

Trustees' Annual Report for 1st August 2023 to 31st July 2024

Charity name: British Sign Language Bible Translation Project

Charity registration number: 1119990; Registered Company No: 06278694

Based on Trustees' annual report template (SORP FRS 102), Gov.UK Downloaded 23/09/2024

Objectives and activities

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	SORP ref. ¶1.17	The aim of the Charity (no. 1119990) is to translate, publish and disseminate the Christian Bible in British Sign Language (BSL), recognised by government in 2003 as a national minority language of the United Kingdom.
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.	¶1.17 & ¶1.19	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Continuation of translation of the Book of Genesis and managing processes of consultation, reviewing and revising the translation, and final filming▪ Finalisation of translation of the Gospel of Mark and publication with explanatory resources in BSL▪ Continuation of the strategy of residencies to accelerate our teamwork and production▪ Continuation of the use of three IT tools (Paratext, Sign Language Translation Tool, Logos Bible Study) to facilitate our work▪ Continuation and development of the use of Zoom sessions for some of our checking and review processes▪ Consultation with SIL International and a continuing services agreement for the involvement of a biblical scholar, giving us access to others working in Bible translation into sign language▪ Facilitation and development of community checks to ensure the translation is accessible to BSL users.▪ Maintenance of awareness of the Project and some fund-raising.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	¶1.18	The objectives are targeted, and activities carried out, for the public benefit as described in the guidance. The longer-term aim benefits the UK Deaf community with incremental access to books of the Bible in BSL. In the shorter term, the Project builds capacity among BSL users in linguistic, exegetical, translational and presentational skills to make this aim achievable and sustainable. The UK Deaf community is also offered opportunities to learn new skills by getting involved in charity work in different roles such as Trustee.
Additional information (optional)		
Policy on social investment	¶1.38	The Project is building capacity among BSL users in linguistic, exegetical, translational and presentational skills to make the aim of translating and publishing the Bible in BSL achievable and sustainable. New community-check leaders have been recruited and their skills further developed. Hearing BSL users have the opportunity to improve their signing and translation skills.
Contribution made by volunteers	¶1.38	Some people give all their work voluntarily: e.g., trustees, the web designer and some biblical scholars work voluntarily. Some translators and co-ordinators who claim for some of the hours they work also do additional hours on a voluntary basis. In these ways, in the year in question, 20 people worked for the Project as volunteers.

Achievements and performance

<p>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.</p>	<p>¶1.20</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gospel of Mark: the whole of the book has been translated, and nearly 90% is published, with some explanatory resources. The final chapters have been going through final review and checks. • The Book of Genesis: we have now drafted Gen 11.27 to end of Gen 25, and parts of Genesis 1 & 2. These are all in the various stages of our checking processes. The teams have had key discussions, developed through repeated encounters in the text, for new traditions of signing, e.g. on how to sign the Hebrew Tetragrammaton, a name for God • Our work continues to build capacity among BSL users in linguistic, exegetical, translational and presentational skills; and also in skills of administration and facilitation. • In our 'Community Check' groups, over 40 Deaf community members (not translators) have engaged with draft sections of the Bible and concepts such as 'covenant'. There are established CC groups in Glasgow and Boston Spa, and we have formed new groups in Leicester, Bromley and Stafford and West Wales. Deaf people lead groups, and training of new leaders is in progress. • We have agreed on the next part of the Project, to be translation of the Gospel of John. We have begun to plan the recruitment and induction of the scholars and translation teams, to begin work in 2025. • We hosted a scholar from SIL Global Sign Language Team at a residential as part of their training, to give exposure to a different sign language project. • We have oriented and included a Hebrew Bible/Old Testament scholar from the University of Cambridge who will be able contribute to the Genesis project.
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Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	¶ 1.21	The net incoming resources of the Charity were £9065.77. Total expenditure was £55,309 (cf. 2023: £67,741.86).
The policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	¶ 1.22	Our policy is to hold sufficient reserves, as a minimum, to cover any forecast operational deficit for the next six months, which at our projected rate of translation work means a minimum of £25,000.
Amount of reserves held	¶ 1.22	The financial statement shows the Charity has reserves of £58,789.58 (cf. 2023: £49,693.81).
Reasons for holding zero reserves	¶ 1.22	n/a
Any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	¶ 1.23	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	¶ 1.24	n/a

Additional information (optional)

The charity's principal sources of funds	¶ 1.47	Our funding is through personal donations and small grants.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	¶ 1.46	Our financial resources do not warrant investment. Our social investment is integral to the aspect of public benefit relating to building capacity among BSL users in linguistic, exegetical, translational and presentational skills: this is a necessary element in our key aim of translating the Bible into BSL.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	¶ 1.46	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The slow rate of translation work. We need to sustain our reputation for scholarly work but also address our speed of progress. 2. The recruitment of suitable trustees. The current board is capable of managing this phase of the project but if we are to accelerate our rate of work, we need to recruit trustees with particular management skills for moving the project forward. 3. Loss of volunteers, especially Trustees, due to burn-out: we need to recruit more volunteers and/or we need more funding to pay appropriate people to carry out the tasks and provide management and supervision. 4. We evaluate other risks (compliance with legislation and good governance, cash flow, access to documents) as low level of threat, apply mitigating processes and keep them under review.

