



YELVERTON COMMUNITY PROJECTS - TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

Financial year ended 30 June 2026

Structure

Yelverton Community Projects is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Charity Registration Number 1177230). Its registered address is 12 Willoughby Park, Yelverton, PL20 6AN.

Its charitable objective is:

"To relieve the needs of the elderly and to promote, for the benefit of the inhabitants of the civil parishes of Buckland Monachorum and Burrator, the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances, or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants."

The charity currently operates through three activities:

- YelverCare
- Yelverton Cinema
- Yelverton Play Park

The Trustees are responsible for the overall governance and management of the charity. Separate committees support each of the three operating activities.

Trustees

The charity has a maximum of ten Trustees (currently nine). The following Trustees served throughout the financial year:

- Ric Cheadle – Chair
- Fiona Burbage – Secretary
- Tony Chilvers – Treasurer
- Mike Pike – YelverCare Manager
- Graham Brown – Play Park Manager
- Maddy Carr – Charity Commission Liaison & Play Park Lottery
- Chris Taylor – Insurance
- Sarah Dean – Cinema Manager
- Darren Foley – Website, Design & Cycle Track

Trustees are appointed to maintain a balanced governance structure. Three Trustees are Officers of the charity, three represent each of the operating activities, and up to four serve as independent Trustees.

The Trustees responsible for each operating activity are:

- Mike Pike – YelverCare
- Sarah Dean– Yelverton Cinema
- Graham Brown – Yelverton Play Park

Over the course of the reporting year, two Trustees stood down; Sam Whitehead and Andrew Thomas.

Chair's Annual Report 2026

Once again, I have the pleasure of reporting on the Charity's activities over the past year.

YelverCare has continued to provide invaluable support to members of our community through its dedicated team of volunteers, who both manage requests for assistance and deliver the wide range of services required. The service now undertakes around 23 tasks each month, covering more than 320 miles. The Lunch Club remains extremely popular and we are fortunate to have such a committed team of volunteers who make it possible. We are also indebted to the Maristow Estate for its generous financial support, which enables this important service to continue.

Like many charities, recruiting and retaining volunteers remains an ongoing challenge. Nevertheless, it has been rare that we have been unable to respond to requests for help. During the year, a trial of a messaging system to support telephone cover proved successful, while the introduction of a card reader has simplified payments for cinema tickets.

We were delighted to hold a volunteer thank-you event during the year and a fundraising quiz night also proved to be a great success. Looking ahead, we are extremely grateful that the Veterans' Captain and Ladies' Captain of Yelverton Golf Club have selected Yelverton Community Projects as their Charity of the Year for 2026/27.

Yelverton Cinema continues to offer a programme of recent film releases, together with its popular "bring your own food and drink" format, which creates a relaxed and sociable atmosphere before each screening. Attendance naturally varies, but the volunteer team works hard to select films that will appeal to the widest possible audience.

The Play Park continues to be one of the village's most valued community facilities. Following the successful refurbishment of the toddler area in 2024, the installation of the new inclusive roundabout—funded by the Masons Mark Fund—has now been completed, together with the replacement of the large swing. As the park approaches its 30th anniversary, some of the original timber play equipment is reaching the end of its serviceable life, with replacement of the original wooden tower likely to be our next major investment.

The annual independent play park inspection identified only minor maintenance issues. We remain grateful to volunteers from Babcock for repainting the surrounding fence and to pupils from Mount Kelly School for their continued help in keeping the park tidy.

During the year, Yelverton Community Projects also submitted a proposal to the Maristow Estate seeking support in principle to explore the sensitive renovation of the informal cycle track located adjacent to the Play Park. At the time of writing, we await the Estate's response.

Overall, the Charity remains in good health thanks to the continued commitment, generosity and enthusiasm of our volunteers, Trustees and supporters.

Financial Review

The accounts for the year show total funds of £67,416, representing a reduction of £8,367 compared with the previous year. This reflects the completion of the installation of the new inclusive roundabout and the replacement of the large swing within the Play Park.

YelverCare recorded a surplus of £4,723, while Yelverton Cinema reported a small deficit of £20, despite investment in new equipment. The Play Park Lottery continues to perform well, generating a surplus of £1,876.

The Trustees recognise that charities should not retain unnecessary reserves. However, significant future investment will be required to replace ageing play equipment within the Play Park. It is therefore the Trustees' policy to maintain sufficient reserves to meet these anticipated costs without relying solely on external funding.

The level of reserves is reviewed annually. At June 2026, the Trustees agreed to maintain designated contingency reserves of:

- YelverCare – £5,000
- Yelverton Cinema – £5,000
- Yelverton Play Park – £30,000

Looking Ahead

The Trustees remain committed to maintaining and developing the Charity's services to meet the changing needs of our community. During the coming year, our priorities include:

- Yelverton Play Park – developing plans for the phased replacement of ageing play equipment as the park approaches 30 years of service, ensuring it remains a safe, inclusive and enjoyable space for future generations.
- Community Cycle Track – subject to the support of the Maristow Estate, progressing discussions on the sensitive renovation of the informal cycle track adjacent to the Play Park before developing detailed proposals for consideration.
- Yelverton Cinema – building on the successful introduction of card payment facilities to make attending screenings easier and more convenient for our audiences.
- YelverCare – continuing to recruit and support volunteers to help meet the growing demand for transport and community support services across the parish.

As always, these ambitions will only be achieved through the continued generosity, commitment and enthusiasm of our volunteers, supporters, funders and partner organisations.

Conclusion

Yelverton Community Projects remains in a strong position. While volunteer recruitment continues to present challenges and future investment in the Play Park will depend upon successful funding applications, the Charity continues to benefit from committed volunteers, prudent financial management and the generous support of the local community.

With careful financial stewardship, dedicated volunteers and the continued support of our community and partners, the Trustees are confident that Yelverton Community Projects is well placed to continue enhancing the lives of local residents for many years to come.