trolley

Community Foundation - Youth Provision Support

Sunderland City Council - Winter Wonderland Festival Support Costs

Sunderland City Council - Resident Engagement

Sunderland City Council - Diamond Celebrations

Sunderland City Council - UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) Community Digital Health Hub (CDHHs) Project

Durham Freemasons - After School Club Support

Sports England - Holiday Activities Project -2025/2026

Projects

This section highlights key projects delivered throughout the year, responding directly to community need and creating lasting impact.

Community Shop

The Tuesday Cupboard has continued to grow throughout 2025–26, becoming a highly valued part of our community support and a strong example of volunteer-led delivery.

Launched in January 2025, the pop-up community shop uses stock donated by local businesses and community members to provide affordable everyday items, helping local people manage cost-of-living pressures while promoting reuse and reducing waste.

A dedicated team of nine regular volunteers now take significant responsibility for the project, from collecting donated stock and unloading deliveries to sorting, preparing and storing items ready for sale. Their commitment has enabled the operation to grow considerably over the year.

The shop now opens fortnightly, with an additional monthly Sunday opening, and regularly attracts queues of local residents. Surplus donations are also shared with local schools and animal shelters, extending the project's benefit across the wider community.

Alongside providing affordable goods, the Tuesday Cupboard creates meaningful volunteering opportunities, builds confidence and a strong sense of ownership, while all income generated is reinvested directly into the charity to support our services and long-term sustainability.



July 2025
The headsets have been very well received by our music department. Thank you so much again. Did they come from the community centre?

head of music's email when she got them .... OMG, they are amazing....there are 34 pairs so will be enough for all of my classes. This is going to help dramatically with engagement when they are on the computers.



School Holiday Programme

SPORT ENGLAND

Funded by Sports England

Thanks to funding support from Sport England, we delivered a varied and inclusive school holiday sports programme, running from July 2025 through to May 2026 and covering all half-term holidays as well as the summer break.

The programme supported children and young people aged 7–15, giving parents and carers reassurance that their children had access to safe, structured, and positive activities throughout the school holidays. All children were fed and watered during sessions, ensuring they were well cared for and able to fully enjoy and engage in activities.

Children took part in a wide range of sports-themed and active sessions, with firm favourites including football, roller skating, martial arts, dance, tag rugby, team games, and multi-sport challenges. We were also able to make full use of our outdoor space, including the large playing field and local park to the rear of the building, particularly during the summer months. Outdoor activities such as scavenger hunts, games, and group challenges allowed children to explore, stay active, and enjoy fresh air in a safe and familiar environment.

We worked with a number of fantastic delivery partners, whose enthusiasm and expertise helped create high-quality, engaging sessions. Alongside physical activity, the programme supported confidence, teamwork, and social skills, helping children build friendships and enjoy positive shared experiences.

Feedback from families has been extremely positive, with many valuing both the variety of activities and the reassurance of knowing their children were active, supported, and well looked after during the school holidays. We are very grateful to Sport England for making this much-valued holiday provision possible.







Projects

Funded by UK Government

Sunderland City Council

Washington Neighbourhood Plan Resident Engagement Project

We were delighted to secure funding from the Washington Neighbourhood Regeneration Board to support resident engagement for the development of the Washington Neighbourhood Plan.

Between August and September, our team delivered a focused programme of engagement activity designed to capture the views, priorities, and aspirations of local people. We created welcoming and accessible opportunities for residents to share their perspectives through group discussions, outreach activity, supported digital surveys, and a very well attended Community Day.

The Community Day was a particular highlight, bringing residents together in a relaxed and informal setting that encouraged open conversation and genuine feedback. Children enjoyed creative craft activities and were invited to share their ideas for the future by writing them on post-it notes, ensuring even our youngest residents had a voice in shaping their community. We were delighted to welcome the Dr Bike team from the Birtley Active Travel Hub, part of Sustrans, who provided free MOTs along with minor repairs and safety advice. Their presence was extremely popular with residents, and it was a pleasure to work alongside Andrea and her fantastic team.

Overall, we engaged with over 400 residents from across Springwell Village and surrounding areas within Washington, ensuring that a wide range of voices contributed to shaping future regeneration plans.

Key themes highlighted the importance of strong community facilities, safe and well-maintained neighbourhoods, inclusive activities for all ages, and continued opportunities for residents to influence local decision-making.
We are proud to have supported this important initiative and remain committed to acting as a trusted link between residents and the wider regeneration process.

Community Day - August













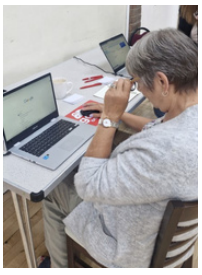




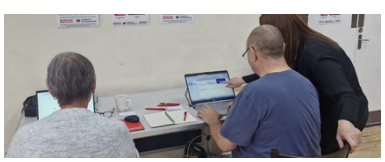
Digital Health Hub

We were over the moon to be selected as one of just seven sites across Sunderland to expand the Community Digital Health Hub (CDHH) project. Supported by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, this designation reflects the strength of our community-led work and our commitment to improving digital access for local residents.
We have had new smart technology installed, helping us create a more comfortable, efficient, and responsive space while supporting residents' access to health, education, employment, and welfare services. A full Wi-Fi upgrade has been installed, alongside the installation of CO_2 and footfall sensors to better understand building usage and maintain a safe environment.
The footfall sensor is already providing valuable insight into visitor numbers, strengthening service planning and helping us demonstrate the growing reach of our activities. Our digital platform also enables us to monitor the health of the building, including temperature and humidity, ensuring the venue remains welcoming and comfortable throughout the year.
In January 2026, Sunderland City Council fitted a new heating control panel, enabling us to programme and manage the system more effectively while maintaining consistent comfort across the building. Importantly, this digital infrastructure will be maintained with full technical support until August 2028, helping to futureproof the venue and ensure long-term community benefit.

Our involvement in the programme has also strengthened partnerships with the National Digital Inclusion Network and Sunderland's Go Online Network. Alongside this, initiatives such as Tech Mates and the Databank SIM scheme continue to play an important role in reducing digital exclusion. Trained staff and volunteers are on hand to support visitors with devices, digital skills, and online access, helping more people build confidence and stay connected.



By embracing innovation while keeping people at the heart of our approach, the Community Digital Health Hub is enabling us to deliver a smarter, more inclusive service and ensuring the venue is well equipped to meet both current and future community needs.



Children & Young People

As Children and Young People's Manager I've found this year to be challenging with a dip in under 5s attendance mainly due to the government increasing free nursery provisions. However I've tried to find new ways to keep the children and young people coming to my sessions by lowering the age of Mini Monkey's which is now nursery age (which was Year 1) I've focused on developing a new Cookery Club on a Monday, split the Senior Youth group into two Intermediates (Years 7 - 8) and Seniors (Years 8 - 11) I've found this to be a great help in us keeping the children who have moved from Junior Youth into Seniors as previously they found the group to be overwhelming with all the changes they go through, this Youth club has become a safe space for them, this group is ran by the children we really encourage them to get involved and come up with activities and games. All these after school clubs are thriving. I've also been more involved with developing all of the events, coming up with crafts, and ideas to keep all the children and young people entertained and engaged. - Melissa Oliver

Early Years - Under 5s

Our Monday under 5s session is such a lovely group, we've had some of these children attending since birth, it's lovely to see the parents/grandparents more involved and making this session what they want. We've had the amazing F & E photography with us at our Winter Wonderland Session and on Valentines day, we've build a lovely relationship with them and hope to have them at our future event

A huge thank you to Northumbria Police Charitable Trust for funding our much needed new children's tables. They were personally delivered by Scott, a local police officer who works closely within the community. We are so grateful for the support to helps us create a welcoming space for local families.

