



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From Period start date 5 May 2023 To Period end date 4 May 2024

Charity name: Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project

Charity registration number: 1098966

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>The charity's objectives are: <i>To promote the development of the personal, social & educational potential of all young people, between the ages of 11 and 18, and up to 25 years where there are special circumstances, who live in the area encompassed by Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire District Councils within Oxfordshire; and in particular those who are disadvantaged by adverse socioeconomic conditions.</i></p> <p>Our current work is embedded in the contiguous rural villages of Drayton, Appleford, Milton, Sutton Courtenay, and Steventon (DAMASCUS), and Abingdon which is the villages' neighbouring postal market town. Trustees live within these neighbourhoods and have an understanding of the local needs.</p>
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	<p>Recognising that 'one size does not fit all', the benefits are delivered through diverse but holistic and empowering approaches to young people within their communities.</p> <p>We have undertaken a number of open access activities starting with <i>Grassroots Street Work</i> by our volunteers and youth workers. This enables us to have a visible presence within the communities and form relationships with young people - particularly those who are vulnerable to substance misuse; at risk of exploitation or disengaged from any form of education, employment or training; or experiencing other personal setbacks. We are able to identify needs early and provide bespoke one-to-one support to safeguard their wellbeing.</p>

		<p>We also ran in-building social drop ins for young people they promote responsible and respectful peer-to-peer social interactions and empower young people to make informed decisions through issue-based workshops.</p> <p>A key component of our work with young people has been, to engender in them, a positive sense of belonging within the wider communities in which they live, as cohesive communities strengthen young people's support network. This also has an indirect benefit for the lonely and elderly within the communities.</p> <p>We have supported young people in organising several intergenerational events. During the covid lockdown we developed 'doorstep bingo' where the elderly would sit comfortably at their doorsteps and young people would lead bingo and other games sessions. This has now become an established feature of our intergenerational work in the summer months. In the autumn/winter months our intergenerational activities have continued indoors.</p> <p>Young people have taken part in community litter-picking events, participated in consultations regarding provision of recreational facilities and quality of life within their rural communities and also in a consultation in South Abingdon as part of a wider health inequalities study conducted by Oxfordshire County Council.</p> <p>Through our work we have enthused young people to volunteer and a few have become young community leaders. A previous beneficiary who subsequently trained and became our senior youth worker, is now a teacher as part of their next career move but continues to support the charity through becoming a trustee in 2023. Another beneficiary became a trainee youth worker with us in 2023.</p> <p>We believe in a holistic approach in provision of support to young people and to that end work collaboratively with other statutory and voluntary bodies that are also involved in the lives of our young people.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance	Para 1.18	In planning our activities as described above, the trustees have given due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on

issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit		<p>public benefit in deciding what charitable activities the charity should undertake and they are evidenced to show achievement of objectives through data collected and case studies.</p> <p>Staff are inducted in policies and procedures and all activities are risk assessed. Safeguarding is high on our agenda with a constantly reviewed culture of vigilance.</p>
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	Not Applicable – grant making is not a part of our charitable objectives
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Not Applicable - although we do not make grants, the ultimate outcomes of our work programmes for which we seek funding, are about supporting and strengthening young people's skills and capacities to participate fully in education, employment, training and have a safe, responsible, and fulfilling social life in cohesive communities
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Volunteers help in the youth drop ins, when required with specific study support and with arts and crafts and music activities. One volunteer coordinates and ensures DBS certificates are up to date.
Other		The trustees use their professional skills and give their time freely to ensure accountability and management of the finances, fund raising and compliance with grant conditions, and all health and safety and safeguarding obligations. We do not have a paid manager or chief executive. In addition to the Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary, the charity also has a trustee who is the designated voluntary Line Manager and is responsible for managing staff and other volunteers and ensuring the day-to-day operational activities are delivered in line with the objects of the charity as well as raising funds for the charity.

