

Trustees' Annual Report including
Annual Receipts & Payments Accounts

for

Coldstream Community Larder

for the year

to 31st May 2026



Scottish Charity No: SC052421

Index

Page 3	Reference & Administrative Information
Page 4	Trustees Annual Report:
	Structure Governance & Management
	Objectives & Activities
Page 4 - 8	Achievements & Performance
Page 8	Financial Review & Statement of Trustees
Page 9-12	Annual Accounts:
	Page 9 Receipts & Payments Account
	Page 9 Statement of Balances
	Page 10 – 12 Notes to the Accounts
Page 13-14	Independent Examiners Report

Reference & Administrative Information

Charity Name: Coldstream Community Larder

Scottish Charity No: SC052421

The Charity's Principal and Registered Address: Coldstream Community Annexe
Home Place
COLDSTREAM
TD12 4DT

Management Committee on date of approval including office held:

Chairperson	John Edwards
Treasurer	Alison Campbell
Secretary	vacant
Trustee	Michael Rowe
Trustee	Dawn Clough
Trustee	Christine Johnston
Trustee	Maureen McCorry
Trustee	Isla Tait

Independent Examiner: Abigail Hallas.
Borders Community Action
1 Drygrange Cottages,
Drygrange Steading,
Melrose,
Td6 9DJ

Bankers: Cooperative Bank
PO Box 101
1 Balloon Street,
Manchester
M60 4EP

Structure, Governance & Management

Governing Document:

The Charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) that was incorporated on 21st March 2023 after several months operating as an unincorporated organisation.

Trustee Recruitment & Appointment:

As set out in our constitution, the members of the Trust elect at least five and up to ten Trustees to join the Management Committee at each Annual General Meeting (AGM). From amongst themselves, the Trustees elect a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer, and the holders of any other offices. Between AGMs the Management Committee may co-opt new Trustees to fill vacancies. The Management Committee meet monthly.

Objectives & Activities

The Charity's Charitable Purpose:

As set out in the constitution and The Charities and Trustee Investments (Scotland) Act 2005 the purpose(s) of Coldstream Community Trust SCIO are the following: -

- a) To promote environmentally friendly lifestyles and the reduction of food waste
- b) To encourage the development of a more circular economy focusing on reducing, repairing, re-using and recycling all types of resources
- c) To promote volunteering and community involvement and a culture of sharing
- d) To support efforts to improve biodiversity, to protect nature and expand accessible green spaces
- e) To support the development of more sustainable food systems
- f) To help and collaborate with others to develop more sustainable energy use in buildings
- g) To purchase, take on lease, hire, or otherwise acquire, any property or rights which are suitable for the association's activities
- h) To liaise with other voluntary sector bodies, local authorities, UK or Scottish government departments and agencies, and other bodies, with a view to furthering the association's objects
- i) To accept appropriate grants, donations and legacies and to accept any reasonable conditions attaching to them
- j) To do anything which may be incidental or conducive to the furtherance of any of the association's objects.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these purposes:

The charity's main objectives in relation to the above are:

To run a Community Larder to encourage the use of food that would otherwise go to landfill and to encourage residents of Coldstream to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

Chairman's Report on Achievement & Performance

It's been a full year since our AGM last September and what an amazing time it has been! The Annexe continues to be a fantastic asset used by the larder and other groups. The building is in excellent shape with recent improvements include a completely new heating system, hot water timer and an additional large upright freezer.

Our prime concern is the reduction of waste including collecting surplus food from local supermarkets and providing local people the opportunity of using the food while it is still fresh. We are vitally concerned for the environment and have provided many ways and means to recycle all manner of material from medical blister packs, milk bottle tops and spectacles through to soft plastics, vapes and bras.

All this has been achieved in great measure through the tireless efforts of the volunteers and management team. Within a 12-month period from June 2025 to May 2026 the Community Larder has distributed the following items, amounting to well over 40 tonnes in total, saving them from landfill:

Total number of visits: 5,535

Total number of items distributed: 59,548

Consisting of:

Cupboard items	12,766
Household items	1,344
Toiletries	2,326
Fruit & Veg	13,930
Fridge items	7,573
Freezer items	7,157
Pet food	1,985
Bakery	12,467 (excluding bakery that went to feed animals)

Donations have been generously provided by our good friends in the Coldstream Co-op, Sainsburys, Morrison's, Lidl, Asda, and M&S. We have two major deliveries per week from Fareshare with a newly added freezer food only delivery on Fridays.

Every donation to the Larder is picked up by volunteers, travelling on a daily basis to the Co-op and regularly to Kelso, Berwick and Duns. Once in the building all items need to be sorted, checked for use-by dates, labelled and stored. Such are the efforts of our 56 active volunteers that we average over 400 volunteer hours each month.

The gardening team has worked hard over the past year with the resulting bountiful yield of vegetables, herbs and beautiful flowers. Donated vegetables that are past their best are composted thereby adding organic fertilizer to the raised beds. The team has installed a recycled polytunnel which will prove a great asset moving forward. Several successful apple press days have been held.

The Larder's commitment to environmental issues continued this year with recycling boxes provided in the Larder for ink cartridges, single use plastics and blister packs, bras, vapes and batteries. These facilities together with the garden and the provision of foodstuffs that would otherwise go to landfill underlines the Larder's commitment to environmental issues.

The Larder supported the "Let's Eat Better" healthy food cookery course this year where participants got excellent tuition on how to make best use of the foods that are often on offer in the Larder.

Coffee mornings which were held in October and March raised over £1,000 contributing to the cost of running the Larder utilities as well as providing the opportunity of presenting the

Larder to the wider community. We were delighted to receive an individual donation of £9,000 which will be used when required for utilities and equipment.

