



## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 Period start date, to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 Period end date

Charity name: Hands Together Ludlow

Charity registration number: 1171979

### Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The relief of those in need by reason of youth, old age, ill health, loneliness, dysfunctional relationships, disability, or financial hardship who are living in Ludlow and surrounding villages.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	We support our communities through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The provision, largely through community volunteers, of direct services, resources and activities to individuals and families in need</li><li>• Working alongside local agencies to help develop and implement local plans.</li><li>• Working in partnership with a range of organisations and facilitating networking. Operationally, many of our activities depend on joint working (for example, surplus food collection)</li><li>• Supporting other organisations through sharing of good practice and facilitating activities</li></ul>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have been provided with the Charity Commission Public Benefit guidelines and are reminded of them at the beginning of each Board meeting

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making.	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Policy on social investment including program related investment.	Para 1.38	Not applicable

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of 417 beneficiaries were engaged, across 4633 engagements and 1388 sessions, reducing loneliness and isolation and supporting vulnerable people in the community.</li> <li>• 203 new individuals were engaged</li> <li>• 96 Community Lunches served (1386 meals)</li> <li>• 19 Company at Christmas meals plus deliveries and takeaways.</li> <li>• 314 Befriending sessions (22 individuals)</li> <li>• 754 Social Space visits</li> <li>• 12 individuals attended Mindful Colouring</li> <li>• 51 individuals had subsidised transport to HTL events (return trips)</li> <li>• 241 Men's Shed sessions (684 attendances)</li> <li>• 12 Good Grief Café sessions (181 attendances)</li> <li>• 8 Fibromyalgia support sessions</li> <li>• 14 healthy eating sessions (27 attendances)</li> <li>• 53 Walks for All (40 individuals)</li> <li>• 171 individuals signposted to other provision.</li> <li>• 23 Digital Inclusion sessions (18 attendees)</li> <li>• 18 Pride of Place sessions (199 volunteer hours)</li> <li>• 5026 Community Fridge visits by 2877 individuals resulting in 3541.9 kg of food saved from landfill.</li> <li>• 8536.06 volunteer hours given, with a social worth value of £137174.47</li> </ul>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set.	Para 1.41	Performance against the business plan is monitored and reported on quarterly at trustee meetings.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set.	Para 1.41	Fundraising activities reflect the priorities established in the business plan in order to facilitate service delivery. Fundraising has been sufficient to meet those priorities.

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The charity's financial position is healthy but requires continuous fundraising for a sustainable future. The finance subcommittee meets as part of the monthly Executive meetings. A separate statement of accounts is submitted.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The trustee board has agreed a policy of holding unrestricted reserves equivalent to 6 months' worth of operating costs. This is to cover limited periods of unexpected loss of funding and any unforeseen losses or wind-up costs.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	6 months' worth of operating costs in 2025 was £108,833 HTL is carrying forward £232,839 of unrestricted funds (excluding designated funds), equivalent to 12.8 months of operating costs at 2025 budget figures.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Not applicable
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	Not applicable

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	There are three pillars to HTLs fundraising strategy. 1. Major funding organisations, such as the National Lottery 2. Local grants and trusts 3. Individual donors
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted.	Para 1.46	HTL has an investment account. This is in order to further secure the future viability of the charity.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Risks to the charity are detailed in the organisational risk log
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (Trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g., election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Trustees are re-appointed on a rotating basis at the AGM. Trustees may be appointed by the governing body, and a selection process is in place

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees.	Para 1.51	A trustee induction policy has been developed and implemented. A regular trustee skills audit identifies gaps in knowledge and training needs.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works.	Para 1.51	HTL is led by volunteer trustees and managed by a Chief Operating Officer. Currently there are 9 (maximum 12) trustees. Service delivery is by volunteers and a small group of staff. The charity is not part of any umbrella organisation.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	A contract with Shropshire Council to deliver activity funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund is in place until December 2025
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Hands Together Ludlow
Other name the charity uses	HTL
Registered charity number	1171979
Charity's principal address	15 Lower Galdeford Ludlow SY8 1RU

## Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Sue Chantler	Chair		
2	Mike Beazley	Treasurer		
3	Chris Deaves			
4	Janna Vigar		Stood down 15/07/25	
5	Helen Rooker			
6	Nicholas Young			
7	Marc Gaunt			
8	Rob Jenkins			
9	Graham Cheshire		Coopted during 2024, elected at AGM on 15/05/2025	
10	Julia Evans		Coopted during 2024, elected at AGM on 15/05/2025	

## Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved.

Director name		

## Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

**Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others.**

Description of the assets held in this capacity.	None
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this fall within the custodian charity's objects.	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

**Additional information (optional)**

**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

**Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)**

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**Exemptions from disclosure**

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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**Other optional information**

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**Declarations**

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	SUSAN CHANDLER	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	CHAIR	

Date 

21/4/26
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