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	<p>Community cohesion</p> <p>We have created a safe space in which community members of all ages can interact and share experiences, building a greater sense of community. Young people have helped set up and run stalls for the village fetes; contributed to a village mosaic project; organised events for the elderly and also taken part in community litter picks. These all promote positive images of young people and young people develop a sense of pride and wellbeing when thanked by adults in the community for their positive contribution.</p> <div data-bbox="798 656 1209 1146" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Litter Pick</p> <div data-bbox="798 1182 1182 1615" data-label="Image"> </div> <p>Drayton Mosaic – community project in which young people contributed.</p> <p>Vulnerable young people</p> <p>We have established a culture of support in which young people feel comfortable to approach staff to ask for help with a variety of issues</p> <p>Our trained youth workers have provided 1-2-1 support to young people who have reached out due to personal setbacks – either with family, relationships, education training or employment. The advantage of our support being rooted within the community is that it is not time limited and</p>

		<p>young people come back for a reassuring chat when further temporary setbacks occur.</p> <p>Training young leaders We are registered with the AQA Unit Award Scheme that allows young people to engage with informal learning and have their achievements formally recognised through the presentation of certificates. We have used it to support the development of young leaders through undertaking training to develop competency in the AQA units related to leadership. Quote from a young leader - <i>"Made me confident to build on my skills to become a young leader and get involved with things I wouldn't have done normally"</i></p> <p>Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Addressing needs picked up in street conversations, we have challenged oppressive attitudes & behaviours and offered alternative narratives for reflection through delivery of 'teaching in the moment' activities. We have mapped new opportunities and supported young people to step out of their comfort zones and experiment with new behaviours and activities e.g. art, debates & critical thinking We have developed a large range of resources & activities to generate thoughtful & meaningful discussions that encourage critical thinking and problem solving.</p> <p>Engagement with other organisations We have supported Oxford United in the Community to build relationships in South Abingdon with local young people and help establish a Premier Leagues kicks programme which combines football training with personal development.</p>  <p>Young people with Oxford United in the Community.</p> <p>We have provided wrap around support in schools for a number of individuals from the Caldecott ward and engaged with other agencies involved in our young people's lives to support their education & training.</p>
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	Not Applicable
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	Not Applicable
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Not Applicable
Other		Not Applicable

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	On 4th May 2024, the charity held total funds of £148,138
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Trustees place all funds not immediately required in the Charity's gold account with CAF Bank Limited (CAF Bank Limited is a subsidiary of the Charities Aid Foundation). The trustees have a policy of maintaining a reserve to enable the recruitment and retention of proficient and credible youth workers in the event that no new income is received in the year. Thus, in setting a level of reserve, trustees give due regard to the stability of employment of staff over at least a one-year period, as at the core of our work is building strong and trusting relationships with young people. The trustees are also aware of the elapsed time from applying for a long-term grant to the award of such a grant and the need to ensure that there are sufficient finances to keep the project going in the interim
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	On 4th May 2024, the charity held total funds of £148,138 of which £90,000 are earmarked reserves as described in the reserves policy above.
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	Suitable qualified and experienced youth and community workers are important to the difference we make to young people and their communities. As we deliver direct face-to-face youth work to young people, of necessity it involves working anti-social hours. As existing staff gain more experience and move on to more strategic and managerial jobs as part of their career progression, we recruit new staff. However, the local college offering a youth and community degree has shut down its course and hence recruitment of competent qualified staff has become a challenge.

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	In 2023-2024, the charity's principle source of funds came from the local town and parish councils (85%) and the rest from donations, gift aid, local fund raising and nominal contributions by young people for specific activities.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	Not Applicable
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Financial Risk for the year was minimal.
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	Unincorporated registered charity
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	All trustees retire from office at the AGM though may seek re-election. Nominations for the Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Line Manager are invited and elected at the AGM. Additionally, up to four members may be elected at the AGM. The DAMASCUS Parochial Church Council may appoint a trustee.

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	The Charity has a Designated Safeguarding Lead. All trustees, volunteers and staff are enhanced DBS checked. Trustees have a Safeguarding policy in place and all staff and relevant volunteers receive safeguarding training.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The Charity employs both qualified and trainee youth workers whose day-to-day work is managed by the voluntary Line Manager who is also a trustee and responsible for safeguarding and the induction of new staff and volunteers. Young people make an input into the services through the development of young community leaders. The Charity is affiliated to Oxfordshire Youth through whom the DBS checks are undertaken.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project
Other name the charity uses	ADYP
Registered charity number	1098966
Charity's principal address	9 Chapel Lane Sutton Courtenay OX14 4AN

