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REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: SC188407 (Scotland)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: SC028812

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

FOR

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT JOURNAL

Thomas Barrie & Co LLP
4th Floor, Atlantic House
1a Cadogan Street
Glasgow
G2 6QE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT JOURNAL

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for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2025

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT JOURNAL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2025

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charity's objects, as set out in its Memorandum and Articles of Association are:

(a) To advance education and, in particular (1) to increase understanding of the theory and practice of community development and its role in relieving poverty, disadvantage and social exclusion through the publication of the Community Development Journal (CDJ) (2) to stimulate and disseminate research into the causes and effect of poverty, social disadvantage and social e xclusion and into the contribution which community development may make to the relief of same, and to publish results of such research.

(b) To promote, establish, operate and/or support other schemes and projects of a charitable nature for the benefit of the general public.

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees have considered OSCR's guidance on public benefit.

Mission

To be the leading international journal in the field of community development, through the publication of high quality articles promoting critical learning and social solidarity.

Objectives/activities

1. Produce the leading international journal in the field
2. Develop critical reflection and theoretical learning on community development
3. Promote international learning and exchange
4. Promote informed critical debate on community development theory and practice
5. Develop and support appropriate partnerships and networks to further these objectives.

Significant activities

Based on these objectives and activities, the Board has continued to work to its Development Plan to cover the period 2023-2025. This plan enables the Board to more readily anticipate and manage ongoing changes in academic publishing - particularly with respect to the delivery of and reader access to academic journals - as well as ensuring that it maximises the readership of and public interest in the content of the Journal.

The Board continues to function well; to sustain the capacity of the editorial board, applications were sought for additional Board members. Following the March 2025 AGM and Board meeting, four new members were elected and invited to join the Editorial Board, in order to increase our capacity. Two further individuals were advised that they would be invited to join at the next recruitment cycle, and six applicants were invited to join the International Advisory Board.

To mark the 60th anniversary of the Community Development Journal, the Board financially supported three international events in 2025. The events took place in India, Bangladesh and Australia and were organised in conjunction with members of the International Advisory Board under the collective banner of 'Shaped by Past, Co-Creating the Future: Community Development in a Turbulent World'. CDJ supported these events through the provision of grants to partners in the host countries. A further grant was offered to colleagues in Georgia who had to delay their planned event in light of a domestic political situation that would render the hosting of such an event unsafe. The CDJ remains in communication with their Georgian colleagues and will support the hosting of an event or similar when the political climate renders it safe.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Delivering on the key focus of the Board, the Editorial team successfully published Volume 60 of the Community Development Journal-please see 'achievement and performance' section for further details.

Throughout 2025 the CDJ has continued to build on and more effectively utilise its social media presence and visibility. Hazel Kerr has led this work in collaboration with the Digital Domains Sub-group, and in line with the Board's own Digital Engagement Strategy. Ilya Maude has continued to work within the Digital Domain team and leads on the development of the CDJ Plus website. Ilya Maude also bears the role of Editorial Assistant. The Digital Domains sub-group retains CDJ a strong presence with good engagement on LinkedIn, Facebook, and is growing its TikTok and BlueSky presence, too. Additionally, Ilya Maude and Hazel Kerr are developing a CDJ podcast that will launch next year.

Reflecting the broader academic publishing landscape, the Community Development Journal has noted its concern about the increased prevalence of AI-generated submissions to academic journals. The Board asserts its concern about both the impact on academic rigour and individual thought, and the increased workload faced by editorial teams due to higher submission rates within the sector.

Volunteers

The Charity benefits greatly from the involvement and enthusiastic support of its many volunteers. In accordance with FRS 102 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

In 2025, the four issues that constituted Volume 60 of the CDJ included 34 Original Articles, five Editorials, four Reflections articles, one Classic Text article, and nine Book Reviews. There were three corrections and one retraction in Volume 60. There were no full special issues for volume 60; instead, 60.4 comprised a Special Section, "Radical Pedagogies For Territorial Contestations".

Each issue contained one 'Editor's Choice' article, which is available as open access. Additionally, we appear to be seeing a continued (but very gradual) increase in the number of 'gold' open access articles. These are paid for either by authors, by organisations funding their research, and/or by their institutions through 'read and publish' agreements with university libraries. In total, 12 open access articles were published in 2025.

The CDJ Impact Factor for 2024 was released in 2025, showing that the impact factor remains relatively steady with a marginal decrease from 1.2 to 1.1. The CiteScore also remains relatively stable at 3.0 (3.2 in 2023).

