

**THE GREAT SHELFORD VILLAGE CHARITY**  
(Registered Charity 231486)  
**Directors Annual Report 1.1.2024 – 31.12.2024**

Jaspaul Hill MBE Chair

Michael Pooles KC Vice Chair

Simon White Treasurer

Sarah Kreckler

Dr Si-houy Lao-Sirieix

Richard Mutty

John Tweedale

Graham Newman

Stefan Scholtes

Left Brian Connellan, Dr Keith Sugden, Dr Alice Mann

*Clerk Samantha Rigby-Coghlan*

*The Directors meet every second month for full committee meetings, monthly for property meetings and additionally when necessary.*

## Key achievements / progress in 2024

### **Almshouses**

The Charity owns 53 homes – one-, two- and three-bedroom alms-houses. 32 of these properties, a mix of houses and bungalows, date from the 1980s, where we continue a programme of planned maintenance and refurbishment. The remaining 21 units opened in Spring 2023 and are grouped in three terraces around a central green. As we exit the snagging period we have developed a planned maintenance programme. We work closely with other charities and Almshouse organisations.

### **Individual and other grants**

The Charity continues to assist qualifying Great Shelford residents or those living in the surrounding area, as well as those who have a strong connection to the village to receive support through collaborative work with John Huntingdon's Charity in Sawston. This has resulted in much improved access to other benefits and grants available to individuals. Again, we have noticed an increase in need for emergency food support over this year. The Charity has worked with others in the village to provide Christmas food hampers and food vouchers. This was made possible thanks to generous donations from Shelford Free Church, the Parish Council, the Feast and businesses around Cambridge. The Charity has continued to provide grants to qualifying organisations supporting the village through the year.

### **Green space**

The six acres of the Charity's land continue to be made available for everyone to visit and use through Permissive Access. These fields are managed for recreation and conservation, with allotments, footpaths, benches and views towards Cambridge and the chalkland of the Gog Magog Hills. We have also established a community garden and orchard, and laid a wheelchair accessible path alongside raised planting beds. The allotments are popular and actively and productively used. Saplings, trees and bulbs continue to be planted by village primary school students, village volunteers and businesses.

### **Keeping the village informed**

Follow the Charity on Facebook or via website alerts. We are currently trialling monthly drop-in sessions.

### **Thank you.**

We continue to invite, and are very grateful for, donations, grants, and voluntary work, all of which help the Charity to support the village.

Jaspaul Hill: Chair

10<sup>th</sup> March 2025

<https://gsvc.org.uk>

<https://www.facebook.com/greatshelfordvillagecharities/>

The Great Shelford Village Charity 18 High Street, Great Shelford Cambridge, CB22 5EH. [clerk@gsvc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@gsvc.org.uk)