Springfield, Beech Hill and Gidlow CommUnity

Annual Report

Jan 2025 - Dec 2025

What is Springfield, Beech Hill and Gidlow Community (SBHG)

Springfield, Beech Hill and Gidlow Community is a mutual aid group initially formed by 5 women on 15th April 2020 to organise a community-led response to the pandemic.

We learned that we quite liked getting to know our neighbours and doing good stuff together, and so it has carried on and grown, continuing to do just that.

Each year, we prepare an annual report and hold a meeting so that members can learn more about what we've been up to and how we raise and spend money.

The meeting is also an opportunity to join or step down from the organising group.

Annual reports are always a bit out of date by the time they're made, we've tried to reduce the delay as much as possible, but the most up-to-date information can usually be found on our website or by getting more involved.
This Annual Report covers the period from 1st Jan 2025 - 31 Dec 2025

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1 Aims of the Group

- To discover and make visible the treasure that we have within our community – the people who do great stuff and the places we love.
- To build connections with neighbours that focus on what's strong rather than what's wrong
- To create social spaces for people to build and deepen friendships and make the community stronger
- To create social spaces for associations and groups to flourish and grow power so that they can act together for the benefit of the area

1 Highlights

You can keep up to date with stories and highlights on the community website, the facebook group and by reading Ey Up. Here's a selection of community highlights from 2025.

JAN 2025

We released the annual survey results, with 98% of people thinking that the community is becoming more connected, at least in parts.

Give it a Grow Wigan held a seed and plant swap in the community garden which was well attended despite the weather!

And a coach full of families made the trip to Bolton to watch Aladdin in the theatre.

Some of the organising group started to learn about Ripple Mapping and a small group of women started mindfulness in the woods.

FEBUARY 2025

St Andrew's hosted a Family Play Day, and we opened the Playbox during half term.

We started Friendship Circles, offering community members the opportunity to come in and meet other people.

Marta, a community member, offered yoga classes on Monday evenings to share her love of yoga.

MARCH 2025

There were several community litter picks in the area for the Great British Spring Clean.

We held a Community Cash and invested in 6 community ideas, including publishing a poetry book, Creative Writing workshops, replacing the defib at Community corner, money towards an Easter trip, sponsorship for a kids rugby team, and supporting a new photography project.

We celebrated International Women's Day locally and joined in with the events at Fur Clemt.

APRIL 2025

Work was completed on Diggle Street Park public square.

A new space for children to come and play with Lego started at CommUnity Corner. Local children from the craft club took on the role of Easter Bunny to bring smiles to the community and raise funds for a trip to Gullivers World.

MAY 2025

SBHG & Northern Heart and Soul invited people to come and learn about the amazing growth of community life in our area over a two-day learning festival.

The first-ever Poetry Recital was held outside at CommUnity Corner by the creative writing group.

We had another fabulous Party in the Park event at Diggle Street with around 180 people attending.

JUNE 2025

We held bunting-making workshops and delicious food tasting sessions in the lead-up to our first-ever Community Food Share Festival, at the end of June.

The food festival itself was a beautiful afternoon of food, music, creativity and joy. It was enjoyed by hundreds of people.

We held our famous Afternoon tea, and there was a plant swap in the community garden. CommUnity Corner was a stop on The BIG GM Live Well Bus Tour.

JULY 2025

This month, our 5th Annual Community Led dog show was great fun, and raised £376 to maintain the poo bag dispensers dotted around the community.

AUGUST 2025

National Play Day saw many familiar faces working together to bring a fun-filled day of community play to Wigan Park, with play, crafts and more.

It also saw the continuation of trips and the Playbox open for the summer. A group of parents and children came together for tea to organise.

The annual family blackberry pick in Gidlow field was a fun time together to see who could get the most!

There was a Community Apple Day at St Anne's Community Garden - all the kids worked together picking and pressing apples to make our own apple juice.

AUGUST CONTINUED 2025

And at Community Corner there was another evening of poetry thanks to the Creative Writing group.

This month also saw the first History Coffee Morning, where people gather together to share local history and stories.

Julie started hosting Art classes in Community Corner, focusing on a range of fine art skills and practices each week, which then also grew to 2 days a week.

SEPTEMBER 2025

There was Introduction to Propagation at St Anne's, learning all about growing plants for free.

We hosted our third afternoon tea of the year. And we've also started to hold meetings around community ownership in the area.