There was an overall increase in collection subscriptions (both consortia and read & publish) in 2025 compared to previous years. In line with broader academic publishing trends, traditional subscription levels for the CDJ are currently gradually declining. The period 2024 to 2025 saw a decrease in traditional subscriptions (including institutional, member pay, and personal) from 84 to 68.

In 2025 we received articles from 57 countries, with high numbers of submissions (10+ for each country) from China, India, Indonesia, the UK and the USA. We accepted articles from: Austria, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, China, Chile, Czechia, India, Italy, Kenya, Malaysia, Pakistan, South Korea, United Kingdom, and United States

The overall desk rejection rate for 'original articles' in 2025 (i.e. full academic articles rejected prior to peer review, as opposed to book reviews, editorials, or reflections pieces) was 69.6%. This is in line with 2024 (75%) and 2023 (62%). The average time articles spent review is in line with last year. Where a decision was made, the average number of days between an article being submitted and a final decision being made in 2025 was 47 days (in 2024 this was 41, 42 in 2023 and 41 in 2022, and 53 in 2021).

In 2025, there was a 20% decrease in total item requests. The highest rate of requests come from North America, the UK and Ireland, and Australia/New Zealand. DEI data for the journal shows that in 2025, 59% of article authors self identify as non-white, and approximately 63% of all authors describe themselves as being geographically based outside Western Europe or North America, suggesting that CDJ therefore has continued to meet its objective of being a truly international journal both in terms of authors and readers.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2025

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The Trustees are satisfied with the results for the year. The deficit of £16,579 was expected for the 2025 financial year. The level of reserves being carried forward is in line with the aims of the Trustees set out in the Reserves Policy below, whilst also allowing significant planned expenditures as we celebrate the journal's 60th anniversary via a series of events and take on a significant sponsorship role in running the World Community Development Conference in Glasgow (Scotland), come summer 2026.

Principal funding sources

The principal funding source of the charity was a grant from Oxford University Press by way of profit sharing to cover administration, editing, reviewing and publication costs.

Reserves policy

The trustees previously examined the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. In doing so they considered the reason why the company needs restricted and unrestricted funds, the level of these reserves required and the steps to be taken in order to establish and maintain reserves at the required level.

Last year, the target set by the trustees was to build up reserves equivalent to twelve months running costs, and this was achieved. The charity currently has total reserves of £272,069, all of which are unrestricted.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, its memorandum and articles of association, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

In the event of the charity being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Members wishing to become trustees must be recommended by the board or proposed by a fellow member of the charity, in advance of the general meeting. The member then stands for election at a general meeting.

Organisational structure

The board of trustees meets twice a year and has responsibility for all strategic decisions of the charity. In addition, a smaller Executive, made up of the chairperson, vice chairperson, treasurer, editors, secretary and review editors meet on two additional occasions during the year.

Induction and training of new trustees

All new Board members are inducted by the trustees of the charity. The chairperson of the board of trustees meet with new trustees to outline the code of governance.

Related parties

The company is a stand-alone charity.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

SC188407 (Scotland)

Registered Charity number

SC028812

Registered office

4th Floor Atlantic House
1a Cadogan Street
Glasgow
G2 6QE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2025

Trustees
Orla O'Donovan Trustee (resigned 1.3.25)
Arni Thara Raj Trustee
Joanna Cholmondeley Trustee (Co Chair)
Ruth Pearce Trustee (Editor)
Clementine Hill O'Connor Trustee
Sarah Banks Trustee
Mark Garavan Trustee (resigned 1.3.25)
Alice Butler Trustee
Kirstin Elizabeth Lohman Trustee (Editor)
Aideen O'Shaughnessy Trustee (Reviews Editor) (resigned 31.3.26)
Ray Di Marco Campbell Trustee (Treasurer)
Arek Dakessian Co-chair
Ciara Bradley Trustee
Eleanor Munro Trustee
Jamie Gorman (appointed 1.3.26)
Bayartsetseg Terbish (appointed 1.3.26)
Adira Andlay (appointed 1.3.25)
Daniel Muia (appointed 1.3.25)
Dagmar Narusson (appointed 1.3.25)
Sarah Ward (appointed 1.3.25)

Company Secretary
Alice Butler

Independent Examiner
Thomas Barrie & Co LLP
4th Floor, Atlantic House
1a Cadogan Street
Glasgow
G2 6QE

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 28 September 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

Ray Di Marco Campbell - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT JOURNAL

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 set out on pages six to twelve.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner
The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity's trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1)(a) to (c) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under Section 44(1)(c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report
My examination was carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention :

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with Regulation 8 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met; or

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

Martin Greig BA CA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland

Thomas Barrie & Co LLP
4th Floor, Atlantic House
1a Cadogan Street
Glasgow
G2 6QE

