

Annual Report for Fairfield Village Community Association

From: 1st January 2025

To: 31st December 2025

Objectives and Activities

(SORP Para 1.17 to 1.19)

The purpose of Fairfield Village Community Association is to further community life within the Fairfield Parish Ward (Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge) and to support the preservation of the existing and future environment of the community.

In 2024, the Community Association application to become a Registered Charity was declined by the Charity Commission. The Commission, Funders, Insurers and other stakeholders have not objected to the Association continuing as a non-profit making group. Even though not registered with the Charity Commission, the Committee of the Community Association has adopted as best practice the rules of the Charity Commission and guidance on public benefit. This report has been produced following the Charity Commission's Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

Fairfield and its environs are dormitory settlements where social isolation is an issue amongst older, less mobile people, due to the community's proximity to nearby towns, the City of Birmingham, and the motorway network. The Association works to improve community cohesion, build local pride and to enhance the mental, social & physical well-being of all in our community.

The Association:

- Produces a quarterly newsletter,
- Organises:
 - activities that help reduce loneliness & social isolation that is often experienced by older members of our community, such as The Wednesday Social,
 - events that bring the community together, such as the annual village picnic and Festive Fairfield,
- Delivers
 - Bromsgrove Arts at the Village Hall, a cinema & live entertainment experience screening movies, Event Cinema and live stream events & hosting great acts that bring people together.
 - Foodie Fairfield, a monthly Market Hall in the Village Hall, and the Forfeld Store, a weekly afternoon community shop.
- As a body, the Association works with strategic partners to help create a safe and accessible community for all, promoting crime prevention, championing road safety, and keeps the community tidy with monthly litter picks.

Fairfield Village Community Association is the verified [Neighbourhood Watch Group](#) for Fairfield & Stoneybridge.

The Association has delivered activities that contributes to the positive well-being of residents, enhances community cohesion, and maintains the local environment.

Achievements and Performance

(SORP Para 1.20)

It has been another busy year for the Community Association, working to enhance community cohesion, reduce loneliness & social isolation and improve our local environment.

Our activities continue to enhance individual well-being through volunteering or participation, with many people benefiting from our initiatives, and there is an increased sense of pride in the area where people live.

Summary Of Our Activities

The Association continues to keep residents up to date with local news, events and crime prevention advice through the publication of the quarterly newsletters, which is distributed to nearly every dwelling across the ward area, and the Association's website and social media accounts are regularly maintained, plus a near daily eNewsletter is sent to subscribers.

The Association, who have a good relationship with the local policing team, periodically meet the team to discuss local issues, and the team holds occasional surgeries at Foodie Fairfield, allowing residents to raise any issues and concerns they may have.

Foodie Fairfield, the Association's monthly Market Hall in the Village Hall, continues as a social and shop initiative, where people can buy quality artisan foods, from local food producers, as well as using the occasion as a social catch up with friends & neighbours. The delivery of this initiative could not be achieved without the support of shoppers and local food producing stall holders.

The Forfeld Store, our community shop, is open during Foodie Fairfield, on a Wednesday afternoon and a limited amount of stock is available to buy during screenings and shows. The shop sells locally sourced and artisan foods that are not available from the Foodie Fairfield traders.

The monthly Dining Group lunches ended in June 2025, with nobody willing to take over the coordination.

Wednesday afternoon socials take place on the first, second and third Wednesday of each month, with a programme that includes table tennis, guest speakers, indoor curling, knit & natter and board games. Numbers attending vary depending on the activity or guest speaker.

For those months with a fifth Wednesday, the table tennis tables are got out and the bar is opened for Paddle & Pint, a popular evening event.

The unpredictable and inclement weather again hit the annual picnic, with the event being held in the village hall rather than on the Recreation Ground, with entertainment from Dippy the Clown.

Throughout the year there have been monthly litter picks, and during the year volunteers washed street & bus stop signs across the community. Volunteers have maintained the Yew Tree Lane planter and cut back the hedge around the Wood Lane bench.

In January 2025, with permission from the Parish Council, and with the support of the County Council, a Coronation Orchard, containing apple, pear and plum trees, was planted, and in October 2025 snowdrop and wild daffodils bulbs were planted around each tree. With financial assistance from the County Councillor Divisional Fund, an information lectern has been ordered, detailing each tree planted, and will be sited in early 2026.

The community marked VE-Day 80 with a well-attended 1940s night at the village hall.

Our ever-growing Bromsgrove Arts programme, included:

- National Theatre Live productions,

- Blockbuster & independent movies,
- Andre Rieu summer and Christmas concerts,
- Cinema Live's Big Screen Musical Season
- Participation in the French Film Festival 2025,
- Live music from acts including Midland Concert Orchestra, Calypso Moon, Small Changes, Jack Goodall & Ricky Cool and the In Crowd, Brass Beatz and, returning from Nashville USA, Willow Hill.
- Drama on the stage with Don't Go Into The Cellar, Weeping Bank Library and Smokescreen Productions.