OCTOBER 2025

This month saw a trip for SEN families to the Children's Adventure Trust.

We held our first-ever Art exhibition at the community corner with over many artists displaying their artwork.

The annual Halloween walk seemed to double in popularity this year - it was really spooktacular! Families also worked hard to create all the decorations and props!

We hosted SBHG's AGM at CommUnity Corner, and many families enjoyed pumpkin carving and crafts and fun in the dark at St Anne's Community garden.

NOVEMBER 2025

Step into Nature monthly walk started in the area.

We had an Autumn party in the community garden, with food, games and awards & gifts for those who help out.

And there was a wonderful seasonal Christmas market held at CommUnity Corner, full of goodies and bargains.

DECEMBER 2025

The coach went to Bury market for a day of bargains. We organised a community Christmas dinner at St Andrew's - a true community effort that was very much enjoyed.

Wigan Cult Film Club had their first film day at Community Corner.

We had Christmas Carolling with St Andrew's - walking around the neighbourhood spreading cheer. And we also had a family Christmas party at the playbox.

At Community Corner, there were mince pies & Christmas cheer with a quiz.

There was a winter performance from the creative writing group, and the infamous visits by fun Christmas characters to the local schools and businesses.

Memberships

FACEBOOK

There were 4,185 members in the SBHG Facebook group on 31st December.

The earliest data we can currently access is 3,793 on 6th May 2025, so there were 392 new members in the second half of the year.

It's a lively positive group with up to 2000-3000 active members per day (people who viewed / commented or posted). And 7 people help to manage the group.

SBHG COMMUNITY GROUP

91 new community members signed up be a member in 2025, bringing the total to 275.

Of those, 58 chose to join the community lottery that year.

The number of lottery players each month fluctuates a little, but for December, there were 115.

Each month, the winner takes half the lottery money, which in December was £287.50

The other half is voted on by community members as to how it should be spent. In 2025, members voted on trips, running community corner, parties for adults and parties for kids.

It paid towards the Christmas Dinner, Bury Market coach trip, Lido coach trip, Chester Zoo, Lytham St Anne's for the kite festival, Party in the Park and a coach trip to RHS Bridgewater.

Financial Report

Bank Balance @1st Jan 2025 £ 26,413.58

Breakdown of Bank Balance	Amount
Diggle Street Park	6000.00
Craft Club	300.00
Unrestricted Funds	1,741.73

INCOME

Source	Cause	Amount
WMBC	Christmas Cheer 25	£ 400.00
Credit Union	Interest	£ 184.74
WMBC	Playbox Christmas	£ 500.00
WMBC	Playbox - Design	£ 1,470.00
Fundraising	Playbox - Kids Fund	£ 1,972.31
HAF/Playday	Playbox Funds	£ 6,005.30
WMBC	Party in the park	£ 780.83
Dog Show	Poo Bags	£ 185.94
WMBC	Poo Posters	£ 200.00
WMBC	Warm Spaces	£ 850.00
		£ 12,549.12

EXPENDITURE

Source	Cause	Amount
Bank	Bank Charge	£ 25.50
NH&S	Christmas 24	£ 500.00
Misc	Christmas Cheer 25	£ 306.19
Misc	Diggle Street Benches	£ 6,291.40
Donation	Donation	£ 80.00
Impressions / Finch	Ey Up	£ 8,625.00
NH&S	Garage Rent	£ 240.90
Zurich	Insurance	£ 115.95
Misc	Misc	£ 127.59
Misc	Party in the Park	£ 569.10
Playbox General	Playbox	£ 426.59
LSOC	Playbox Design	£ 1,220.00
Misc	Poo Bags	£ 330.00
WMBC	Poo Posters	£ 170.14
WMBC	Warm Spaces	£ 850.00

£ 19,878.36

BALANCE

Bank Balance @ 31st December 2025 £ 19,084.34

Source	Amount
Ey Up	£ 7,975.00
Playbox Design	£ 250.00
Playbox - General	£ 6,165.57
Playbox - Kids	£ 1,972.31
Poo Bags	-
Poo Posters	£ 29.86
Unrestricted	£ 2,691.60
	£ 19,084.34

