

Open Way

Helping people out of poverty

(Charity Number: 1122055)

Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements for the year ended

31st July 2022

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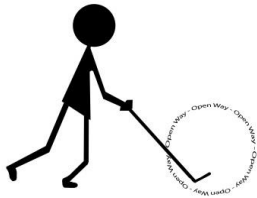
Charity accounts preparation &
independent examination service

Open Way

(Charity Number: 1122055)

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Open Way

helping people out of poverty

Registered charity 1122055

Trustee's Annual Report for the period: 1st August 2021 to 31st July 2022

Reference and Administration details

Name:

Open Way

Other names charity is known by:

None

Address:

26 Spring Road, Abingdon, Oxfordshire. OX14 1AQ
openway@hotmail.co.uk

Charity Number:

1122055

Names of the trustees who manage the charity:

Nicholas Osborne (chair)

Maria Lopez (Trustee)

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity:

None

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others:

None of any kind

Names and addresses of advisers:

Independent Examiner

Karen Wood ACMA

Outsource VSCE Support CIC, 29 Millfield Road, York. YO23 1NH

Banker:

CAF BANK Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent. ME19 4JQ

Name of chief executive:

Nick Osborne (Chair of Trustees)

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document:

Trust Deed

How the charity is constituted:

Trust

Trustee selection methods:

Appointed by existing trustees

Objectives and Activities

Summary of the purposes of the charity set out in its governing document

The relief of poverty and suffering related to the lack of basic needs for people of any age or cultural background in poor countries with the aim of bettering their present situation and improving their chances of future self-reliability.

To advance the education of the public in poor countries in the subjects of: health; and the conservation of the natural and physical environment.

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.

Helping people out of poverty in Ethiopia by:

- Providing medical help.
- Providing free pre-school education in poor rural villages.
- Tackling malnourishment.
- Helping the vulnerable and the elderly.

The trustees consider that they have complied with their duties to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Achievement and performance



Introduction

The situation in Ethiopia has continued to be a very difficult one. The war in the Tigray region has taken a terrible toll on the country and it is estimated by the United Nations that about half a million lives have been lost because of the conflict and consequent starvation and lack of health care. There is some hope in that a peace agreement has recently been signed (in November 2022) on the second anniversary of the war, and at least some essential aid is getting to Tigray and other affected areas.

There are other conflicts occurring around the country. Travelling has now become dangerous between Addis Ababa and our project area because the road passes through Oromia where there are ethnic disputes. Last month, the day after Mulu had made the journey, a bus was stopped on the same road and some of the passengers were killed due to ethnicity or affiliation.

The war and other global events have obviously impacted Ethiopia's economy hugely. Inflation has been above 30% and often close to 40% throughout 2022, and so the cost of basic commodities has created great food insecurity all over Ethiopia. Open Way has responded by providing as much funding as possible for emergency food.

Against this background, Open Way has kept all projects going safely and successfully thanks to the hard work and careful planning of its dedicated team in Ethiopia.

Education project

Schools and Libraries

In October 2021, Open Way schools registered 1,142 students.

This increase in pupils is great to see after the difficulty of the Covid period where numbers were forced down to about 850 students. We always aim to equally encourage girls into education and once again we have more girls than boys registered.

Five of the schools have libraries which are used for students to study, read, and play games. In Shigesho, Lela Wemerera and Lela Honcho, these are used as community centres in the evening for people to gather and watch the news on solar powered tv.

School	Classes in operation 2021-2022	Schools with libraries
TK	5	✓
Shigesho	6	✓
L. Wemerera	3	✓
Lela Honcho	3	✓
Hatabo	3	✓
Kokosa	3	
Mi-ke	2	
Bentibata	2	
	27	5

Tackling food insecurity

Grain

Food insecurity has been the main issue this year. As mentioned in the introduction, inflation has been really tough on everybody, especially poor rural people. The price of vegetable oil for cooking went up more than five times during a 12-month period; and crucially for our work, the price of grain went up by nearly a third.

Many people have become desperate, so we decided to give as much grain as was possible with the funds available to us.

For the year starting August 2021:

- 160 extremely vulnerable families have been helped with 15 kg of grain every month for ten months; and
- 500 one-off such rations were allocated on a case-by-case basis. Often malnourished families are referred to us by local health-centres.