After School Clubs

Our after school clubs offer children a fun and welcoming way to end the school day, with activities to suit a range of interests and energy levels. To support families, we provide a school pick-up service from Springwell Village Primary School, helping children transition smoothly into a safe and supportive environment.

We also deliver weekly youth drop-in sessions and have strengthened our offer through a clear and consistent progression route across our provision. Children move from Mini Monkeys into Junior Youth Club, then progress to Intermediate Youth Club, and finally into Youth Impact when they feel ready. This pathway is particularly important for Year 7 pupils (aged 11), supporting them through the transition from primary to secondary school and helping them remain engaged with youth provision at a key stage.

Alongside our wider evaluation and monitoring, we introduced the Outcome Star to measure progress across areas including confidence, wellbeing, friendships, health and fitness, and skills development. Early feedback shows positive outcomes, with young people reporting increased confidence, stronger social connections, and improved wellbeing.

Cookery Club - Year 2 - 6

This year we launched a new After School Cookery Club, which has quickly become a favourite with the children. Sessions are hands-on and lively, with children weighing their own ingredients, following simple recipes, and proudly preparing tasty, nutritious dishes. There is lots of excitement as children try new foods, work together, and enjoy seeing (and tasting!) what they have made. Alongside the fun, the club helps children build confidence, independence, numeracy skills, and an understanding of healthy eating, while also supporting teamwork, communication, and positive social skills. Children leave sessions feeling proud of themselves and eager to come back the following week. The club has been warmly welcomed by both children and parents, and we are excited to continue developing it as part of our after school offer.



The Mini Monkeys - Nursery - Year 3

Mini Monkeys is a popular and well-loved after school club. We have welcomed a new group of children who have quickly settled in, formed friendships and grown in confidence. The club offers a fun mix of creative activities, games and active play, giving younger children a chance to relax and enjoy themselves after the school day. For many, it provides an important first step into group activities outside of the classroom, helping them feel supported, included and at ease.

Staff create a nurturing and encouraging environment where children are supported to try new things, share ideas and build positive relationships. Over time, we have seen children become more confident, more engaged and proud of their achievements. Mini Monkeys continues to provide a gentle and welcoming introduction to our after school provision, helping children develop confidence, friendships and a strong sense of belonging.

Children & Young People - continued

Junior Youth (Formerly Dynamite Club) Year 4 - Year 6

Our Junior Youth Club has continued to thrive this year and remains one of our most popular after school sessions. Building on the success of previous years, the club is now at full capacity, with a waiting list in place, reflecting both strong demand and the value families place on this provision. The club offers a lively mix of fun, social, and creative activities, with children particularly enjoying themed nights, parties, and special events. These sessions give young people the chance to relax, have fun, and spend time with friends in a safe and supportive environment, while also encouraging teamwork, confidence, and positive social interaction.

A dedicated weekly volunteer plays a key role in the smooth running of the club, supporting set-up and clear-away and helping to run the tuck shop, which is always a highlight for the children. Their regular commitment helps create consistency and adds to the welcoming atmosphere of the session.

The Junior Youth Club continues to be a space where children feel comfortable, included, and excited to return each week. We are proud of how well the group is engaging and look forward to building on its success in the year ahead.

Intermediate Club - NEW Year 7 - Year 8

Our Intermediate Youth Club has become a brilliant stepping stone between Junior Youth Club and Youth Impact, giving young people the confidence to grow, try new things, and start taking real ownership of their sessions.

This group loves being involved in shaping their club. They plan activities, proudly run their own tuck shop, and aren't shy about asking for what they want! This year that's included make-up activities, diamond art, magnetic darts and more hands-on cookery sessions, all of which have gone down a treat.

Sessions are lively, relaxed, and full of personality. Young people enjoy choosing the music, switching on the disco lights, and creating an atmosphere that feels fun, safe, and very much their own. Alongside the laughter and energy, youth workers gently support the group to build confidence, decision-making skills, and positive friendships.

The Intermediate Youth Club plays an important role in helping young people feel ready for the next step into Youth Impact, offering a supportive space where they can have fun, be heard, and grow in confidence along the way.

Youth Impact Year 8 - Year 11

Youth Impact is a lively, high-energy club shaped by the young people who attend, with over 40 young people participating each week. In an area where youth provision is limited, it provides a vital, consistent space where young people can feel safe, supported and engaged.

The club is full of energy and creativity, with activities driven by young people's interests, including music, dancing, games, art and hands-on creative sessions. Young people are encouraged to take ownership, helping to shape sessions and create an environment that reflects their personalities. Seasonal additions and small touches help maintain a warm, welcoming and inclusive atmosphere.

Alongside this, Youth Impact offers important balance, providing space to relax, socialise and build trusted relationships with youth workers. These strong relationships enable staff to offer early support, guidance and meaningful conversations in a safe and natural way.

This year, we were proud to welcome Shaun Hair, Member of Youth Parliament for the City of Sunderland, who visited to hear directly from young people about their priorities. This provided a valuable opportunity for young people to have their voices heard and to learn more about how they can engage with decision-making processes locally and nationally.

Youth Impact continues to be a club that young people value and rely on, offering a strong sense of belonging alongside fun, creativity and support. Its ongoing success is made possible through the dedication of staff, the support of funders, and partners.





We loved welcoming Shaun Hair MYP to Springwell Village Youth Club 🙌 Thanks to our team, funders past & present and Oxclose & District Young People's Project for making it happen 🙂

Social & Community Connections

Our social programme continues to provide vital opportunities for connection, reducing isolation and strengthening community wellbeing.

Tea Dance



Our Tea Dance remains a much-loved weekly highlight, bringing together familiar faces for music, movement, and a good catch-up in a warm and welcoming atmosphere. The session continues to offer a wonderful sense of routine and friendship, with many attendees returning week after week.
This year, the group enjoyed a particularly special celebration to mark the 60th anniversary of the venue. There were cupcakes all round, plenty of laughter, and a chance to dress up in sparkly outfits and well-worn dancing shoes. The dance floor was soon full as everyone danced the afternoon away, creating a lovely sense of nostalgia and shared celebration.
Throughout the year, the group has also enjoyed marking birthdays together, adding to the warmth and camaraderie that makes the Tea Dance so special. Even when a few familiar faces can't be there, they are always remembered and missed, which speaks volumes about the strong bonds within the group. The Tea Dance continues to be a joyful and meaningful part of our weekly programme, offering connection, continuity, and a little bit of sparkle for all who attend.

Ladybirds



I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all the Ladybirds members for their friendship and support over the past 60 years. I would also like to thank the committee for all the help and dedication they have given to the club over the years.

Sadly, due to the age of many of our members, we have had to make the difficult decision to bring the club to a close after 60 wonderful years. While it was not an easy decision, we feel very proud of the many happy times, friendships, and memories that the Ladybirds have shared together over the decades. To mark this special milestone, we held a celebration to recognise the club's 60 years. It was a lovely occasion where members came together to reminisce about the past, share stories, and wish one another all the very best for the future.

We also created memory boards for the 60th anniversary of the Hall (SVCV). These included photographs from many years ago, even from the days when the club had around 120 members. Looking back at these photos brought back many wonderful memories and reminded us just how special the club has been to so many people in the community. The Ladybirds may be coming to an end, but the friendships and memories made over the past 60 years will always remain.