Structure, governance and management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document	¶1.25	Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 3rd June 2007.
How is the charity constituted?	¶1.25	The company (no. 06278694) was incorporated and began trading on 13th June 2007.
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	¶1.25	We advertise for potential new Trustees and also seek those with skills and experience to enhance those of the existing Board through our network of contacts. This includes an active search for Deaf trustees as part of maintenance of a good reputation. Trustees subscribe to the doctrinal beliefs underpinning the Charity as laid out in the governing document's Statement of Belief. At each AGM one-third of the Trustees, subject to retirement by rotation, retire; if their number is not divisible by three, trustees of the number nearest to one third retire.

Additional information (optional)		
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	¶1.51	Strategic and policy decisions are made collectively by the trustees, often in consultation with advisers. We have agreed, and keep under review, policies on complaints procedure, conflicts of interest, equal opportunities, financial procedures, privacy, risk register, and volunteer management. Operational decisions are taken by co-ordinators of teams and reported to meetings of trustees. Trustees meetings are used to update or induct fellow trustees on points of good governance, with advice from the Company Secretary.
Relationship with any related parties	¶1.51	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Joseph's Deaf Club, Manchester, from whom we hire rooms for filming, also offers storage for our studio equipment. • The biblical scholar for the Genesis team works for SIL International and we have a service agreement with them for this. • The Saltley Trust funds some of our work in the West Midlands and we report to them annually on how we have used their grant.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	British Sign Language Bible Translation Project
Other name the charity uses	n/a
Registered charity number	1119990
Charity's principal address	4 Silverwood Close, Cambridge CB1 3HA

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Person or body entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1. Rev. Canon Gill Behenna	n/a		
2. Liz Heyburn	n/a		
3. Rev. Dr Robert Evans	n/a		
4. Susan Myatt	n/a		
5. Janice Silo	n/a		

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

Director name		
<i>All trustees are directors</i>		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not whole year	
n/a		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	n/a
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	n/a
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	n/a

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

n/a

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)	Gillian Eve Behenna	Janice Ann Silo
Position (e.g. Secretary, Chair, etc.)	Trustee & Chair of AGM	Trustee

Date

27th February 2025

27th February 2025

BSL Bible Translaton Project
Annual Accounts for the period
1 Aug 2023 to 31 July 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds This Year	Prior Year Funds
INCOME & EXPENDITURE					
<u>Income</u>					
Donations & legacies	64,074.31			64,074.31	29,895
Charitable activities	-			-	-
Other trading activities	-			-	-
Investments	-			-	-
Other	300.73			300.73	345
Total income	64,375.04			64,375.04	30,240
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Raising funds	-			-	-
Charitable activities	55,309.27			55,309.27	67,742
Other	-			-	-
Total expenditure	55,309.27			55,309.27	67,742
Net income before tax	9,065.77			9,065.77	- 37,502
Tax payable	-			-	-
Net income after tax	9,065.77			9,065.77	- 37,502
Investment gains/(losses)	-			-	-
Net income/(expenditure)	9,065.77			9,065.77	- 37,502
Extraordinary items	-			-	-
Transfers between funds	-			-	-
Other gains	-			-	-
Net movement in funds	9,065.77			9,065.77	- 37,502
Funds b/f	49,693.81			49,693.81	87,196
Funds c/f	58,759.58			58,759.58	49,694
BALANCE SHEET					
<u>Fixed Assets</u>					
Intangible assets	-			-	-
Tangible assets	-			-	-
Heritage assets	-			-	-
Investments	-			-	-
Total fixed assets	-			-	-
<u>Current Assets</u>					
Stocks	-			-	-
Debtors	9,000.00			9,000.00	3,759
Investments	-			-	-
Cash at bank/in hand	54,568.50			54,568.50	52,363
Total current assets	63,568.50			63,568.50	56,122
Creditors < 1 year	4,808.92			4,808.92	6,428
Net current assets	58,759.58			58,759.58	49,694
Total assets less current liabilities	58,759.58			58,759.58	49,694
Creditors > 1 year	-			-	-
Provisions	-			-	-
Total net assets	58,759.58			58,759.58	49,694
<u>Funds of the Charity</u>					
Endowment funds			0	-	-
Restricted funds		0		-	-
Unrestricted funds	58,759.58			58,759.58	49,694
Revaluation reserve	-			-	-
Fair value reserve	-			-	-
Total funds	58,759.58			58,759.58	49,694



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the
trustees/directors/
members of

Charity Name
BSL BIBLE TRANSLATION PROJECT

On accounts for the year
ended

31 JULY 2024

Charity no.:

1119990

Company no.:

6278694

Set out on pages

1 AND 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended **31 / 07 / 2024**.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act).

Independent
examiner's statement

~~[The company's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

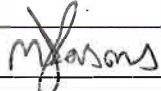
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention ~~(other than that disclosed below *)~~ which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:



Date:

29 / 09 / 2024

Name:

MICHAEL PARSONS

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC FINANCE AND ACCOUNTANCY (CIPFA)

Address:

30 GILBERT ROAD

CAMBRIDGE

CB4 3PE

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

NOT APPLICABLE