

# **Hawick Acorn Project Initiative SCIO**

**Trustees Annual Report and Accounts  
for the year ended  
28<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

**Scottish Charity Number SC044641**

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## Reference and Administrative Information

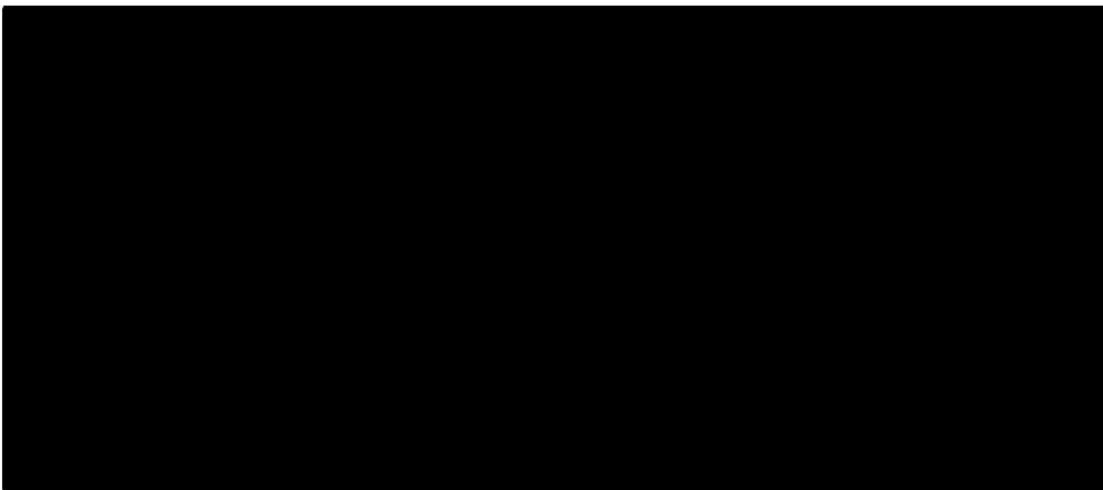
Charity Name: Hawick Acorn Project Initiative SCIO

Charity Registration Number: SC044641

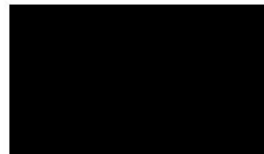
Contact Address:



## Principal Office-bearers/Trustees



Independent Examiner



Bankers:

Unity Trust Bank plc  
Nine Brindlypalce  
BIRMINGHAM  
B1 2HB

## **Structure Governance & Management**

### **Governing Document**

The organisation is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered with OSCR on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2014.

### **Appointment of Trustees**

At each AGM, the members may elect any member to be a charity trustee. The board may at any time appoint any member (unless he/she is debarred from membership) to be a charity trustee. At each AGM, all of the charity trustees must retire from office - but may then be re-elected.

## **Objectives & Activities**

### **The Charities Charitable Purpose:**

As set out in the 'Constitution' and 'The Charities and Trustee Investments (Scotland) Act 2005' the purpose(s) of Hawick Acorn Project Initiative SCIO (HAPi) are the following: -

- The Relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

Any other purpose that may reasonably be regarded as analogous to any of the preceding purposes.

### **Summary of the main activities in relation to these objectives:**

The organisation's beneficiaries are:

- Older people
- People with disabilities or health problems.

## Achievements & Performance

### Introduction

This year has been one of re organisation and change, with an encouraging addition of skilled and committed volunteers and an increase in partnership working. For the first 4 months of the financial year, a project worker was employed to help with horticultural aspects of the project. The Carnarvon Street base for HAPi Bikes has been extremely productive, and at the KEC site HAPi gardening is transitioning from tidying up, to developing the Sensory Garden and involving clients and staff in horticultural activities. There is an excellent relationship, between HAPi and the KEC management and staff, and we look forward to further collaboration in 2025.

