

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY

ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES March 2024

African Refugee Community (ARC) is a registered charitable organisation providing confidential emotional and practical holistic support to African Asylum Seekers and Refugees living in the borough of Barnet in particular and surrounding boroughs in general. Our aim is to facilitate the safe integration, relocation and rehabilitation of our service users who often present complex and challenging issues. Our target is to improve the quality of their life and promote their well-being in different aspects of their integration by helping them to reduce health inequalities, social exclusion, poverty and stigmatisation. The Safeguarding promotion of our clients is our priority.

ARC works with individuals as well as families, we closely work with professionals from statutory and voluntary agencies providing additional and appropriate services

What we offer

- **Advocacy and Case Management**
Referrals and signposting to partner agencies such as: GP surgeries, medical health centres, solicitors, social services, job centre, hospitals, housing including other refugee organisations
- **Advice and information**
Education, immigration, health, employment agencies, training, housing, welfare benefit, individual and family grant applications for white goods, utility debts and holidays
- **Translation and Interpreting services** (French, Swahili, Kikongo, Tshiluba, Lingala and Arabic)
- **Outreach visits:** Home, hospital, detention centre, prison, residential care homes
- **Workshops**
Healthy eating, obesity, well being, tackling youth violence, domestic violence, completion of CV, job Interview techniques, IT, basic English classes, cultural barriers and parenting skills
- **Group visits:** seaside, park/gardens, museums, libraries, football stadiums and African cultural events

Our members:

During this financial year 2023-2024, African Refugee Community has registered about 270 African service users from different gender and background attending to our holistic and integration services for different needs. They came from countries such as:

Uganda
Sudan
Democratic Republic of Congo
Algeria
Tunisia
Rwanda
Burundi
Angola
Togo
Gambia
Ivory Coast
Cameroun
Ghana

Many of them have been granted asylum and now in the process of funding permanent accommodation, employment / training and education for a better future.

We have 8 volunteers, academic students and temporary staff members delivering different integration projects.

We run a Drop in sessions every Monday and Friday from 10.00-15.00pm for new service users and existing ones with urgent need for support. We have different activities going on the rest of the days from individual support to group ones. We also organise home visit and accompany many of our service users to their different appointments with statutory or voluntary agencies.

Service covered during 2023-2024

- Registration of new service users
- Advocacy and case management
- Translation and interpretation
- Outreach visits and sea side ones
- Individual holistic support and group ones including emotionally, mental health and wellbeing
- Group workshops on specific integration issues
- Referrals and signposting to other partner organisations
- Wellbeing and employment workshops
- After school club- Support to children in tern of education
- Parents groups
- Individual and family grant applications
- Telephone assistance
- Sewing classes
- IT and limited ESOL classes

Challenges:

- Increased level of mental health in the community
- Many of our service users feeling stigmatised and in fear to engage with other community external activities
- Language and the need of having someone to translate for them
- Isolation
- Fear, uncertainties
- Poverty due to unemployment
- Lack of advocacy
- Housing and benefits issues
- Lack of device and data to support our service users
- Immigration issues
- Unavailability of training in different domains.
- Impact of the cost of living
- Additional support on Utility Bills assistance

Financial Support received from:

- Big Lottery – Awards for All
- Young Barnet Foundation
- Community Barnet
- Refugee Council
- Red Cross
- Family Action
- Vicar Relief Fund
- Society for the relief of Distress
- Friends Trust
- London Refugee Churches Fund
- Donations / Individual
- Community organisations
- London Churches Refugee Funds
- And others

Partner Agencies

- Barnet Refugee Service
- Refugee Council
- Freedom from Torture (Medical Foundation)
- Red Cross
- Notre Dame Refugee Centre
- Praxis
- Social services
- Housing / Homeless Department

- Barnet College
- Citizen Advice bureau
- Food bank agencies
- ASAAP
- HEAR
- Community Barnet
- Young Barnet Foundation
- Baobab for Young Survivors in Exile
- Job Centre
- Benefits Agency
- Barnet Law Centre
- Immigration Solicitors
- Groundwork
- Refugee Community organisations
- Libraries
- Local churches and mosques
- Local shops
- Community Focus

General comment

The work of African Refugee Community is based on the slow building of trusting and open relationship between service users , volunteers and staff members. We aim to provide an experience of safety, stability and reality which may be the first time which a new asylum seeker or refugee has known these.