Audrey Miller

Chatterbox Club



Chatterbox Bingo Club, which meets every Friday, continues to be a much-loved weekly session, offering far more than just a game of bingo. It provides a welcoming space filled with laughter, friendship and a strong sense of community that keeps people coming back week after week. This year, the group benefited from a new hi-tech bingo machine, generously funded by The Washington Development Trust. The machine, set on a clear stand, has made the game more accessible, particularly for members with hearing difficulties, allowing everyone to take part more fully and confidently.
A key strength of the group is its shared approach, with members taking turns to call numbers and check cards, creating a strong sense of involvement and ownership. The atmosphere remains friendly and relaxed, with sessions often running over as no one is quite ready to leave.



At the heart of Chatterbox is our dedicated volunteer, Susan Masters, who gives her time each week to organise and support the sessions. From setting up to adding extra touches at Christmas and special occasions, her commitment helps ensure the group remains welcoming and enjoyable for all. Chatterbox Bingo Club continues to be a joyful and inclusive space where friendships flourish and Friday afternoons are something to look forward to.

Social & Community Connections - continued

Together Time

THANK YOU COMMUNITY FUND Community Foundation North East







Established in September 2024, Together Time is one of the most valued and supportive groups at Springwell Village Community Venue. The group meet weekly and it has grown quickly, becoming an important social lifeline for people seeking connection, friendship and support.

The group's first year was funded by the Prime Fund at The Community Foundation, and we are delighted to have secured further support from The National Lottery Community Fund - Awards for All Programme, which will sustain the group for the next two years.

Supported by a dedicated team of staff and volunteers, Together Time provides a welcoming and nurturing environment alongside practical support, including wellbeing advice, digital assistance and bereavement support. Regular guest sessions and trips out, such as visits to local attractions and days at the coast, add variety and enjoyment.

At its heart, Together Time is about genuine care and connection. Members support one another through both good times and challenges, celebrating milestones and building strong friendships. Weekly sessions are shaped by the group and include music, dancing, reminiscence and shared activities, creating a warm and relaxed atmosphere.

The introduction of a Together Time WhatsApp group has further strengthened connections, allowing members to stay in touch, share updates and support each other between sessions.

Together Time continues to be a powerful example of how community, care and connection can enrich lives, and we are incredibly grateful to our funders, staff, volunteers and members for making it such a special group.

Brew & a Banjo - Veterans Breakfast Club



This year saw the launch of Brew & a Banjo, a new monthly Veterans Breakfast Club that meets on the second Monday of each month. From the very first meet-up in February 2026, the response was hugely encouraging, with great turnout, plenty of chatter, and a real sense of camaraderie in the room.

The group offers a relaxed and welcoming space where veterans, those currently serving, and their families can grab a brew, enjoy breakfast, and have some good banter. The atmosphere is informal, friendly, and full of laughter, with people popping in for a cuppa and often staying far longer than planned.

Brew & a Banjo has quickly shown how much this kind of light-touch, social space is valued. It's less about structure and more about connection, sharing stories, meeting new faces, and enjoying a few laughs in good company. Early feedback has been extremely positive, and the group already feels like a natural and welcome addition to our programme.

As a brand-new group launched towards the end of the AGM period, Brew & a Banjo is still finding its feet, but the early signs are very promising. We look forward to seeing it grow and developing it further over the coming year.

The Fell Men

The group of 5-7 meet on a Monday and Friday from 10am to carry out whatever needs a fix and on a Thursday from 9-11pm for a social get together and to plan and discuss things coming up. It is also an opportunity to solve all the worlds problems over a drink in a social environment.

This year has been very interesting with a variety of issues requiring input from many sources and a number of skills. At some point we have employed woodworking, metalwork, welding, lighting, special awareness, storage solutions, artistic capability with tidying up and rubbish disposal all being tested.

In all it has been variable social and satisfying in a social environment which could always benefit from regular or part-time additional personal and input.

If you feel you could add to our group in a practical or social way, we can assure you of a warm welcome and provide a satisfying use of your time.

Active Lifestyles & Performance

This programme brings together a wide range of sport, fitness and performance-based activities, providing opportunities for people of all ages to stay active, build confidence and express themselves. From dance and drama to fitness sessions and structured sports coaching, activities are inclusive, accessible and support both physical and mental wellbeing. Delivered by experienced instructors and partner organisations, the programme plays a key role in encouraging participation, improving health and strengthening community connections.

Senior Drama Group

The group chose another script written by Ben Crocker, MOTHER GOOSE to perform for our next pantomime. At the same time we offered to put together a show for the venue's 60th anniversary.
Rehearsals began for the show first and we enjoyed meeting to perform songs and sketches, discussing and sorting costumes, culminating in the actual shows which were staged for 2 nights in the celebration week. A good time was had by cast, crew and audiences alike.
Pantomime rehearsals started in October and we went full throttle to sort scenery, props, costumes music and dance. A big thank you to Amy Gill for her choreography with the dancers even though she wouldn't be able to take part in the actual shows which Helen Johnson was taking a break from the group for this production and as she had been one of my co-producers for years she was a huge miss.
I was tasked with making a talking moose and 5 full size geese costumes which were all a challenge to say the least! Got there in the end complete with feet, beaks and wings (for the geese not the moose!) Amazing help from Carole Smiles who I wouldn't have managed without. She turned out to be my right hand woman. Also this production I had help from Diane Ellwood, Marie Rutter, Jacqui Foggin, Julie Carter and Susan Holt who helped and organised with chorus and dancers costumes.
Over the last few years it has become increasingly difficult for me to produce the pantomimes as I've taken on more roles and tasks alongside family issues. It was with this in mind that I made the decision to give up my role as producer. I didn't want to be in a position where I would let the group or my family down. I wrote to management to tell them of my decision. I made attempts to talk group members into taking over running the group but to no avail.
When we performed MOTHER GOOSE it was with the usual enjoyment and laughs and we received great reviews. After our final performance there were tears and gifts which were gratefully received.
My thanks to everyone for the last 45 years of fun, laughter and support while I've performed in shows, pantos and production. It's been a HUGE part of my life and I'm sure I'll miss it all but I know the time is right. Best to quit while you're ahead rather than be 'pushed'!
I wish SVCV every success in forthcoming productions and hope a group will continue to delight audiences.

Pauline Clark

Curtain Call - Youth Drama Group

Curtain Call Drama Group has wowed us once again with not only one, but two fantastic performances this year. The cast managed to stage an adaptation of 'The Lion King' across three sold out nights and the feedback was outstanding. This group of young people (ages 8-16) stunned audiences with their group choreography, the phenomenal acting talent - the comedic timing was wonderful - not to mention some beautiful vocals that really brought the stage to life. The staging was brilliant and a huge credit to our backstage crew for creating such an ambience through such simplistic staging. A real sensation and truly unforgettable.



Amy Gill – Producer

At Christmas, the cast performed a 'human' version of, 'A Muppets Christmas Carol' for parents featuring all of the well-know hits and once again we were blown away by the sheer level of talent that these young people have on that stage. Scrooge himself was a particular highlight! With the festive Christmas backdrop, cozy lighting, ensemble choreography and upbeat songs the audience left full of Christmas Spirit.
Being a member of curtain call is more than just the performances. It is a chance to develop skills such as teamwork, grow in confidence, make and maintain supportive friendships in a safe environment. The members also learn to build resilience and character through drama.
A huge thank you to everyone involved; the cast, the crew, the audience and management for all of their hard work and support. We have announced that our performance for next year will be, 'Wonka's Chocolate Factory' and we cannot wait to see this talented cast shine once again.