**HAPi Bikes** have experienced an increase in bike sales and bike donations to people on low income through various local, and one international charity. There has also been income generation through the **Just Cycle scheme**, in return for the free repair of people's bikes. Many unwanted bikes have been repaired and are back in circulation, avoiding being crushed and melted down, or worse discarded. A successful bike maintenance course was run, in collaboration with Hawick High School. A regular supply of bikes from the Council Recycling Centres and the Police, have at times presented storage problems. A reorganisation of the way bikes are labelled and processed, and surplus bikes are re- distributed has improved the efficiency of the operation considerably.

### Volunteers

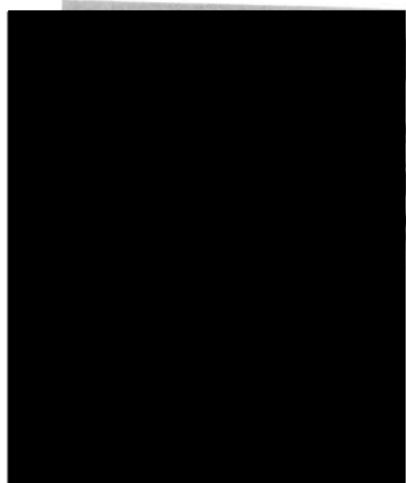
The project has benefitted greatly from the input and personal expertise of [REDACTED] in their particular fields, with around 9 volunteers a week attending over 4 days.

**HAPi Gardening** now has a number of regular volunteers, who with the assistance of a project worker employed from September 2023 until June 2024, undertook reclaiming shrubberies, the vegetable garden, and other areas neglected to varying degrees due to the pandemic. The resulting lack of volunteers in 2022 and 23, had placed a lot of strain on our limited man power resources, so this increase in man power, has been much appreciated. The successful acquisition of a 20K Community Development Grant with the assistance of the SBEB in 2023, also enabled the purchase of materials for the Sensory Garden a project also interrupted by the pandemic, however progress through 2024 was slow, due to adverse weather conditions and the number of repairs and tidying up required after years of neglect from 2020 onwards. Funding to pay the salary of the project worker, was covered by income generation from HAPi Bikes.



## Achievements & Performance cont'd

Development of the **Sensory Garden** in collaboration with the KEC staff and clients, was frustrated by a very late spring in 2024, following on from along, wet winter. Successive storms required hours to be spent tidying up, and making repairs. In collaboration with **Jedburgh Men's Shed**, an old fence has been taken down and converted into planters accessible from a wheel chair. The KEC will paint the planters, and take care of them. Herbs, flowers and salad crops will be planted.



Planting the vegetable garden was delayed by the rain and cold ground, and the exceptionally dry weather that followed in early summer, resulted in seeds and crops failing to thrive; much of the potato crop perishing in the ground. After several repair efforts, the timber walks way to the vegetable garden was finally removed and replaced with slabs, enabling better wheel chair access. A small crop of tomatoes was grown successfully, in the new poly tunnel.

Access has been improved and the site tidied up although there is much still to do; many hours were spent collecting fallen branches and leaves, staking trees, removing lower limbs obstructing paths,

retrieving neglected garden furniture broken up by the elements and dispersed across the extensive grounds. Repairs to shed roofs and repeatedly, to the greenhouse have been undertaken. Extracting litter blown from recycling bins and the nearby A7 and pavements, has been made worse by the frequent high winds, and extraction from over grown shrubberies has been laborious and time consuming. Numerous tree saplings, brambles, and neglected pots and planters have been removed. Priority is always given to keeping fire exits clear of branches and leaves, and the removal of moss on paths has become a priority, due to the reduced footfall over recent years.

## Volunteers

There are gardening sessions on Wednesdays and Fridays, with a pool of 6 volunteers and it has been encouraging to see KEC and WRVS clients and staff, becoming actively involved.



## Trustees

We were very sorry to see [redacted] resign this year, after many years of service both as a lead volunteer supporting groups under taking gardening projects in the community and on site, as well as pioneering the bike maintenance and recycling aspects of HAPi, and latterly also as a Trustee.

## Financial Review & Statement of Trustees

### Financial Review & Reserves

At this time the charity has no income generation stream to assist with the running of the project. However it does aim to have at a minimum six months running costs once established

### Details of any deficit

There was a deficit this year.