Festive activities were organised including the Rock Around The Christmas Tree and a New Year's Eve movie. Unfortunately, due to lack of interest, with only a couple of tickets being sold, it has been decided to pause New Years Eve events. The Association helped organise the annual Crib Service that took place in the village hall, due to there being no heating at St. Mark's; once again, residents acted out the Nativity and the event was enjoyed by all. The Association also helped the Swan Inn in delivering Breakfast with Santa.

The Association worked closely with St. Mark's to deliver a well-attended Harvest Festival and Remembrance Services.

The committee of the Community Association continues to have a very good working relationship with the Village Hall trustees, and the Association regular promotes recreational activities taking place at the hall. The Association also supports Fairfield Women's Institute in promoting their annual Produce Show and making the show schedule available via the Association's website.

Where consultations and planning applications have a potential impact on the community, the Association endeavours to provide an informed response.

The Association recognises the importance of a safe & accessible community and continues to receive comments from residents with regard inconsiderate parking and vehicles driving at an inappropriate speed. The Association has used opportunities to raise issues & concerns with the appropriate bodies and will work with partners to deliver suitable outcomes.

Fairfield Village Community Association is not anyone person or group of people, it is teams of people having pride in where they live, and our thanks to every one of our volunteers & supporters for making Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge a great place to live.

Financial Review

Para 1.21

Receipts and Payments Accounts, see page 10, have been prepared and will be independently examined.

At the year-end there was a deficit of £551, which we find acceptable.

The vast majority of our income and expenditure relates to our Bromsgrove Arts (BARTS) and Shop activities.

With regard BARTS; National Theatre & Event Cinema screenings are currently very beneficial when it comes to generating net income, and some very good live music shows have generated some very good bar sales. Profits made from these initiatives have been spent on providing activities for the community, whether covering full costs or subsidising.

The Community Association operates a dual control system of authorising payments from the bank account.

Principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)

(SORP Para 1.47)

Continual fundraising is needed to finance our many initiatives, which have been outlined above in our Achievements and Performance.

Our main source of income relating to our Events & Trading activities; buying stock for the shop & bar, and ticket sales for screenings and shows.

Our thanks to everyone who supports our fundraising activities, and to those organisations & individuals that have given us grants & donations during 2025.

<u>Receipts</u>		
	2024	2025
Grants Received		
Worcestershire County Council	1,000.00	700.00
Bromsgrove District Council		647.00
B&F Parish Council	400.00	200.00
	1,400.00	1,547.00
Donations		
Wildmoor Residents Assoc	470.00	-
Estate of Aevril Parks		1,000.00
Swan Inn		60.00
Rock Around the Christmas Tree		100.50
Ink Cartridge Recycling	-	33.50
Harvest Festival Collection		55.00
Other donations	233.67	287.37
	703.67	1,536.37

Easyfundraising	79.18	84.73
	79.18	84.73
Events & Trading		
Foodie Fairfield Stall Fees	990.00	865.00
BARTS Ticket Sales	17,680.37	22,012.30
Activity Fees	610.00	77.90
Shop/Bar/Café	11,320.86	18,322.92
Santa's Grotto	56.90	-
	30,658.13	41,278.12
Apple Press	68.00	70.00
	68.00	70.00
Remembrance	175.00	145.05
	175.00	145.05
Misc		
Reimbursement from Parish Council for Christmas Tree purchased on their behalf		200.00
Reimbursement from Parish Council for bulbs purchased on their behalf		69.99
		269.99
Receipts Total	33,083.98	44,931.26

Expenditure

The Community Association has used the revenue it has generated to deliver the initiatives outlined in the section Achievements and Performance, on page 2, insurance and other costs relating to our activities and managing the Community Association.

Our largest expenditure relates to purchasing stock for the bar and shop, and payment for shows & screenings.

At the start of 2025 we had full transitioned from selling online tickets on the TicketLab platform to being able to sell directly via our own website, resulting in an increase in card transactions fees. By selling through our own website, the net amount received from the sale of each ticket was slightly higher and the risk of using a third party was eliminated.