The Larder participated in Volunteer Week by posting on social media what the Larder meant to a number of volunteers. A volunteers' "thank you" get-together was held in the Homestead Café in June of this year.

In conclusion I would like to thank our Committee, Alison our Treasurer; Carole; Christine our garden co-ordinator; Dawn for doing the monthly rota and co-ordinating many of the Larder's functions; Isla; Maureen and Mike.

In concluding these remarks, I would like to pay homage to our wonderful volunteers without whom the Coldstream Community Larder would not be the great success it is. We look forward to serving our community in the coming year.

John Edwards, Chair

Fundraising Events

Fundraising events which we have run have only been possible through the hard work of the Trustees, our willing volunteers and others who have given of their time and energy.

- We held two successful coffee mornings.
- Scottish Borders Council also generously allowed us to share in some of their purchasing discounts

Other Means of Fundraising

- **Renting out the spare room** The Berwickshire Connect Youth Drop In sessions have continued to take place most weeks and they pay a small hourly fee to use the space. The Scottish Border Council "What Matters Hubs" run each month from our room and we also now rent to a "Stitch and Click" group and a group for home-educated children.

Voluntary Help and Gifts in Kind

In addition to the work of the Management Committee, we have a fantastic band of volunteers who work extremely hard preparing for when we are open, collecting and sorting food and cleaning the building. We also have a dedicated team of gardeners who have transformed the garden at the back of the Annexe with the garden in autumn of 2024 and 2025 being awarded Gold at the Greener Gateway Awards for Sustainability from Scottish Borders Council. We also worked with the Let's Eat Better CICC to deliver cooking classes which were extremely well received. In total we currently have 57 volunteers, of which 46 are active on our rota.

Building

During the financial year we have been able to upgrade our heating including a scheduling system which will allow us to be more energy efficient and improve both our carbon footprint and our energy bills.

Grants/Funding

We received the following grants during the financial year: -

- **Co-op** The carried forward monies (£1,004) plus the balance we received relating to the previous year (1,527) gave us a total of £2,531 to spend during the year. The grant funded £776 of food purchases and £1,755 of our FareShare bill. FareShare are a charity we work with who redistribute food that might otherwise go to landfill and charge only delivery costs. The Co-op also allowed shoppers to buy Christmas saving stamps for the Larder raising £250 which was spent on food for the larder.
- **Corra** granted us £3,000 during the period which we spent on food purchases (£687) and a contribution to our Fareshare subscription (£2,096). The £217 balance is being carried forward.
- **J Sainsbury** We applied for and were successful in receiving £1,500 from J Sainsbury which was required to be spent on cookery lessons. £265 of this remains to be used for this purpose in 2026-2027.
- **Lidl** gave us £500 to be spent on winter fuel pressures. £473 was spent on our winter fuel bill and £27 was used to partly fund the upgraded radiators fitted this year.
- **LINK Housing** awarded us £500 to be spent on cooking lessons and/or gardening support. This grant has not yet been spent but cookery lessons have been scheduled for autumn 2026.
- **SBCAN** granted us £500 to organise a repair café and purchase gardening equipment. The repair café was a success and we were able to buy parts to allow our recycled polytunnel to be resurrected!
- **Warburtons** awarded us £400 to work with the Men's Shed to create new small raised beds and fill them with flowers to attract pollinators.
- **ASDA** gave us £600 to purchase non-food essentials e.g. toiletries and household cleaners.
- **Arnold Clark** gave us £750 to be spent on cooking lessons. Only £28 of this grant has been spent so far but cookery lessons have been scheduled for autumn 2026.
- **Individual donations** The Larder was extremely lucky to be given £9,000 on the sale of the Lennel Estate. This is a very significant amount of money and comes with no restrictions. We are immensely grateful for this donation as we are for all the donations from our users via the donations box or online as these help us to cover the running costs.

We are hugely grateful to all of these individuals and organisations as without their help we could not operate the larder.

Looking to the Future

Our future plans are likely to include:-

- Continuing to broaden our recycling and food waste initiatives
- Supporting basic cooking skills education
- Potentially working with Abundant Borders to provide garden-based events
- Educating ourselves and others on good environmental practice
- Increasing the use of our building as a free resource to charitable groups or those who are offering a much needed service to the community e.g. what matters hubs, BHA advice sessions, debt advisers etc.

Financial Review

We are pleased to report that we have a significant surplus this year on the General Funds of £11,849 (prior year £571). In addition we added £700 to restricted reserves (2025 net drawdown from restricted reserves of £590). This means that we have a net increase in year of total reserves of £12,549 and a total balance on reserves of £19,350 (2025 £6,802).

The Trustees are responsible for the keeping of proper accounting records which must show the financial position at any one time. To this end Management Committee are given, by the Treasurer, details of the financial position at each Management Committee meeting. This must be done to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding all the assets of the Charity and must take reasonable steps for the prevention and /or detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of Reserves Policy:

In normal years, the Trustees consider it desirable that annual expenditure is met out of annual income. It is the objective of the Trustees to achieve a small surplus each year but not to build up reserves unless there is a specific known need in the future, to that the equivalent of 6 months running costs as a reserve against contingencies is normally desirable, estimated currently to be around £8,000.

Details of Donated Facilities & Services:

The Charity benefits from the time given by all the Trustees to the running of the Charity, including monitoring, supervision and meeting times.

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The members of the Charity must prepare financial statements which give sufficient detail to enable an appreciation of the transactions of the Charity during the financial year. The members of the Charity are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which, on request, must reflect the financial position of the Charity at that time. This must be done to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

John Edwards, Chairman

Date: 7.09.26