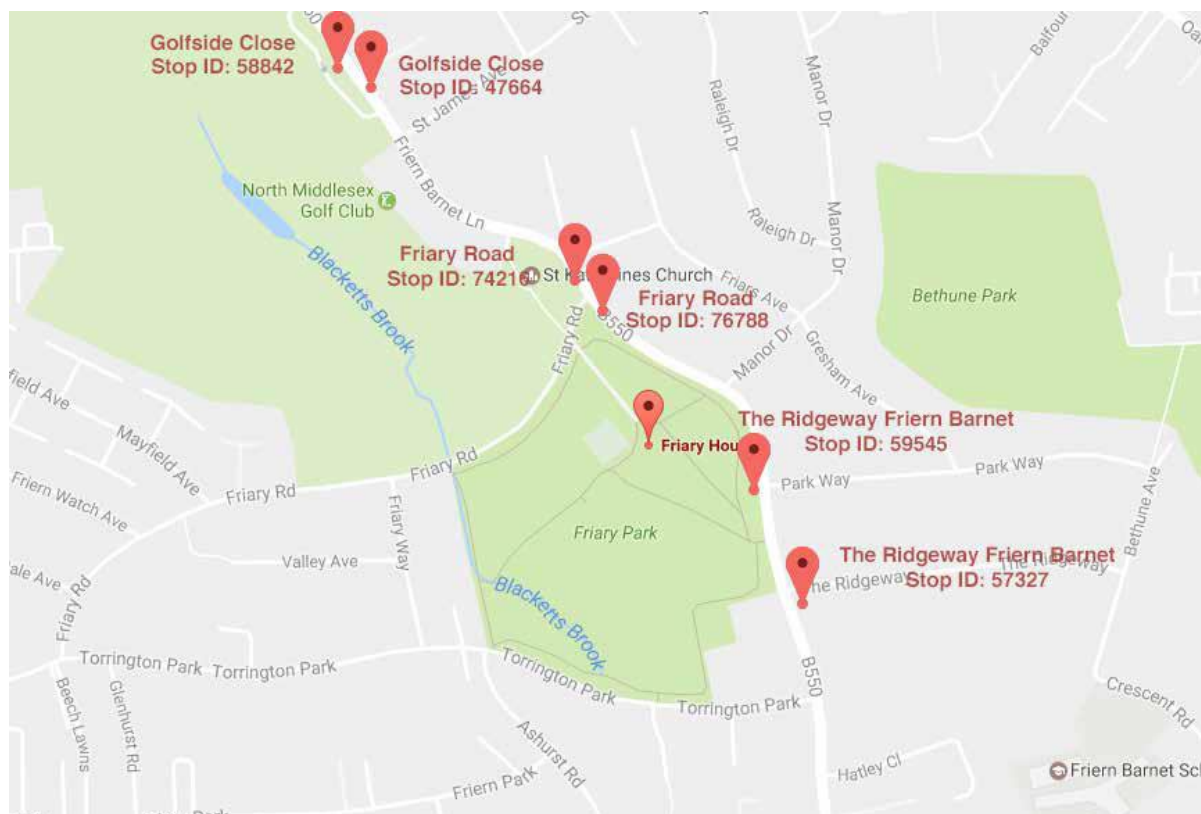
We hold the hope that the holistic and integration support we provide will rebuilt trust and offer thoughtful space where they can begin to make good choices of friendship, study, work and begin to believe in their own strengths. They will become more resilient in the face of the ordinary stresses of life and find a place in the community of exile where they might contribute to the life of the community where they live.

We are hugely grateful to our volunteers, staff members, and trustees in term of their energy, dedication and commitments. We also want to express our gratitude to different donors and partner organisation, which with such generosity support our work.

Life of a refugee is a transitional one and need a lot of support guidance, orientation and trust in order to achieve their4 goals.