Active Lifestyles & Performance

Get Fit with Phil (Formerly The Life Project)

Our fun and friendly weekly low impact exercise class continues to thrive every Tuesday at 11:45am.
The session offers a warm, welcoming environment where participants can meet new people, enjoy familiar and nostalgic music, and take part in a gentle yet effective workout, always at their own pace and within their own comfort zone..
Recognising that everyone's ability level is different, sessions are carefully designed to ensure all participants can take part safely and confidently

Exercises focus on improving strength, balance and mobility, helping individuals maintain independence, build confidence and support everyday living. All movements are low impact, with no jumping or strenuous activity, making the class accessible, inclusive and enjoyable for everyone.
Beyond the physical benefits, the social connection is just as important. The group is known for its friendly atmosphere, encouragement and plenty of laughter. Many participants stay after class for refreshments or lunch, strengthening friendships and building meaningful community connections.

Looking ahead, we will continue to promote the class through social media, local networks and healthcare contacts to ensure it remains visible and accessible to those who would benefit most. Word of mouth within the group also remains a powerful and positive way of welcoming new faces.

We are extremely grateful for the ongoing support from Suzanne, Joanne and the wider team, who consistently provide a warm welcome and practical support whenever needed. Overall, this class remains a valued part of our weekly programme supporting health, wellbeing, independence and community connection in a safe and supportive setting.

Sports King Coaching

We run weekly cheer and dance sessions every Monday from 4:30pm to 5:30pm, led by Danika. The children really enjoy these sessions, and we currently have 12 children attending regularly. The children focus on different dance styles and techniques mixed in with cheer. During the sessions the children improved their social, emotional and interaction.

We also deliver holiday camps funded by the Department for Education. These camps include food and snacks for the children and have been a real support for parents who need childcare during the school holidays.

The camps offer a variety of activities including dance, cheerleading, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths), and Nerf sessions. Attendance at the camps has ranged from 9 children at the lowest to 40 at the highest, with an average of around 20 children taking part.

The camps have been very well received by both children and parents, providing a fun, active, and supportive environment during the school holidays.

Jon King

Fierce Dance

After over 10 years at SVCV I can still firmly say that venue makes my Mondays a little less blue.

Ladies (and the odd chap) travel from around the north east to attend Fierce sessions. We are not just a fitness class, but our very own community. Additionally, bringing folk into the centre and allowing them to learn all it offers, e.g. fairs, panto and various clubs, some of which I have been lucky enough to help out in, getting the children and young people 'glowing'.

As the cost of living continues to grow, this can often impact attendance, this is counter balanced by the support the SVCV team continue to provide me. Thus, preventing the need to pass the increase onto my attendees.

More than just a dancing and stretching, Mondays and Fridays is the time to forgot about their daily lives and focus on getting those moves right and I cCan't wait to see how the next few years will shape us!

Fi

Active Lifestyles & Performance

Yoshino Karate

Yoshino Karate (originally Kan Shu Karate Club) has been operating at SVCV from approximately 1991. We have been lucky enough to have the support of the 'Hall' all this time.

Ran on a not for profit basis (funds are split between rent to SVCV and investing back in the students, the instructors do not take any payment), the club continues to offer Shotokan Karate Lessons at a extremely affordable rate (£2 per session), allowing those to learn many new a skill, whist also giving the chance to a traditional martial art.

Unfortunately, operating in such a manner does mean we are not investing a in leaflet drops, social media campaigns etc - as such we do feel the fluctuation in student numbers more than those operating on a profit/professional basis.

Learning Karate allows the students to learn resilience and discipline, while also undertaking a physical activity. We are an ability friendly club, regardless of a child's ability, we can work together to accommodate.

As such very much value the continued support from SVCV.

Peter Lind, JP Cooper & Jake

Romero School of Dance

Reflecting on the last year it feels like we have never stopped! In April last year four of my dancers were selected to represent England at the British Championships and this year 2 of my girls have been re-selected this year which is a great honour. 4 of my dancers were also nominated for both Le Classique and NCDTA Awards with two of them winning the Juvenile category. In September I was also lucky enough to be nominated and go on to win The NCDTA award for competitive teacher of the year.

Some of my new younger dancers came with us and entered the British championships in October and placed 2nd and 4th which was lovely to see new talent coming through. October was a successful British Championships for us having 15 finalists and winning the All Girl Junior title.

In December we had a show held at the hall which was great for our competitors and non competitors to showcase their work in class. They all were fantastic and I received some lovey comments.

Even with the success we have, unfortunately, some of my class numbers are low so I am trying to build that up.

Just recently I started a toddler class which has been lovely to run. It's wonderful to see the children have fun with their grown ups with big smiles each week.

Thank you for another lovely year at the hall.

Little Kickers

Little Kickers is an award-winning children's football franchise. We run 4 age specific classes for children from 18 months old, up to their 8th birthday. We focus on a fun and engaging introduction to football for all age groups, while also helping our older children prepare to step into grassroots football and join a team. Little Kickers runs every Tuesday morning at SVCA for children aged 18 months up to 3 1/2 years old. We offer a free trial class, which must be booked in advance, before signing up for the weekly sessions.

Yoga

The yoga class continues to provide an important wellbeing offer within our regular programme, with a loyal core of participants and ongoing efforts to grow the group further.

The sessions deliver clear physical and mental health benefits, supporting improved flexibility, balance and mobility, while also helping to reduce stress and promote relaxation. For many participants, the class provides valuable time for self-care in a calm and supportive environment.

In addition to physical wellbeing, the class strengthens social connection. Participants build positive relationships, reducing feelings of isolation and fostering a sense of belonging within the community.

The venue offers a warm, welcoming and spacious setting that enhances the overall experience. I remain focused on maintaining the strong foundation of the group while continuing to build participation through local promotion and word of mouth.

Sara Jobling - Yoga Teacher

Art & Creativity

Art Group - Monday Afternoons

The Art Group is running very much the same as usual. People come and go, but a nucleus of members stay long-term, as the group becomes an important part of their lives. That is not because they are all great artists, but more because they enjoy the challenge of painting and, even more so, value the social interaction the group offers.



One such couple joined the group a few months after me, and I have now been a member for nineteen years. Margaret really enjoyed painting, and Bob came primarily because he brought Margaret. Bob stopped coming last year due to Parkinson's Disease, but Margaret continued for a few months until her own health issues prevented her from attending. They were due to be our guests at the Christmas Lunch, but Margaret had to go into hospital and sadly passed away about a week ago.

The Art Group is not measured in paintings, brushes, and pencils, but in the social connections it offers people, many of whom are facing loss, loneliness, and declining health.

Keith Riley-Gledhill

Sandra Taylor Art Classes



As a self employed art tutor and artist, Springwell Village Community Venue is a great place to run my classes.

The centre holds many different events, from helping with the elderly and those struggling in life, alongside a busy well run cafe and events such as craft fairs and Pantomimes and a yearly 1940s weekend, organised by the hard working staff.



The learners in my class regularly spill over into attending these events and use the cafe because my classes are as much about socialising, making new friends and meeting like minded people as they are about learning new skills and producing work they are proud of.

My classes are open to all ages, although mainly retirement age. I have had new starters this year taking them through acrylic painting step by step, as well as my regulars who I help develop what they know.