### 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.

### Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

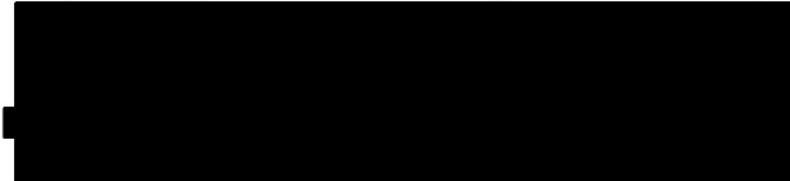
No payments or expenses were paid or reimbursed to Trustees in the current year.

### 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.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and must take reasonable steps for the prevention and/or detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf



Date: 16<sup>th</sup> JUN 2025

**Receipts & Payments Accounts**  
**Year Ended 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
<b>Receipts</b>					
Grants		0.00	5,993.36	5,993.36	17,940.24
Fund Raising Income		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Charitable Activities Income	1	15,660.00	0.00	15,660.00	11,119.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>15,660.00</b>	<b>5,993.36</b>	<b>21,653.36</b>	<b>29,059.24</b>
<b>Payments</b>					
Fundraising Costs		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Charitable Activities Expenses	2	10,113.92	15,780.52	25,894.44	20,779.32
Examination of Accounts		175.00	0.00	175.00	150.00
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>10,288.92</b>	<b>15,780.52</b>	<b>26,069.44</b>	<b>20,929.32</b>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		5,371.08	(9,787.16)	(4,416.08)	8,129.92
Transfer Between Funds		(3,004.20)	3,004.20		
<b>Closing Balances</b>		<b>2,366.88</b>	<b>(6,782.96)</b>	<b>(4,416.08)</b>	<b>8,129.92</b>

**Statement of Balances**  
**Year ended 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
Opening Balances	20,708.63	7,532.96	28,241.59	20,111.67
Surplus/(Deficit) for year	2,366.88	(6,782.96)	(4,416.08)	8,129.92
<b>Closing balances</b>	<b>23,075.51</b>	<b>750.00</b>	<b>23,825.51</b>	<b>28,241.59</b>

**Other Assets**

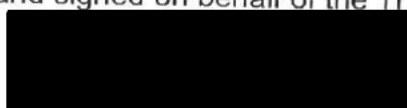
List of equipment in notes	3		6,669	6,294
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**Liabilities**

No outstanding liabilities

Approved and signed on behalf of the Trustees

Signed:



Date: 16.06.2025



## Notes to the Accounts

	2025	2024
<b>1 Charitable Activities Income</b>		
Donations	2,530.00	1,000.00
Sale of Bikes	13,130.00	10,119.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,660.00</b>	<b>11,119.00</b>

## 2 Charitable Activities Expenses

Project Worker	7,662.46	7,933.01
SBSEC – Admin Wages	126.00	126.00
Materials	8,366.72	5,057.54
Equipment	375.34	0.00
Bike Repairs & Costs	3,485.00	2,519.00
Postage & Stationery	2.40	5.20
Trustee Mileage	57.60	64.80
Insurance	1,479.38	1,372.38
Electric/ Water Rates	696.83	437.29
Rent	3,300.00	3,050.00
Property Costs	259.31	142.10
Bank Charges	83.40	72.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,894.44</b>	<b>20,779.32</b>

## 3 List of Equipment Held as at 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025

	2024	Add	2025
Power Tools & Accessories	160	375	535
Garden Tools	1,835		1,835
Wheel barrow	40		40
Lawn Mower & Hedge Trimmers	1,234		1,234
Greenhouse	1,388		1,388
Polytunnel	1,637		1,637
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,294</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>6,669</b>

## 4 Purposes of Funds

The balance of funds at the year-end are unrestricted

The accounts have been prepared in line with the Receipts & Payments method.

## **Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts**

**Hawick Acorn Project Initiative SCIO  
Scottish Charity SC044641**

**For the Period to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025  
Set out on pages 8 to 9**

### **Receptive Responsibilities of Trustee & 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) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) 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 Independent Examiner's Statement**

My examination is 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 seeks explanations from the 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 accounts.

### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

In the course of 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 comply with Regulation 9 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.

Name of Examiner

Signed

Dated

Address