Bitenge Makuka
 Operations Manager
 African Refugee Community
 29.10.2025

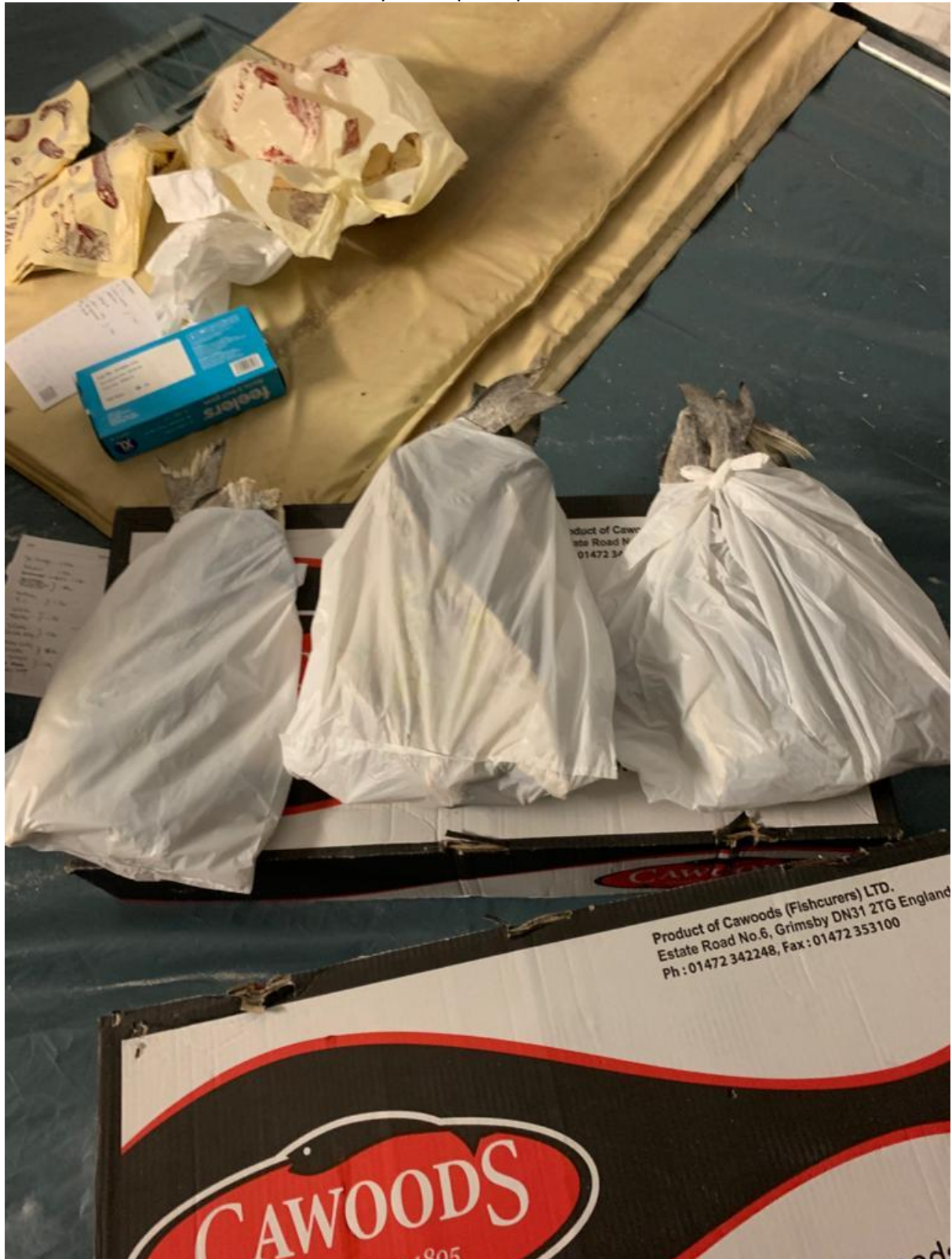
Where to Find Us



Our address:
African Refugee Community
Office 3, Friary House Friary Park
Friern Barnet Lane
London N20 0NR

Our Contacts:
Office: Tel/ Fax: 020 8368 9070
Mobile: 07956566573
Email address: africanrefugeecommunity@acrc.org.uk
Website: www.africanrefugeecommunity.co.uk

Food delivery to our participants– Salted Fish



Baking session



Healthy Eating session



Masks to be distributed to our participants



Walk in nature with a group of asylum seekers and refugees



Food distribution during the lockdown - Semolina



Food delivery to our participants – Salted Fish



Food delivery during Christmas-



**AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

**AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS
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**AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
CHARITY INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Trustees	Bitenge Makuka Ma Mbombo Lukubika Mazuba Makwim
Charity Number	1120861 (England and Wales)
Registered Office	Friary House, Friary Park Friern Barnet Lane London N20 0NR United Kingdom
Accountants	Accountae Ltd 3 The Quadrant Warwick Road Coventry CV1 2DY

**AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
(CHARITY NO: 1120861 ENGLAND AND WALES)
TRUSTEES' REPORT**

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Principal activity

ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES March 2024

African Refugee Community (ARC) is a registered charitable organisation providing confidential emotional and practical holistic support to African Asylum Seekers and Refugees living in the borough of Barnet in particular and surrounding boroughs in general.