MORE DETAILED BREAKDOWN - INCLUDING COMMUNITY LOTTERY

Info

SBHG Lottery

Date	No. Entrants	Winner	Causes	Party	Trips	Adults	Children	CC Costs
B/F		£ 1,680.0(	£ 1,670.00		£ 800.50			
Jan-25	90	£ 225.00	£ 225.00	£ 75.00	£ 75.00			£ 75.00
Feb-25	95	£ 237.50	£ 237.50	£ 79.17	£ 79.17			£ 79.17
Mar-25	97	£ 242.50	£ 242.50	£ 80.83	£ 80.83			£ 80.83
Apr-25	107	£ 267.50	£ 267.50	£ 89.17	£ 89.17			£ 89.17
May-25	107	£ 200.00	£ 335.00	£ 111.67	£ 111.67			£111.67
Jun-25	114	£ 285.00	£ 285.00	£ 95.00	£ 95.00			£ 95.00
Jul-25	111	£ 277.50	£ 277.50	£ 92.50	£ 92.50			£ 92.50
Aug-25	116	£ 290.00	£ 290.00	£ 96.66	£ 96.66			£ 96.66
Sep-25	116	£ 290.00	£ 290.00	£ 96.66	£ 96.66			£ 96.66
Oct-25	114	£ 285.00	£ 285.00			£142.50	£ 142.50	
Nov-25	112	£ 280.00	£ 280.00			£140.00	£ 140.00	
Dec-25	116	£ 290.00	£ 290.00			£145.00	£ 145.00	
	837	**£ 3,705.00**	**£ 3,830.00**	**£ 816.65**	**£ 1,617.15**	**£ 427.50**	**£ 427.50**	**£ 816.65**
				£ (530.83)	£ (1,043.33	£(337.30)		£(816.65)
			Balance	**£ 285.82**	**£ 573.82**	**£ 90.20**	**£ 427.50**	**£ 0.00**

Lottery Trips Fund

Lottery Money	£ 1,617.15
Bury Ticket Sales	£ 115.00
Bury Coach	£ (300.00)
Chester Ticket Sales	£ 430.00
Chester Coach	£ (690.00)
Brighter Borough	£ 1,000.00
Lido Ticket Sales	£ 598.00
Lido Coach + Entry	£(1,149.60)
Lytham	£ 586.00
Lytham Coach	£ (980.00)
Lytham Icecream	£ (300.00)
Bridgewater Coach	£ (250.00)
Party in Park Underspend	£ 211.73
Bury Sales	£ 135.54
Bury Coach	£ (450.00)
Balance	**£ 573.82**

Party in the park

BB	£ 250.00
Lottery	£ 530.83
Costs	£ (569.10)
Allocated to Trips	£ (211.73)
Balance	**£ 0.00**

Ey Up

Lottery	£ 19,900.00
Printing - Autumn 24	£(2,800.00)
Design	£ (500.00)
Printing - Spring 25	£(2,020.00)
Design	£ (500.00)
Peoples Voice	£(3,150.00)
Printing - Autumn 25	£(1,881.00)
Design	£ (500.00)
Printing Extra	£ (574.00)
Balance	**£ 7,975.00**

Lottery Solidarity Fund

Lottery Money	£ 448.75
Solidarity	£ (49.50)
Solidarity	£ (50.00)
Solidarity	£ (50.00)
Solidarity	£ (50.00)
Solidarity	£ (30.00)
Solidarity	£ (50.00)
Solidarity	£ (50.00)
Solidarity	£ (30.00)
Solidarity	£ (50.00)
Allocated to Trips	£ (39.25)
Balance	**£ -**

Adults Christmas

Food	£ 237.30
Kitchen and Room Hire	£ 100.00
Balance	**£ 337.30**

The People

The group has an organising circle, made up of local people doing all kinds of great things in the community. When you bring them together, little bits of great stuff grow and turn into lots of connected great stuff. We try to keep everything as relaxed as possible and try to make sure everyone feels equal.

Each year, some people leave, and new people join.
Over this reporting year, these are the people involved.

LISA

BEN

PHIL

JEAN (NEW)

OLIVER (NEW)

VICTORIA

SANDRA

VICKY

SUE (NEW)

MAUREEN

ANGELA FELL

GILL

MERYL

DAVE

HAZEL (NEW)

ASHELEIGH (NEW)

JO

Thank You

Thanks for reading our annual report, full of great community news, all done by the people here. If you have any questions or ideas for the community and would like to get involved please get in touch.

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