This help is a lifeline to the people that it reaches, but this year there are many desperate people that we were unable to assist. We are raising extra funds for this reason.



People waiting to collect a grain voucher from our HQ to take to the mill

Seedlings

Every year people are selected from the poorest in the communities for seedling distribution. These are impoverished households that have a small plot to grow food. Either cassava (yam) or false banana seedlings are given according to the size and the situation/altitude of the plot. The selected people are told in advance of receiving the seedlings so that they can prepare their plots in time.

This year, 400 households were given seedlings to plant in their plots - the same number as last year. Of those, 118 households received cassava, and 282 false banana seedlings.

Seedlings are a longer-term solution to target food insecurity. The yams will give a harvest during the same year and some of the crop can be saved and re-planted year on year; banana seedlings will not give food for some years until the plants get mature but then it is a reliable, drought-resistant source of staple food for several years to come.

Each year one of our coordinators visits some of these households to learn from their situation and to see if the project is working well. About 70% of the yam recipients managed to replant some of their harvest and the false banana crops are being looked after and are maturing well.



False banana seedling distribution 2022



One of the beneficiary's maturing false banana plants 2022



Yam seedlings are distributed a few at a time as they come to the market

Providing Housing

Most rural people live in traditional round mud houses with grass roofs. These dwellings are great if they are well made and can be maintained, but vulnerable people such as the elderly, disabled, unwell or single parents can find themselves in a poorly constructed, deteriorated and unsafe dwelling which lets in the rain, and does not offer protection from hyenas. Tragically there are cases each year of people being killed by hyenas in the region.



Unsuitable and unsafe dwelling 2022

People in this kind of difficulty are selected for a house construction. The house constructed is a simple square timber and mud house with a metal roof. Like everything else, the price of the metal has increased a lot. Our manager Sirgu did well to purchase a large amount early-on to make this project viable with available funds.

This year 20 houses for vulnerable people have been built in different communities.



A new house ready for rendering 2022

Open Way Village

Mulu reported that the number of homeless people in Teferi-Kela, the largest village where we operate from in the countryside, has increased. Homelessness is common in Addis Ababa but is unusual in rural areas and seems to be a result of people moving to find daily labour but not being able to afford rent; and, in some cases, due to displacement due to the war – even as far away as our project work is from Tigray. In fact, the idea of the project came about because of the situation of a Sidamo lady who was living in Tigray but lost her husband in the war. Because of her ethnicity, she and her children were ejected from Tigray. She had been attacked in an attempted rape when sleeping rough in Teferi-Kela and had her leg broken while trying to defend herself. Mulu saw the need to do something about this. After talking to the local authorities, they agreed to give us a plot to build some houses for homeless people.

As a result, two buildings consisting of five rooms, one kitchen, and one toilet have been constructed and homeless people have been selected to live in this accommodation (including the lady from Tigray). All houses have utensils, mattresses, and blankets. The people selected come from a variety of situations and they will be helped for a period while their situation improves so that they can move into their own accommodation.

Mulu went to visit the new residents in the “Open Way Village” as it is locally called. She was very happy to find them boiling potatoes and coffee in the kitchen. She has given them training on how to budget, save money, and open their own bank accounts.

Teferi-Kela is the only village where we work which has electricity. The authorities

contributed to the erecting of an electricity pole to supply the buildings. This has benefited not only these buildings, but other nearby residents who can now obtain electricity to their own houses.



The new accommodation and some of the residents

Helping the Elderly

Every year we support 15 elderly people with a small pension and clothes, soap and blankets. This year one of the elderly people supported passed away. Sadly, her daughter had died a few months earlier. Another elderly person has been selected immediately for support with that fund.



Some of the elderly folk helped by Open Way

Medical Assistance

During the period 1st Aug 21 to 31st July 22, a total of **223** patients were treated for the conditions in the table. Of these, 112 were female, 111 were male, and 31 were children.