I think it is important, especially for older persons to have somewhere to meet on a regular basis, sadly someone who had been with the class for about 10 years past away in 2025, which was felt keenly because he was like family. Hopefully we can welcome more new people in the coming year to join this special group.

The Crafty Ladies (Formerly The GAP Group)

The GAP Group originally stood for Golden Age People, but over the years the group has evolved and changed along with the people who attend. Our members really enjoy doing crafts together, although sometimes we simply have a chat or a game of bingo. We try to have a craft activity available each week to keep everyone interested, but there is never any pressure to take part. If someone prefers, they can simply sit, watch, and enjoy a chat with a cuppa and a biscuit.

We are a very sociable group and, over time, many of our members have formed lovely friendships. The group is a place where people can come together, support one another, share a laugh, and enjoy each other's company. It means a lot to everyone to have somewhere friendly to come each week.

The group has now become a ladies-only group and, as it has grown into more of a craft and natter group, we had a little competition to rename the group so that the name better reflects what we do today. It will continue as a welcoming ladies' craft group where people can be creative, make friends, and enjoy time together.

We would also like to bring in some tutors to teach new skills from time to time. Recently we worked with a tutor to create beautiful batik banners for Springwell Village Community Venue's 60th celebrations. It was a lovely experience for everyone and members really enjoyed the opportunity to learn something new.

Audrey Miller

Hirers

We were pleased to welcome a new NHS Diabetic Clinic to Springwell Village Community Venue, which began running in April 2025. The clinic operates fortnightly on Wednesdays from our Training Room, providing local residents with easier access to essential diabetic health support and regular monitoring.

This new partnership brings a much-needed community-based health service closer to home, helping to reduce travel barriers for patients and making appointments more accessible, particularly for those who may find travelling to hospital settings challenging.

Feedback from attendees has been very positive, with many valuing the convenience of a local clinic alongside the friendly and welcoming environment of the venue. The clinic has quickly become a valued addition to our programme of services and reflects our ongoing commitment to supporting health, wellbeing, and accessibility within the community.

We are pleased to continue hosting Julie's Handcrafted Glass, a local small business that has hired space at the venue for many years. Julie's creative workshops remain popular and offer people the chance to enjoy hands-on craft activities in a welcoming and relaxed setting.

This year included festive glass fusing workshops, where participants created their own decorations with no previous experience needed. These sessions support creativity, wellbeing, and social connection, while also helping a local independent business to thrive.



Echoes in the village - Community Choir

The choir continues to go from strength to strength and has grown into a fun, welcoming space where people connect through singing. Since starting in November, a supportive and relaxed group has developed, with the emphasis firmly on enjoyment, friendship, and exploring a wide mix of music rather than performance or pressure. We are regularly welcoming new members and now have a strong core group of around 15 people, alongside others who attend when they are able. It has been a real pleasure to see the group grow and develop so naturally.

Little Skills - Springwell Village F.C.

From January 2026, we are pleased to welcome Little Skills, delivered in partnership with Springwell Village FC, as a new weekly hirer at the venue.

The sessions will run every Sunday morning, offering fun, skills-based football and activity sessions designed to build children's confidence, teamwork, and physical wellbeing in a supportive and inclusive environment. This new group helps broaden our offer to families and young people while strengthening local community connections.

The partnership also builds on an existing relationship, with volunteers from Springwell Village FC already playing an active role in wider venue activity, including support at large-scale community events, litter picking, and event set-up. We are delighted to be growing this collaboration and look forward to its impact in the year ahead.

NEW INITIATIVES

Local Girl - Golden Hour Florist - Valentines, 1940s

Photographer - under 5s, 1940s etc

Colouring in - corridor

Community Partnerships & Supported Events

We are proud to support a range of community-led events and partnerships that bring people together while also contributing to the sustainability of the venue.

Gateshead Old Farts Scooter Club





We are always delighted to welcome the Gateshead Old Farts Scooter Club, who hire the venue once or twice each year to host their much-loved all-day scooter and Northern Soul events. These events are always a complete sell-out and bring a fantastic buzz to Springwell Village Community Venue.

Each event is a real spectacle, with customised scooters filling the car park and drawing in visitors who love stopping to admire the bikes. Inside, the atmosphere is just as impressive, with live DJs playing throughout the day, incredible music, and some truly standout outfits that add to the colour, energy, and fun of the occasion.

Beyond the events themselves, the Gateshead Old Farts Scooter Club continue to be incredible supporters of the venue. Members regularly give up their voluntary time to help in practical ways, from putting up Christmas decorations to offering general help whenever it's needed. Their willingness to muck in and support the wider community makes them a valued part of the Springwell Village family.

Their events bring people together, attract visitors to the venue, and create unforgettable days filled with music, style, and good vibes. We are hugely grateful for their ongoing support, generosity, and friendship, and always look forward to welcoming them back.





Our Disco

Our Disco continues to shine as a much-loved monthly social evening, delivered in partnership with a dedicated team of volunteers who work closely with us to create a welcoming, inclusive, and enjoyable night for all. The sessions bring together people of different ages and abilities, offering a relaxed space where everyone can socialise, dance, and have fun in a safe community setting.

This year, thanks to funding from The Washington Development Trust, we were able to purchase a new speaker system, something our volunteers were absolutely delighted with. The improved sound quality has enhanced the atmosphere and opened the door to even more entertainment opportunities.

One of the biggest additions has been karaoke, which has quickly become a standout feature of the night. Whether stepping up to the microphone or cheering others on, both younger and older attendees have embraced it with enthusiasm, filling the room with laughter, confidence, and community spirit.

We have also introduced themed discos, keeping the evenings fresh and exciting while giving people something new to look forward to each month. These events continue to strengthen friendships, reduce isolation, and provide an affordable night out that many in our community might otherwise go without.

Our Disco remains a fantastic example of what can be achieved when volunteers, partners, and community venues work together creating not just a great night of entertainment, but also supporting the ongoing sustainability of the venue.

Community Events Seasonal Events

Christmas Fair







Our annual Christmas Fair is always one of the biggest highlights in our calendar. It's the event that really gets everyone in the festive mood and brings the whole community together. As always, it was very well attended, with families coming along to enjoy the atmospher and kick start their Christmas celebrations.



This year we gave Santa's Grotto a full makeover, making it more magical and much more comfortable for Santa, his elf and all of the children visiting and the smiles on the children's faces said it all. We would like to say a very special thank you to Santa Claus as he is absolutely brilliant with the children and somehow seems to know just the right things to say to each of them, whether he's chatting about school, hobbies or reminding them to stay on the nice list, he makes every child feel special. We are so grateful for the time and care he gives to our families every year.

The Fair was full of festive cheer, with a great range of traders selling gifts, crafts and tasty treats. The building was buzzing all day with laughter, music and we also ran competitions for all the family, which were really popular and added to the fun. It was lovely to see different generations taking part together and enjoying the day.

A real highlight was the performance from Raise Your Voice Choir from Hebburn. They even performed a song they had written themselves, which was very special. The choir have also featured in local newspaper articles, helping to shine a spotlight on their talent and on our event.

As always, a huge thank you goes to our volunteers, who helped set up, decorate, support the Grotto and keep everything running smoothly. We are also very grateful to our traders and performers for helping make the day such a success. The Christmas Fair continues to be a much-loved community event that brings people together and leaves everyone feeling festive. We're already looking forward to doing it all again next year.