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	Patricia Napper	Chair		Elected at AGM
2	Anne Whitehead	Secretary		Elected at AGM
3	Hans Sundin	Treasurer		Elected at AGM
4	Rita Atkinson	Line Manager		Elected at AGM
5	Audrey Holloway	Member		Elected at AGM
6	Simon Murray	Member		Elected at AGM
7	Mark Whittaker	Member		Elected at AGM
8	Roxy Elford	Member		Elected at AGM

9	Lucy Dalby	Member		Co-opted
10	Sally Hoodless	Member		Elected at AGM
11	Gareth Noakes	Member		Elected at AGM
12	Chris Wilding	Member		Elected at AGM
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

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

Director name		
Not Applicable		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
Not Applicable		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	Not Applicable
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	Not Applicable
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	Not Applicable

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

	Name	Address
Bank	CAF	25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4TA.

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

Not Applicable

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Not Applicable

Other optional information**Declarations**

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

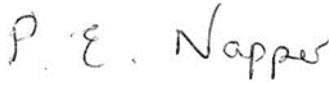

Signature(s)				
	Full name(s)		Full name(s)	
	Patricia Napper		Rita Atkinson	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair			
Date		16. 02.2025		

Table 1

Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project, Registered Charity No. 1098966	
Finance Report for the period of May 5, 2023 to May 4, 2024.	
Grants	£
Abingdon Town Council (incl 2024 - 2025)	25000
Drayton Parish council	4000
Sutton Courtenay Parish Council	4000
Steventon Parish Council	2500
Milton Parish Council	2000
Total Grants	37500
Donations	£
Co-op Local community fund	2041
Vale of White Horse District Council (Art Project)	500
Damascuss PCC	358
Personal Donations	187
Steventon Causeway Trust	100
Radley WI	99
Total Donations	3285
Other Income	
Interest	2293
Youth club takings	725
Takings Drayton fete	400
Gift aid	34
Total Other Income	3452
Grand Total	44237

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES

PAT WAPPAER (CHAIR) P E N ^{WAPPAER} 18/11/24

HANS SUNDIN (TREASURER)  18/11/24

Abingdon Damascus Youth Project
Statement of Financial Activities
For the period from 05 May 2023 to 04 May 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds	-	-	-	-	-
Voluntary income	41,218.63	-	-	41,218.63	59,925.57
Activities for generating funds	-	-	-	-	-
Investment income	2,292.57	-	-	2,292.57	701.63
Incoming resources from charitable activities	725.90	-	-	725.90	2,513.70
Other incoming resources	-	-	-	-	-
Total income	44,237.10	-	-	44,237.10	63,140.90
Resources used					
Cost of generating funds	-	-	-	-	-
Cost of generating voluntary income	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising trading cost of goods sold and other costs	-	-	-	-	-
Investment management costs	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	37,653.19	1,407.00	-	39,060.19	52,439.00
Governance costs	-	-	-	-	-
Other resources used	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure	37,653.19	1,407.00	-	39,060.19	52,439.00
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	6,583.91	(1,407.00)	-	5,176.91	10,701.90
Transfers:					
Gross transfers between funds - in	-	-	-	-	-
Gross transfers between funds - out	-	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains/losses on investment assets	-	-	-	-	-
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	6,583.91	(1,407.00)	-	5,176.91	10,701.90
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	141,554.68	1,407.00	-	142,961.68	132,259.78
Total funds carried forward	148,138.59	-	-	148,138.59	142,961.68

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES

PAT NAPPER (CHAIRMAN)

P. E. Napper

18/11/24

MAWS SUNDIN (TREASURER)



18/11/24

Abingdon Damascus Youth Project

Balance Sheet (Summary)

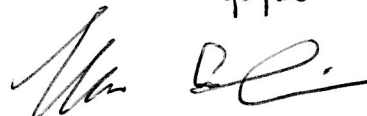
	As at 04/05/2024	As at 04/05/2023
Fixed assets		
	-	-
Current assets		
Cash At Bank And In Hand	148,018.39	142,841.48
	148,018.39	142,841.48
Liabilities		
	-	-
Net current assets less current liabilities	148,018.39	142,841.48
Total assets less current liabilities	148,018.39	142,841.48
Liabilities		
	-	-
Total net assets less liabilities	148,018.39	142,841.48
Represented by		
Unrestricted		
Unrestricted - General Funds	147,708.07	141,124.16
Designated		
Restricted		
Restricted - #Will	-	1,407.00
Endowment		
Fund Totals	147,708.07	142,531.16