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- Sewing classes
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Trustees

The following Trustees held office during the whole of the period:

Bitenge Makuka Ma
Mbombo Lukubika
Mazuba Makwim

Charitable and Political donations

No political donations were made or received during the financial year

**AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
(CHARITY NO: 1120861 ENGLAND AND WALES)
TRUSTEES' REPORT**

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year. Under that law, the Trustees have elected to prepare the accounts in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under Charity law the Trustees must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the profit or loss of the Charity for that period. In preparing these accounts, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Financial Support received from:

- Big Lottery – Awards for All
- Young Barnet Foundation
- Community Barnet
- Refugee Council
- Red Cross
- Family Action
- Vicar Relief Fund
- Society for the relief of Distress
- Friends Trust
- London Refugee Churches Fund
- Donations / Individual
- Community organisations
- London Churches Refugee Funds
- And others

Small Charity provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Signed on behalf of the board of Trustees

.....

Bitenge Makuka Ma
Trustee

Approved by the board on: 10 December 2024

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC) ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Accountants' report to the board of Trustees of African Refugee Community (ARC) on the preparation of the unaudited statutory accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

In order to assist you to fulfil your duties under the Companies Act 2006 the charity commission law, we have prepared for your approval the accounts of African Refugee Community (ARC) for the year ended 31 March 2024 as set out on pages 7 - 10 from the Charity's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given us.

This report is made solely to the Board of Trustees of African Refugee Community (ARC), as a body, in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 17 October 2021. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the accounts of African Refugee Community (ARC) and state those matters that we have agreed to state to them, as a body, in this report. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than African Refugee Community (ARC) and its Board of Trustees as a body for our work or for this report.

It is your duty to ensure that African Refugee Community (ARC) has kept adequate accounting records and to prepare statutory accounts that give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit of African Refugee Community (ARC). You consider that African Refugee Community (ARC) is exempt from the statutory audit requirement for the year.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit or a review of the accounts of African Refugee Community (ARC). For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the statutory accounts.

Accountae Ltd

3 The Quadrant
Warwick Road
Coventry
CV1 2DY

10 December 2024

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND RETAINED EARNINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Charity Name: African Refugee Commu		Charity No		
		Company No	1120861	
Annual accounts for the period				
Period start date	Mar-23	To	Period end date	Mar-24

Section A Statement of financial activities (including summary income and expenditure account)

Recommended categories by activity	Guidance Note	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year funds
		£	£	£	£	£
		F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
Income and endowments from:						
Grants		10 500	57 272	-	67 772	43 944
Donations		6 799	-	-	6 799	-
Charitable activities		-	-	-	-	-
Other		-	-	-	-	-
Total		17 299	57 272	-	74 571	43 944
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds		-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities		6 100	50 353	-	56 453	38 862
Separate material expense item		-	-	-	-	-
Total		6 100	50 353	-	56 453	38 862
Net income/(expenditure) before tax for the reporting period						
		11 199	6 919	-	18 118	5 082
Tax payable		-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) after tax before investment gains/(losses)						
		11 199	6 919	-	18 118	5 082
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) Extraordinary items						
		11 199	6 919	-	18 118	5 082
Transfers between funds						
		-	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use		-	-	-	-	-
Other gains/(losses)		-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds						
		11 199	6 919	-	18 118	5 082
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		-	37 232	-	37 232	32 150
Total funds carried forward		11 199	44 151	-	55 350	37 232

**AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 31 MARCH 2024**

Charity Name: African Refugee Community (ARC)