Sunderland City Council

Winter Wonderland Festival



This year we were delighted to launch 'Winter Wonderland' which was a brand new winter event that brought light, colour, and festive cheer to everyone during the colder months. With funding support from Sunderland City Council – Festival & Events Fund, we were able to contribute towards the costs of delivering a week full of free, joyful activities that truly captured the spirit of the season.

The venue was transformed with beautiful indoor and outdoor lighting, using solar-powered lights where possible, creating a magical winter glow that stopped people in their tracks. Many people commented on how special it looked and felt. Volunteers once again went above and beyond, helping to install displays and even build a festive sleigh, which became a much-loved photo spot throughout the week. Families, friends, and community groups enjoyed capturing memories together, with adults just as enchanted by the displays as the children.



The week culminated in a vibrant Winter Wonderland Festival Day, packed with festive fun from morning to evening. Children were entertained by colourful characters including the Grinch, Olaf, elves, a jolly penguin, dancing, laughing, and spreading festive cheer. A double-decker bus added something truly special, with free crafts upstairs and cookie decorating and Christingle workshops downstairs. The Christingle sessions were particularly meaningful, giving children the chance to learn about its symbolism and message in a hands-on, engaging way. Local traders joined us on site, while the café served hot food and drinks, helping everyone stay warm and well fed. Many families came along during the day and then returned later for the free disco, making the most of everything on offer and creating a shared celebration.



As a new event, it exceeded expectations and showed just how much people value something uplifting, welcoming, and free during the winter months. The lights, activities, and shared moments brought people together and created memories that will be fondly remembered long after the decorations came down.



Community Events

Family Fest

Sunderland City Council
Supported by Washington Area Committee

Family Fest was a fantastic celebration that brought the community together for a day filled with fun, entertainment, and sunshine. Blessed with beautiful weather, the event welcomed families from across the area to enjoy a lively programme designed for all ages.

Live music created a vibrant atmosphere throughout the day, including standout performances from talented solo artists. A particular highlight was the Ariana Grande tribute act, performed by local artist Laura Cairns, whose energy and vocals had the crowd thoroughly entertained.

Children were spoilt for choice with activities, from the ever-popular Bubble Whisperer, who amazed audiences with giant floating bubbles, to alpaca selfies, games, and interactive fun including Nerf the Minions. The variety ensured there was something for everyone, keeping smiles on faces from start to finish.

Family Fest once again demonstrated the power of community events in bringing people together, encouraging connection, and creating lasting memories. The laughter, music, and shared experiences made it a truly special day that many are already looking forward to repeating.





Thank you to everyone who joined us for Family Fest 2025 - What an incredible day filled with fun, laughter and community spirit. 🎉

To our amazing volunteers and staff, your hard work, energy and dedication made the event run smoothly and made it a day to remember. 🥰

And a huge thank you to our funders - Sunderland City Council Washington Area Committee for your generous support. Your support made this event possible and helped to create special memories for so many families 👨‍👩‍👧‍👦

Diamond Week 60th Anniversary

In September 2025, we proudly celebrated 60 years at the heart of our community with a week-long programme of events as part of our Diamond Week. Supported by Sunderland City Council through the Washington Area Committee Community Chest Grant, the celebrations brought together people of all ages to recognise the venue's past, present and future.

The week launched with a Night of Glitz and Glam, featuring live entertainment and a quiz, followed by a varied programme including group celebrations, family activities, youth and tots' parties, a tea dance and a sparkling variety show.

Visitors received a complimentary Diamond Week cupcake and commemorative mug, while special celebration graze boxes with surprise-prize scratch cards added to the fun. Displays of photographs and memories from across the past six decades also encouraged reminiscence and storytelling about the venue and its place within the community.

Most importantly, Diamond Week gave us an opportunity to recognise the countless volunteers, staff, partners, hirers, funders and community members who have contributed to the venue over the years. Sixty years is a remarkable milestone and a testament to the resilience, commitment and community spirit that continue to shape Springwell Village Community Venue today.





Community Events

1940s Weekend

The seventh annual Springwell Village 1940s Weekend took place in June 2025 and was our largest and most successful event to date. Proudly supported by Sunderland City Council Washington Area Committee, the weekend once again transformed the entire village into a vibrant celebration of heritage, community spirit and living history.

Proceedings opened on Saturday with a spectacular welcome from the Military Pipers and guards, greeting Melanie Thornton, Deputy Mayor of Sunderland. From that moment, the atmosphere across the village was electric. Sunday proved equally as strong, with high visitor numbers, a superb programme of entertainment and a fantastic sense of community pride throughout.

Live music filled the village across both days, while a wide range of traders and stalls created a bustling and varied marketplace. Re-enactment groups delivered authentic and educational living history displays, including firing demonstrations and battle re-enactments which drew large crowds. The camps, set against the outstanding backdrop of Bowes Railway, looked incredibly authentic and provided an immersive experience for visitors of all ages.

The event continues to grow in scale and reputation. A new addition for 2025 was a Friday evening play 'When The Balloon Went Up' a theatrical performance written by a local playwright, which added a cultural dimension to the weekend and was warmly received by audiences. The much-loved Fashion Show and Dog Show once again brought generations together, with young and old taking part in the spirit of the era.

Visitors travelled from across the North East and as far afield as Yorkshire, with many staying locally for the full weekend and actively participating in activities.

This year we were also proud to run our own on-site bakery, offering a range of home-baked products prepared through our community café. The bakery was extremely well supported, adding to the authentic atmosphere while generating additional income for the venue. Alongside this, we held a traders showcase and we enhanced the indoor decoration scheme with beautiful handmade poppy banners and themed backdrops, creating a striking and respectful visual tribute that complemented the weekend's commemorative focus.

One of the greatest strengths of the 1940s Weekend is that it is a true whole-village collaboration. The event is made possible through the collective efforts of community partners including Bowes Railway Museum, Community Opportunities, Springwell Village Primary School, Springwell Social Club, Springwell Village FC, The Guide Post, Springwell Methodist Church and Pennington Parkes Gentleman's Barber. Together with local traders, businesses and residents, the entire village comes together to create an event that reflects both heritage and heart.

The weekend simply would not go ahead without our incredible volunteers. From months of planning and promotion to stewarding, hosting activities, photography and supporting performers, their dedication is exceptional. Special thanks must be given to Jacquelyn Foggin, whose tirelessly works behind the scenes managing the marketing of Springwell Village 1940s Weekend Facebook page, ensuring the event continues to grow in profile each year.

The 1940s Weekend continues to strengthen community identity, attract regional visitors and boost the local economy. It provides meaningful volunteering opportunities, encourages intergenerational participation and showcases local heritage in an engaging and accessible way. Feedback has once again been overwhelmingly positive, with many commenting on the authenticity, warmth and welcoming atmosphere that makes Springwell Village unique.

Photographs from the event can be viewed on the Springwell Village 1940s Weekend Facebook page (June 2025).

We look forward to building on this success and bringing history to life once again in 2026.



















Community Events

Christmas Meal

Once again a fantastic success. Designed to be affordable for local residents, tickets were kept low-cost and sold out very quickly, with 100 guests attending. Guests enjoyed a delicious two-course meal in a beautifully decorated hall. The food was prepared, cooked and served by our amazing volunteers, who also set up and helped the day run smoothly.

Entertainment was provided by local singer Laura Cairns, and guests sang and danced the afternoon away, creating a warm and joyful atmosphere.

The feedback was extremely positive, and many guests were already asking for next year's date before the event had even ended.



100 guests welcomed to a festive celebration made possible by our incredible volunteers.