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES

PAT NAPPER (CHAIRMAN)

P. E Napper 18/11/24

HAUS SUNOIN (TREASURER)

 18/11/24

Abingdon Damascus Youth Project

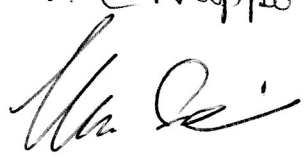
Analysis of Receipts and Payments Selected period: 05 May 2023 to 04 May 2024

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
Receipts						
Incoming resources from generated funds						
0101 - Gift aid giving	34.22	-	-	-	34.22	39.10
0850 - Grants/donations Received	41,184.41	-	-	-	41,184.41	59,886.47
0853 - Donations	-	-	-	-	-	-
0854 - Grants	-	-	-	-	-	-
0901 - Subscriptions	-	-	-	-	-	-
1021 - Interest	1,022.22	-	-	-	1,022.22	58.44
1022 - Interest Gold Account	1,270.35	-	-	-	1,270.35	643.19
Incoming resources from generated funds Totals	43,511.20	-	-	-	43,511.20	60,627.20
Incoming resources from charitable activities						
0851 - Takings - Youth Clubs	725.90	-	-	-	725.90	1,206.30
0852 - Takings - Fund raising	-	-	-	-	-	1,307.40
Incoming resources from charitable activities Totals	725.90	-	-	-	725.90	2,513.70
Other incoming resources						
9999 - Refunds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other incoming resources Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Receipts Grand Totals	44,237.10	-	-	-	44,237.10	63,140.90
Payments						
Cost of generating funds						
Cost of generating funds Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities						
1200 - Salaries and employment costs for YWs	32,388.21	-	1,407.00	-	33,795.21	49,016.51
1201 - Staff Training	103.15	-	-	-	103.15	-
1202 - Mobile phone costs for Youth Worker(s)	-	-	-	-	-	-
1203 - Staff entertainment	184.80	-	-	-	184.80	-
1204 - Youth worker expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-
1209 - Salaries	-	-	-	-	-	-
1210 - Income Tax	-	-	-	-	-	-
1211 - National Insurance contribution	-	-	-	-	-	-
1212 - Pension contribution	-	-	-	-	-	-
1213 - Payroll Fee	-	-	-	-	-	-
1300 - Hall hire	1,227.00	-	-	-	1,227.00	787.00
1301 - Project activities for young people	-	-	-	-	-	-
1302 - Refreshments	-	-	-	-	-	-
1500 - Insurance & affiliation fees	710.02	-	-	-	710.02	-
1501 - Administrative expenses	1,441.46	-	-	-	1,441.46	1,600.17
1502 - CRB/DBS costs	-	-	-	-	-	-

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	This year	Total Last year
1504 - IT and Software costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
1600 - Travel & Transport	-	-	-	-	-	-
1602 - Accommodation	-	-	-	-	-	-
1700 - Young People Training	1,000.00	-	-	-	1,000.00	600.00
1701 - Training materials	-	-	-	-	-	-
1702 - Materials and Activities	598.55	-	-	-	598.55	435.32
1703 - Community Activities	-	-	-	-	-	-
1800 - Recruitment costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
2000 - Bank charges	-	-	-	-	-	-
2300 - Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities Totals	37,653.19	-	1,407.00	-	39,060.19	52,439.00
Governance costs						
Governance costs Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other resources used						
Other resources used Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Payments Grand Totals	37,653.19	-	1,407.00	-	39,060.19	52,439.00

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES

PAT NAPPER (CHAIRMAN) P. E. Napper 18/11/24

HANU SUNDIN (TREASURER)  18/11/24

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ABINGDON DAMASCUS YOUTH PROJECT

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 4th of May 2024 set out on the above signed pages.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the examiner:

The charities trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charities trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43 (2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is the responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 43 (3) of the 1993 Act).
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners year (under section 43 (7)(b) of the 1993 Act)
- To state whether particular matters have come my attention

Basis of the examiner's report

My examination was carried out in the accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosure in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning such matters. The procedure undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's statement:

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention;

1. Which gives my reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act: and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date: 2ix24

Name: NICHOLAS JOHN DUNTON

Address: 44A HIGH STREET, SUTTON COURTENAY CX14 4AP