Charity No

1120861

Section B Balance sheet

	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total this year £ F04	Total last year £ F05
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets (Note 15)	-	-	-	-	-
Tangible assets (Note 14)	-	3 966	-	3 966	7 934
Heritage assets (Note 16)	-	-	-	-	-
Investments (Note 17)	-	-	-	-	-
Total fixed assets	-	3 966	-	3 966	7 934
Current assets					
Stocks	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors	-	28 840	-	28 840	11 924
Investments	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	-	22 544	-	22 544	17 374
Total current assets	-	51 384	-	51 384	29 298
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	-	-	-	-
Net current assets/(liabilities)	-	51 384	-	51 384	29 298
Total assets less current liabilities	-	55 350	-	55 350	37 232
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	-	-	-	-	-
Provisions for liabilities	-	-	-	-	-
Total net assets or liabilities	-	55 350	-	55 350	37 232
Funds of the Charity					
Endowment funds	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted income funds	-	55 350	-	55 350	37 232
Unrestricted funds	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation reserve	-	-	-	-	-
Fair value reserve	-	-	-	-	-
Total funds	-	55 350	-	55 350	37 232

For the year ending 31 March 2024 the Charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and charity law. The members have not required the Charity to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A - Small Entities.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 10 December 2024 and were signed on its behalf by

Bitenge Makuka Ma
Trustee

Charity Registration No. 1120861

**AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

1 Statutory information

African Refugee Community (ARC) is a Charity, registered in England and Wales, registration number 1120861. The registered office is Friary House, Friary Park, Friern Barnet Lane, London, N20 0NR, United Kingdom.

2 Compliance with accounting standards

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A Small Entities and charity law. There were no material departures from that standard.

3 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below and have remained unchanged from the previous year, and also have been consistently applied within the same accounts.

Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets.

Presentation currency

The accounts are presented in £ sterling.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible assets are included at cost less depreciation and impairment. Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets over their estimated useful lives: 5

Computer equipment

Computer Equipment

Government grants

Government grants in relation to tangible fixed assets are credited to profit and loss account over the useful lives of the related assets, whereas those in relation to expenditure are credited when the expenditure is charged to profit and loss.

Turnover

Turnover is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts, rebates, value added tax and other sales taxes. Turnover from the sale of goods is recognised when goods have been delivered to customers such that risks and rewards of ownership have transferred to them. Turnover from the rendering of services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract. The stage of completion of a contract is measured by comparing the costs incurred for work performed to date to the total estimated contract costs.

**AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

4 Tangible fixed assets

**Computer
equipment
£**

Cost or valuation

At 1 April 2023

At cost

20,174

At 31 March 2024

20,174

Depreciation

At 1 April 2023

12,240

Charge for the year

3,968

At 31 March 2024

16,208

Net book value

At 31 March 2024

3,966

At 31 March 2023

7,934

5 Debtors

2024

2023

£

£

Amounts falling due within one year

Accrued income and prepayments

28,840

11,924

6 Average number of employees

During the year the average number of employees was 3 (2023: 3).

**AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
DETAILED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts.

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Turnover	Restricted Income	Unrestricted Income	Total Funds	Total Funds
Grants	57,272	10,500	67,772	43,944
Donations		6,799	6,799	
				-
	57,272	17,299	74,571	43,944
Administrative expenses				
Charitable Activities	24,450		24,450	2,489
Staff and Volunteers training	3,560		3,560	3,400
Travel and subsistence	1,450		1,450	2,870
Rent		4,800	4,800	3,300
Project Costs	2,490		2,490	-
Telephone and fax	1,600		1,600	1,450
Stationery and printing	897		897	645
Bank charges	380		380	260
Insurance	480		480	480
Equipment expensed	4,359		4,359	3,500
Depreciation	3,968		3,968	3,968
Sundry expenses	2,500		2,500	2,350
Accountancy fees	450		450	450
Consultancy fees	850		850	850
Management fees	370		370	-
Advertising and PR	670		670	350
Other legal and professional	3,179		3,179	12,500
	51,653	4,800	56,453	38,862
Operating profit			18,118	5,082
Funds on ordinary activities			18,118	5,082

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY

On accounts for the year
ended

31st March 2024

Reg

1120861

Set out on pages

3 to 16 Of the financial statements

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st March 2024

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

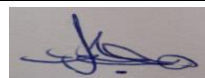
I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a part qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

Signed:



Date:

10/12/2024

Name:

Mamadou Bah

Address:

109 Poppleton Close, Coventry, CV1 3BN