Condition	Number of cases
Anaemia	1
Asthma	1
Bladder stones	1
Breast issue	1
Burns	3
Cancer	4
Cataracts	31
Cough	1
Ear, nose, throat	5
Eye issues (other than cataracts)	13
Gall-stones	1
Gastritis/digestive	14
Goitre	1
Giardia	3
High blood pressure	5
Heart issues	5
Intestinal issues	1
Kidney issues	20
Liver issues	1
Lung issues	9
Malaria	5
Mouth	2
Mental health	5
Migraine	1
Nerve issues	2
Plasmodium	1
Pneumonia	10
Prostate	8
Scabies	1
Sexual health (inc. miscarriage)	11
Skin	7
TB	6
Teeth	1
Trachoma	1
Tumours	7
Typhoid / typhus	44
Ulcer	2
Unknown	6
Worms	10
Wounds/breaks	7
Total treatments	258

Financial Review

Open Way's reserves remain relatively small, but healthier than in previous years.

Our end of year balance is £11, 862.22

Our aim is to hold reserves of around 4 to 6 months.

Open Way has no funds in deficit.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees Annual Report and Accounts.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nick Osborne".

Nick Osborne
Chair of The Trustees

Date
14th January 2023

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Open Way

I report on the accounts of: **Open Way**
for the year ended: **31st July 2022** which are set out on pages 13 to 15.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Charity'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 have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records

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.



Karen Wood (ACMA)

Outsource independent examination
service
The Hiscox Building
Peasholme Green
York YO1 7PR

26/01/2023

Date:

Open Way

(Charity Number: 1122055)

Receipts & Payments Accounts for the year ended:

31st July 2022

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Receipts				
Grants	-	40,660	40,660	33,375
Donations - standing orders	7,165	856	8,021	6,360
Donations - one-off	3,715	-	3,715	1,694
My Donate / Wonderful	644	-	644	317
Bank interest	1	-	1	-
Total receipts	11,525	41,516	53,041	41,746
Payments				
Grants to project	8,484	41,516	50,000	47,000
Postage & packaging	-	-	-	-
Bank charges & trf fees	221	-	221	196
Independent examination fee	150	-	150	150
Total payments	8,855	41,516	50,371	47,346
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,670	-	2,670	(5,600)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Balance brought forward	9,192	-	9,192	14,792
Balance carried forward	11,862	-	11,862	9,192

Open Way
(Charity Number: 1122055)

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at:	31st July 2022
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	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	2021 Total funds £
Assets				
Cash at bank and in hand				
CAF current account	11,862	-	11,862	9,192
	<u>11,862</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,862</u>	<u>9,192</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total Funds £	2021 Total Funds £
Liabilities				
Independent Examination fee	150	-	150	150
	<u>150</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>150</u>

Open Way
(Charity Number: 1122055)

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended:

31st July 2022

1. Basis of Accounts

The Trustees have taken advantage of section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 and prepared the accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

2. Analysis of Funds

2.1 Details of restricted funds

All funds of the charity are utilised in the alleviation of poverty in Ethiopia. However the charity obtains grants and donations which are restricted for the following purposes:

Education
Elderly & vulnerable
Help to individuals
Medical
Housing

2.2 Movement of major funds

	Balance b/fwd £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance c/fwd £
Unrestricted Funds				
General unrestricted funds	9,192	11,525	8,855	11,862
	<u>9,192</u>	<u>11,525</u>	<u>8,855</u>	<u>11,862</u>
Restricted Funds				
Education				
Band Aid Trust	-	8,900	8,900	-
Just Trust	-	1,500	1,500	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>10,400</u>	<u>10,400</u>	<u>-</u>
Elderly & Vulnerable				
Band Aid Trust		25,510	25,510	
Ashworth Trust		3,000	3,000	
Donations	-	560	560	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>29,070</u>	<u>29,070</u>	<u>-</u>
Help to individuals				
Donations	-	296	296	-
Medical				
Band Aid	-	1,750	1,750	
	<u>-</u>	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
Total Restricted	<u>-</u>	<u>41,516</u>	<u>41,516</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Funds	<u>9,192</u>	<u>53,041</u>	<u>50,371</u>	<u>11,862</u>

Approval of Accounts for the year ended:**31st July 2022**

The report and accounts were approved at a
meeting of the Trustees held on:

25th January 2023

Date

Nick Osborne

Signed for and on behalf of the Trustees

25th January 2023

Date

Nick Osborne

Print Name

Chair of The Trustees

Position (e.g. Chair etc)