Easter Fair

Our Easter Fair was a fantastic success and marked the return of the event after a break of a few years. In the past, this event was known as a Spring Craft Fair, but we decided to rebrand it as an Easter Fair to allow us to introduce new themed activities.

Following the success of our Christmas grotto, it was suggested we created a Bunny Burrow experience, where children get the chance to meet the Easter bunny and we knew character meet-and-greet experiences are very popular with families. We came together to explore the idea, discuss what was possible, and develop activities that would appeal to the whole family. With the support of our volunteers, we were able to bring the vision to life and it proved to be incredibly popular on the day. Alongside this, we also introduced more traditional Easter elements, including an Easter bonnet competition and an Easter egg competition. Both were well participated in, with a great range of creative entries. It was especially lovely to see involvement from our groups, with our GAP group creating bonnets and our Together Time group decorating Easter eggs.

The event was very busy throughout, with a fantastic atmosphere across the venue. Other activities like the Easter crafts, and animal experiences were also very popular, keeping families engaged and entertained.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our volunteers who gave their time and energy to help plan and deliver the event, we simply couldn't have done it without you.

A special thank you goes to Crazy Creatures North East for attending and bringing along their amazing animals, which were a huge hit with visitors of all ages.

We would also like to thank all of our traders for helping to make the day such a great success. Your contribution created a vibrant and welcoming atmosphere across the venue.

Overall, the event was a brilliant community success, and we look forward to building on this momentum for future events.









Community Café & Bar

This past year has been another highly positive and rewarding one for the Cozy Café. It has been a privilege to see continued growth not only in opening hours and footfall, but in the strong sense of belonging the café creates for the community.

Our Thursday evening café now runs weekly and continues to grow in popularity, offering a welcoming space for families and residents to spend time together. The “Children Eat for £1” offer remains a key part of this, supporting families to access affordable meals in a friendly environment.

In September 2025, we launched a Sunday Café pilot, introducing affordable breakfasts, lunches and desserts. This has been extremely well received, and due to its success will continue as a regular weekly offer from January 2026. Through our partnership with Fareshare North East, we have been able to make effective use of fresh produce, reducing food waste while keeping meals nutritious and cost-effective.

The café has played an important role in supporting wider venue events throughout the year. Highlights included our Christmas Dinner Week and the introduction of a pop-up bakery during the 1940s Weekend, which proved both popular and financially beneficial. This was successfully repeated at the Christmas Fair. We have also enhanced the café experience through seasonal activities, themed décor and small engagement initiatives, helping to create a warm and inviting atmosphere.

Ongoing capital investment from The National Lottery Community Fund has enabled us to strengthen our infrastructure, introduce new equipment and improve systems, allowing us to respond to increased demand and deliver a more consistent service. We are also grateful to the Gateshead Old Farts Scooter Club for their continued support, including the donation of essential equipment which has significantly improved our capacity.

The café would not operate without our dedicated volunteers, whose time, commitment and growing responsibility are central to its success. We are also proud to support NEET young people through work experience placements, helping to build confidence, skills and positive future pathways.

Sustainability remains a key focus, with expanded recycling and waste facilities, compostable packaging and encouragement of reusable containers. Wider venue initiatives, including recycling schemes, continue to be well used and supported.

The Cozy Café is much more than a place to eat—it is a welcoming, inclusive space at the heart of the community. I am incredibly proud of what has been achieved and grateful to everyone who continues to play a part in its success.











Our social media continues to grow, increasing both reach and engagement.
92,900 views (+33.1%), with 57.7% from non-followers, showing strong reach beyond our existing audience.
21,894 viewers (+30.3%) and 650 interactions (+34.3%), reflecting improved engagement.
2,500 Facebook visits (+20.6%), with peaks linked to events and promotions.
78 new followers and only 15 unfollows, giving a net growth of 63 (+43.2%).
Overall, our content is reaching more people, attracting new audiences, and driving consistent engagement, particularly around key events.



Google reviews - new QR code stands in cafe

new booking system next year

QR codes on posters

Good afternoon Jackie and Suzanne,
Thank you very much for allowing me to come and visit your amazing venue today and meet some of your service users.
I was absolutely blown away by the venue, how busy it was and the overall sense of pride and community. I can honestly say I have never been to a community centre which is as busy, thriving and well attended. The café area looked immaculate, I just wish I had of stayed to try some food.
I was delighted to have 17 attendees to my Fraud and Scams awareness session this morning, this was truly amazing. Everyone was full engaged and great participation.
Following on from the session please can I kindly ask that you share the below with all who attended leaving feedback and scoring me out of 10. I hope that everyone found today 10 out of 10 these scores are important, my full name for reference is Hannah McDonald and I presented on the topic of Fraud and Scams.

Marketing & Your Community Voice

Throughout 2025–26, we have continued to grow our digital presence, using social media and our website to keep our community informed, promote our activities and events and make it easier for people to connect with everything happening at SVCV.

1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026

Facebook Performance
1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026

1.1 Million Views	10.2K Content Interactions
479 Link Clicks	35.9K Visits
706 Follows Gained	2,538 Total Audience

Our Facebook page continues to reach beyond our existing followers, connecting with new people in our community and wider areas.

Website Performance
Last 12 Months



39,552
Website Visitors

Our website has become a key information hub for the venue, with regular updates to keep people informed about activities, events, room hire and services.

Looking ahead to 2026–27
We will be introducing a new online booking system, making it even easier for people to find out about and book activities and events at SVCV.

Your Words

What our community, visitors and partners say about SVCV

Feedback from the people who visit, use and work with SVCV is incredibly important to us. It helps us understand our impact, recognise what we do well and identify where we continue to improve.

> First impression was how welcoming I felt when I came in Lovely friendly staff and very helpful. The café is immaculate and fresh and the food is an absolute dream.

Visitor review
Google Review

> I was absolutely blown away by the venue, how busy it was and the overall sense of pride and community. I can honestly say I have never been to a community centre which is as busy, thriving and well attended.

Professional feedback
Following a community awareness session

> Had a wonderful day once again. This hall is amazing not only one day but all year round.

Community event feedback

> Together Time has made such a difference to me. I look forward to Thursdays so much – the trips, the chats and the friendships we've built mean everything.

Together Time participant

Every comment, review and message helps us understand the difference SVCV makes and encourages our staff and volunteers to continue giving their very best to our community.

Marketing, Digital Growth & Community Engagement

Throughout 2025–26, we have continued to grow our digital presence, using social media and our website to keep our community informed, promote our activities and events and make it easier for people to connect with everything happening at SVCV.

1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026
(Financial Year)

FACEBOOK PERFORMANCE
1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026

1.1 MILLION Views	**10.2K** Content Interactions
479 Link Clicks	**35.9K** Visits
706 Follows Gained	**2,538** Total Audience

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WEBSITE PERFORMANCE
Last 12 Months



39,552
Website Visitors

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>
> ★★★★★

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Every comment, review and message helps us understand the difference SVCV makes and encourages our staff and volunteers to continue giving their very best to our community.