28 September 2026

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT JOURNAL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	2025 Unrestricted fund £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Shares of Profit		47,958	59,324
Investment income	2	6,806	6,195
Total		54,764	65,519
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Publication of Community Development Journal		46,023	54,342
60th Anniversary Events		25,320	-
Total		71,343	54,342
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(16,579)	11,177
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		288,648	277,471
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		272,069	288,648

The notes form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	2025 Unrestricted fund £	2024 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	7	-	300
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	8	38,349	46,994
Cash at bank		236,720	246,339
		275,069	293,333
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(3,000)	(4,985)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		272,069	288,348
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		272,069	288,648
NET ASSETS		272,069	288,648
FUNDS	10		
Unrestricted funds		272,069	288,648
TOTAL FUNDS		272,069	288,648

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 28 September 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:

Ray Di Marco Campbell - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The presentational and functional currency of the financial statements is Pounds Sterling (£).

Going concern
After reviewing the charity's forecasts and projections, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

Financial Reporting Standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions
The charitable company has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemption in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':

- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty
In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of the Charity's accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from these estimates. Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to estimates are recognised prospectively.

The following judgements and estimates have had the most significant effects on amounts recognised in the financial statements:

Tangible Fixed Assets
The estimates and assumptions made to determine asset lives require judgements to be made as regards useful lives and residual values. The useful lives and residual values of the Charity's financial assets are determined by trustees at the time the asset is acquired and reviewed annually for appropriateness. The lives are based on trustees experience with similar assets. The depreciation rates applied have already been outlined elsewhere in these notes.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Profit Sharing
Income from a profit sharing agreement with Oxford University Press is recognised in the period to which the profits relate.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Office equipment - 33% on cost

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed annually for impairment if events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying values may not be recoverable.

Taxation
The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Financial instruments
The charity has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments.

Debtors
Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment.

Cash and cash equivalents
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash balances.

Creditors
Short term trade creditors are measured at the transaction price.

Provisions
Provisions are determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as finance cost.

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025	2024
	£	£
Bank interest received	6,806	6,195

3. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	300	340

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

	2024	2024
	£	£
Editors' honoraria	12,112	8,448
Trustees' honoraria	3,400	8,123
	15,512	16,571

During the year, 6 trustees were paid honoraria (2024 - 6).

Trustees' expenses

Reimbursements of travel expenses totalling £1,230 (2024 - £5,160) were made to the trustees who held office at some point during the year.

5. STAFF COSTS

The only remuneration paid during the year was in the form of trustees' honoraria, details disclosed within Note 4 to the accounts, "Trustees' Remuneration and Benefits".

6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund
	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Shares of Profit	59,324
Investment income	6,195
Total	65,519
EXPENDITURE ON	
Charitable activities	
Publication of Community Development Journal	54,342
NET INCOME	11,177
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	277,471
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	288,648

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Office equipment £
COST	
At 1 January 2025 and 31 December 2025	1,031
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 January 2025	731
Charge for year	300
At 31 December 2025	1,031
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2025	-
At 31 December 2024	300

8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Debtor: Profit share - O.U.P.	38,349	46,994

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Accrued expenses	3,000	4,985

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.25 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.25 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	288,648	(16,579)	272,069
TOTAL FUNDS	288,648	(16,579)	272,069

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	54,764	(71,343)	(16,579)
TOTAL FUNDS	54,764	(71,343)	(16,579)

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.24	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.24
	£	£	£
Unrestricted fund	277,471	11,177	288,648
TOTAL FUNDS	277,471	11,177	288,648

Comparative net movement in funds included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted fund	65,519	(54,342)	11,177
TOTAL FUNDS	65,519	(54,342)	11,177

11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Other than Trustees' remuneration and expenses outlined in Note 4 to the accounts, there were no related party transactions during the year.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT JOURNAL

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31 DECEMBER 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Shares of Profit		
Profit share: Administration	9,609	12,330
Profit share: Oxford University Press	38,349	46,994
	47,958	59,324
Investment income		
Bank interest received	6,806	6,195
Total incoming resources	54,764	65,519
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Editors' honoraria	12,113	8,448
Admin costs - support services to Editor	15,250	14,512
Journal development	7,557	8,973
60th Anniversary Events	25,320	-
	60,240	31,933
Support costs		
Finance		
Bank charges	144	95
Other		
Website	318	3,582
Computer equipment	300	340
	618	3,922
Governance costs		
Trustees' honoraria	3,400	3,200
Trustees' travel expenses	1,230	5,160
Accountancy fees	1,103	1,692
Board meeting costs	4,608	8,340
	10,341	18,392
Total resources expended	71,343	54,342
Net (expenditure)/income	(16,579)	11,177