Payments		
	2024	2025
Insurance		
	284.18	285.32
	284.18	285.32
Publicity, printing and photocopying		
	3,015.83	
Publicity		2,193.24
Printing and photocopying		2,185.83
	3,015.83	4,379.07
IT Costs		
	1,229.04	1,215.21
	1,229.04	1,215.21
Subscriptions		
Community Matters	40.00	25.00
Cinema4All	95.00	95.00
Bromsgrove Arts Alive	10.00	15.00
	145.00	135.00
Litter picking		
Helpinghands	75.55	-
	75.55	-
Events & Trading		
AGM	39.49	
Bromsgrove Arts	11,137.84	17,330.33
Shop/Bar/Café	15,442.82	17,139.45
Wednesday Social	438.42	488.65
Tipsy Gin	402.00	-
Midland Mixo		50.00
Wine Tasting	240.00	-
Picnic	460.00	335.00
Harvest Festival	44.95	-

Wreath Making	520.00	-
Festive Fairfield	208.00	100.00
Haloween	575.00	-
Other		57.94
	29,508.52	35,501.37
Community Projects		
Bench	494.95	-
Planter	100.00	-
Installation of Bench	110.76	-
Compost & Gravel Yew Tree Lane Planter		18.99
Laquered plaque for Yew Tree Lane planter		34.73
Bulbs for Coronation Orchard (FVCA Contribution)		69.99
Information display board for Coronation Orchard		958.80
	705.71	1,082.51
Defibrillator		
Replacement Parts	146.34	-
	146.34	-
Remembrance		
Collection - Remembrance Sunday	175.00	145.05
Collection - VE 80		66.69
Royal British Legion - Large Poppies		280.00
Royal British Legion - Wreath		29.50
Royal British Legion	50.99	
	225.99	521.24
Equipment		
Indoor Curling	384.00	
Library Trolley		276.00
Display Freezer		346.80
Charity Collection Buckets		23.82
	384.00	646.62
Merchant Fees		
Card Transaction Fee	126.71	464.28
	126.71	464.28
Misc		
Christmas Tree (£200.00 paid by Parish Council)	20.00	220.00
Xmas Tree Recycling	40.00	-

Donation to Fairfield Village Hall		500.00
Donation to Bromsgrove Lions - 1940s Night		338.50
Harvest Festival - Collection donated to Royal Countryside Fund		55.00
Beer Glasses		18.00
Spring bulbs purchased on behalf of the Parish Council		69.99
Misc	2.75	50.41
Accounting Adjustment	- 1.00	-
	61.75	1,251.90
Payments Total	35,908.62	45,482.52

Stock

The retail value of stock held was (approximately) £5219.90.

Structure and Governance

Type of governing document	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the organisation constituted?	Para 1.25	Unincorporated Association

Reference and Administrative details

Organisation name	Fairfield Village Community Association
Other names the organisation uses	Fairfield Community Association, Bromsgrove Arts
Registered charity number	Unregistered
Organisation's principal address	10 Pepperwood Close Fairfield Bromsgrove B61 9ND

Names of the committee members who manage the charity

	Committee Member Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	Conrad Palmer	Chairman	
2	Yvonne Watton	Treasurer	
	Carole Morris		
3	Mary Gibbs		
4	Geoff Cotterill		
5	Sue Wilkes		
6	Carol Brogan		

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature	
Full name	Conrad Palmer
Position	Chairman
Date	29 th January 2026

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	1st Jan 2025	To	31st Dec 2025
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grants Received	1,547	-	-	1,547	1,400
Donations	1,536	-	-	1,536	704
Easyfundraising (Online Commission)	85	-	-	85	79
Events & Trading	41,278	-	-	41,278	30,658
Apple Press	70	-	-	70	68
Remembrance Service	145	-	-	145	175
Misc	270	-	-	270	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	44,931	-	-	44,931	33,084
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	44,931	-	-	44,931	33,084
A3 Payments					
Insurance	285	-	-	285	284
Publicity, printing and photocopying	4,379	-	-	4,379	3,016
IT costs	1,215	-	-	1,215	1,229
Subscriptions	135	-	-	135	145
Litter Picking	-	-	-	-	76
Events & Trading	35,501	-	-	35,501	29,509
Community Projects	1,083	-	-	1,083	706
Neighbourhood Watch	-	-	-	-	-
Defibrillator - Replacement Parts	-	-	-	-	146
Remembrance Service	521	-	-	521	226
Activity Equipment	647	-	-	647	384
Card Merchant Fees	464	-	-	464	127
Misc	1,252	-	-	1,252	62
Sub total	45,483	-	-	45,483	35,910
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	45,483	-	-	45,483	35,910
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 551	-	-	- 551	- 2,826
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	4,731	-	-	4,731	7,556
Cash funds this year end	4,179	-	-	4,179	4,730

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank Account	4,029	-	-
	Float	150	-	-
	Unbanked cash	-	-	-
	Total cash funds	4,179	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Conrad Palmer	29/01/2026	
		Yvonne Watton	29/01/2026	