



Trustees' Annual Report for 01/08/2025 to 31/07/2026

Charity name: Solihull Lodge Community Association
Charity registration number: 523009

This is a summarised version of the report we have to submit to the charity commission.

We have updated our constitution and charitable Objects:

To promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Solihull Lodge and the surrounding areas without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race, or of political, religious, or other opinions by associating together the said inhabitants and the local authorities, voluntary, and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure-time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants.

To maintain and manage the Solihull Lodge Community Centre (hereinafter referred to as "the Centre") for activities promoted by the Association in furtherance of the above objects.

These follow the recommended templates for a community centre.

Community Benefits

The report to the charity commission requires us to report on how we benefit the community. This is a theme that is at the heart of our ethos and is central to the 5 year plan that will be presented later.

We provide a facility that enables local community groups to operate in a clean and safe environment to provide services and recreation activities for the local community.

The activities of these groups improve the well being and social welfare of local residents.

These include dog training, Children's Dance, Tap dancing, Fitness for Seniors, wellbeing Choir, Community Policing, Blood donations and Slimming World, skills training.

We are a food bank drop off point.

Our Volunteers run a weekly Community Cafe, along with several Family Fun days and a Christmas day lunch for people on their own.

These activities benefit the community by providing recreation, physical activity and reducing social isolation and loneliness.

We have become a hub for the community, and collaborate with nearby organisations and businesses.

Achievements

We have increased revenue and used the profits to renovate several rooms, upgrade the hall lighting and purchase new chairs and tables.

We were delighted to be nominated for the Solihull Civic Honors Awards.

Our buildings manager was runner up for Community Innovation.

We were awarded the Small Charity or Community Group of the Year Award.

Financial Overview

The charity is a going concern with income increased by 30% from last year.

The majority of our income comes from room lettings, with 10% from bar sales.

We have invested the majority of the profits to improve the centre and equipment.

We have renovated the office, a 4 desk work space, kitchenette, installed new hall lighting, and a kitchenette.

We have purchased new tables, chairs and catering equipment.

We have improved our financial management, we are using Xero to manage our accounts and we have robust processes and controls in place.

The accounts have been independently reviewed and will be submitted to the charity commission following the AGM.

Concerns

Due to its age, the building needs some significant repairs.

We have a pending insurance claim for subsidence and have submitted a bid to the CIL fund for a new roof.

Our lease needs renewing within 6 years. This limits our ability to apply for funding.

We have started the process to negotiate a new lease. To enable this we have now registered as a CIO - this a new charity.

The key difference is that a new lease can be set up with the CIO rather than with individual trustees.

The renewal of the lease is a key requirement of our five year plan - we need the support of SMBC.