

Trustees' Annual Report for 1st August 2024 to 31st July 2025

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	SOR 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">• Identified that team residential days (2-3 days) are far more productive and cost effective than individual days and there have been 3 residentials which has enabled us to accelerate our teamworking more efficiently. We still use individual translation days in person and via Zoom especially for checking and review processes.• Due to unforeseen circumstances, we need to refilm some passages of translation of the Gospel of Mark as well as complete filming of the last three chapters for publication in 2025. However nearly-27% of the gospel is translated and published along with explanatory resources.• Started the process of translation of the Book of Genesis and managing processes of consultation, reviewing and revising the translation and final filming.• Continue to use IT tools (primarily Paratext and Sign Language Translation Tool) to facilitate our work.• Facilitation and development of community checks to ensure the translation is accessible to BSL users• Maintenance of awareness of the Project and continued applications to various funding bodies• In our "Community Check" groups, over the past year (2025) 30 new Deaf community members (not translators) have engaged with draft sections of the Bible and a wide variety of concepts such as "covenant". We had trained 3 new Community Check Facilitators (Deaf). These 3 facilitators increased our connections

		<p>with the 30 new members from the Deaf Community. The work on Genesis has provided Deaf people increased knowledge of the Abraham narratives which apparently from their input, many Deaf people have never come across before. The Community Checks continue to bring helpful feedback but also opportunities for the members of the groups an opportunity to discuss complex and varied topics in BSL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As the story of Noah is foundational to understanding the Old Testament, it can be translated on its own, separate to the rest of Genesis so we can work on that with one team whilst the other team looks at other passages in Genesis. • Have funding to commence translation of the Gospel of John. We were unable to start John in 2025 due to capacity but plan to commence that in 2026. We have drafted a BSL video to recruit more Deaf translators, as soon as a team is formed and timeline agreed. • Continue to use a Hebrew Bible/scholar from the University of Cambridge who has already contributed many ways to understand Genesis better. Also we still welcome scholars and PhD students to our residencies for different reasons which include training, seeing how English is translated into BSL etc. • Our work continues to build capacity among BSL users in linguistic, exegetical, translational and presentational skills and also in skills of administration and facilitation
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	1.18	<p>The objectives are targeted, and activities carried out for the benefit as described in the guidance. The longer-term aims benefits the UK Deaf community with incremental access to the books of the Bible in BSL. The UK Deaf community is also offered opportunities to learn new skills by getting involved in charity work in different roles such as advisors and trustees.</p>
Additional information (optional)		
Policy on social investment	1.38	<p>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 and</p>

		some Deaf BSL users have the opportunity to improve their signing and translation skills within an empowering environment.
Contribution made by volunteers	1.38	Many people give all their work voluntarily: e.g., trustees, the web designer, community check volunteers 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, up to 20 volunteers worked for the Project as volunteers

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The net incoming resources of the Charity were £43,391. Total expenditure was £43,997.46 (cf. 2024: £58,760).
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 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	Para 1.22	The financial statement shows the Charity has reserves of £44,780.56 (cf. 2024: £53,789.58).
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	n/a

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	Our funding is through personal donations and mostly small grants from trusts and organisations.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 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	Para 1.46	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The slow rate of translation work. We need to sustain our reputation for scholarly work but also address our speed of progress. • 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. • 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. • 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.
Other		

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 can hire rooms for filming, also offers storage for our studio equipment. • We have booked rooms for translation work from a variety of different churches and organisations including St Chad's, Birmingham; Agape, Birmingham and Waddon Way Church, Milton Keynes. • The biblical scholar for the Genesis team works for SIL International and we have a service agreement with them for this.

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	1 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	Until 27 February 2025	
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>		
Sarah Haynes	Company Secretary	Until 24 February 2025
Peter McDonough	Company Secretary	From 25 February 2025

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
n/a		

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

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Exemptions from disclosure

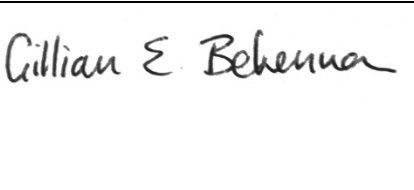
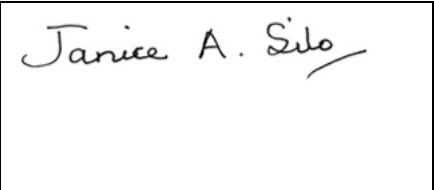
Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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	<div>13.03.2026</div>	13.03.2026
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BSL Bible Translaton Project
Annual Accounts for the period
1 Aug 2024 to 31 July 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total Funds This Year	Prior Year Funds
INCOME & EXPENDITURE					
<u>Income</u>					
Donations & legacies	42,678.07			42,678.07	64,074
Charitable activities	-			-	-
Other trading activities	-			-	-
Investments	-			-	-
Other	713.22			713.22	301
Total income	43,391.29			43,391.29	64,375
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Raising funds	-			-	-
Charitable activities	58,153.41			58,153.41	55,309
Other	-			-	-
Total expenditure	58,153.41			58,153.41	55,309
Net income before tax	- 14,762.12			- 14,762.12	9,066
Tax payable	-			-	-
Net income after tax	- 14,762.12			- 14,762.12	9,066
Investment gains/(losses)	-			-	-
Net income/(expenditure)	- 14,762.12			- 14,762.12	9,066
Extraordinary items	-			-	-
Transfers between funds	-			-	-
Other gains	-			-	-
Net movement in funds	- 14,762.12			- 14,762.12	9,066
Funds b/f	58,759.58			58,759.58	49,694
Funds c/f	43,997.46			43,997.46	58,760
BALANCE SHEET					
<u>Fixed Assets</u>					
Intangible assets	-			-	-
Tangible assets	-			-	-
Heritage assets	-			-	-
Investments	-			-	-
Total fixed assets	-			-	-
<u>Current Assets</u>					
Stocks	-			-	-
Debtors	5,722.50			5,722.50	9,000
Investments	-			-	-
Cash at bank/in hand	40,719.18			40,719.18	54,569
Total current assets	46,441.68			46,441.68	63,569
Creditors < 1 year	2,444.22			2,444.22	4,809
Net current assets	43,997.46			43,997.46	58,760
Total assets less current liabilities	43,997.46			43,997.46	58,760
Creditors > 1 year	-			-	-
Provisions	-			-	-
Total net assets	43,997.46			43,997.46	58,760
<u>Funds of the Charity</u>					
Endowment funds			0	-	-
Restricted funds		0		-	-
Unrestricted funds	43,997.46			43,997.46	58,760
Revaluation reserve	-			-	-
Fair value reserve	-			-	-
Total funds	43,997.46			43,997.46	58,760



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 2025

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 / 2025**.

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.~~

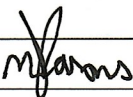
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention ~~(other than that disclosed below *)~~ which gives me cause to believe that:

- 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:

25 / 01 / 2026

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