Charity registration number 520900

SPRINGWELL VILLAGE COMMUNITY VENUE

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

SPRINGWELL VILLAGE COMMUNITY VENUE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	C Smiles D Taylor R Candlish R Nesbitt A Gill J Graham D Ellwood R Proctor K Reader N Foggin A Bain S Shaftoe (Secretary) A Coburn J Foggin D McIntyre J Carter
Charity number	520900
Principal address	Springwell Village Community Venue Fell Road Gateshead NE9 7RP
Independent examiner	Clover Accounting 4 The Pastures Coulby Newham TS8 0UJ

SPRINGWELL VILLAGE COMMUNITY VENUE

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SPRINGWELL VILLAGE COMMUNITY VENUE

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF SPRINGWELL VILLAGE COMMUNITY VENUE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Springwell Village Community Venue (the charity) for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement
Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.
I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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 that in any material respect:

1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3 the financial statements do 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 financial statements to be reached.

Hatfield

Kathryn Hatfield FCCA
Clover Accounting
4 The Pastures
Coulby Newham
TS8 0UJ

Dated: 22 September 2026

SPRINGWELL VILLAGE COMMUNITY VENUE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Current financial year

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Total 2025 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	47,784	101,818	149,602	199,674
Charitable activities	3	127,861	-	127,861	126,868
Other income		-	-	-	-
Total income		175,645	101,818	277,463	326,542
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	4	146,752	132,314	279,066	288,246
Net movement in funds		28,893	(30,496)	(1,603)	38,296
Fund balances at 1 April 2025		34,997	68,610	103,607	65,311
Fund balances at 31 March 2026		63,890	38,114	102,004	103,607

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

SPRINGWELL VILLAGE COMMUNITY VENUE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

Prior financial year

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	2	22,016	177,658	199,674
Charitable activities	3	126,868	-	126,868
Other income		-	-	-
Total income		148,884	177,658	326,542
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	4	144,783	143,463	288,246
Net movement in funds		4,101	34,195	38,296
Fund balances at 1 April 2024		30,896	34,195	38,296
Fund balances at 31 March 2025		34,997	68,610	103,607

SPRINGWELL VILLAGE COMMUNITY VENUE

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2026

	Notes	2026 £	2026 £	2025 £	2025 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		10,300		12,890
			10,300		12,890
Current assets					
Stocks	9	-		7,528	
Debtors	10	7,595		68	
Cash at bank and in hand		86,217		86,330	
		93,812		93,926	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(2,108)		(3,209)	
Net current assets			91,704		90,717
Total assets less current liabilities			102,004		103,607
Income funds					
Restricted funds	12		38,114		68,610
Unrestricted funds - general					
Designated funds		-		-	
General unrestricted funds		63,890		34,997	
			63,890		34,997
			102,004		103,607

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 22 September 2026



C Smiles
Chair

1 Accounting policies

Charity information
Springwell Village Community Venue is an unincorporated charity, registered charity number 520900.

1.1 Accounting convention
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 “The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland” (“FRS 102”) and the Charities SORP "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)" (effective 1 January 2019). 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 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 £.

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 statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds
Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

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 Income
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.

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

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:

Furniture	20% reducing balance
Computer equipment	33% reducing balance

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 the statement of financial activities.

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 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost comprises direct materials and, where applicable, direct labour costs and those overheads that have been incurred in bringing the stocks to their present location and condition. Items held for distribution at no or nominal consideration are measured the lower of replacement cost and cost.

1.9 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.

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2026 £	Restricted funds 2026 £	Total 2026 £	Unrestricted funds general 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Donations and gifts	47,759	-	47,759	21,890	-	21,890
Subscriptions	25	-	25	126	-	126
Grants	-	101,818	101,818	-	177,658	177,658
	47,784	101,818	149,602	22,016	177,658	199,674

3 Charitable activities

	Other trading activities 2026 £	Other trading activities 2025 £
Sections - karate	67	130
Group – children & young peoples activities	24,120	19,078
Rents	9,594	9,523
Community café & bar	88,780	89,104
Stage productions	2,665	6,828
Social & leisure	2,635	2,205
	127,861	126,868
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds – general	127,861	126,868
Restricted funds	-	-
	127,861	126,868

4 Charitable activities

	2026	2025
	£	£
Children & young peoples activities	-	1,478
Employee costs	96,534	87,336
Community café & bar	43,185	44,978
Community charge	-	-
Stage production	2,842	2,206
Social & leisure	266	121
Fund raising activities	1,041	4,030
Depreciation	2,590	3,244
Grant spend	105,013	118,114
	251,471	261,507
Share of support costs (see note 5)	26,755	25,899
Share of governance costs (see note 5)	840	840
	279,066	288,246
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds – general	146,752	144,783
Restricted funds	132,314	143,463
	279,066	288,246

5 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2026	Support costs	Governance costs	2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Utilities	10,526	-	10,526	11,935	-	11,935
Insurance	2,982	-	2,982	1,305	-	1,305
Postage & stationery	2,554	-	2,554	3,511	-	3,511
Refuse & sundry	-	-	-	-	-	-
Repairs & renewals	3,136	-	3,136	4,467	-	4,467
Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sundries	1,212	-	1,212	-	-	-
Professional fees	6,085	-	6,085	4,421	-	4,421
Accountancy fees	260	840	1,100	260	840	1,100
	26,755	840	27,595	25,899	840	26,739
Analysed between						
Charitable activities	26,755	840	27,595	25,899	840	26,739

Governance costs includes payments for the independent examination of £840 (2025: £840).

6 Trustees

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

7 Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings	Computer	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 April 2025	20,000	778	20,778
At 31 March 2026	20,000	778	20,778
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 April 2025	7,200	688	7,888
Depreciation charged in the year	2,560	30	2,590
At 31 March 2026	9,760	718	10,478
Carrying amount			
At 31 March 2026	10,240	60	10,300
At 31 March 2025	12,800	90	12,890

9 Stocks

	2026	2025
	£	£
Bar stock	-	7,528

10 Debtors

	2026	2025
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Other debtors	7,527	-
Prepayments and accrued income	68	68
	7,595	68

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2026	2025
	£	£
Deferred income	-	-
Accruals	2,108	3,209
	2,108	3,209

12 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	Movement in funds: Incoming resources	Resources expended	Revaluations, gains and losses	Balance at 31 March 2026
	£	£	£	£	£
National Lottery Community Fund – Reaching Communities Programme	9,777	42,986	(37,545)	-	15,218
Awards for All England National Lottery Grant	3,545	-	(3,545)	-	-
Awards for All	-	19,534	(2,104)	-	17,430
Sir James Knott Trust	8,333	-	(8,333)	-	-
Garfield Weston Foundation	16,000	-	(16,000)	-	-
The Ballinger Trust	8,000	15,000	(23,000)	-	-
Sport England Award	13,500	-	(10,800)	-	2,700
Community Foundation	7,122	-	(7,122)	-	-
Arnold Clark Community Fund	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
Sir John Priestman	1,333	-	(1,333)	-	-
Sunderland City Council	-	1,658	(1,658)	-	-
Sunderland City Council – 60th Anniversary	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Sunderland City Council Resident Engagement	-	4,915	(4,915)	-	-
Sunderland City Council Festival & Events	-	1,875	(1,875)	-	-
Rothley Trust	-	1,250	(1,250)	-	-
Hedley Grant	-	2,000	(1,333)	-	667
The Joicey Trust	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Catherine Cookson	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
Archer Trust	-	1,500	(1,500)	-	-
Durham Freemasons	-	2,100	-	-	2,100
	68,610	101,818	(132,314)	-	38,114

13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2026	2026	2026	2025	2025	2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances are represented by:						
Tangible assets	10,300	-	10,300	12,890	-	12,890
Current assets/(liabilities)	53,590	38,114	91,704	22,107	68,610	90,717
	63,890	38,114	102,004	34,997	68,610	103,607

14 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2025 - none).