

DOLEN FFERMIO (FARMING LINK)

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 28th February, 2022

DOLEN FFERMIO (FARMING LINK)

Legal and administrative information

Trustees

Lorna Brown
Ben Jones
Valerie Talbot
Emyr Owen
Cordelia Weedon
Nick Christoforou
Tim Smith
Lena Fritsch
Kadun Rees
Rona Gunnell (from 29th April, 2022)
Peter Gunnell (from 29th April, 2022)

Bankers

HSBC Bank Plc
23, Broad Street,
Welshpool,
Powys
SY21 7RN

Independent Examiner

Thomas Ojo,
PPS Accountants,
11, Fames Court,
Worksop,
Nottinghamshire
S81 0LZ

Principal address

Ty'n-yr-Ardd,
Church Street,
Llanfyllin,
Powys
SY22 5BA

Charity number

1124195

DOLEN FFERMIO (FARMING LINK)

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2022

The trustees present their report and the financial statement for the year ended 28 February 2022. The trustees who served during the year and up to the date in this report are set out on page 1.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The first objective of the organisation is the relief of poverty in two rural areas of Eastern Uganda (Kamuli and Ngora) in particular, but not exclusively, by the provision of education and training and other such services, with the aim that people can become self-supporting and their conditions of life improved.

The second objective is raising awareness in the UK of world food and farming issues.

The main activities for the relief of poverty in Kamuli, working with Dolen Ffermio Environmental Farming and Health (DFEFH) our partner organisation there, include goat breeding and agro-forestry programmes and the development of permaculture techniques.

The main activities for the relief of poverty in Ngora, working with, Farming Link Uganda (FARLU) our partner organisation there, include goat breeding, sheep breeding and agro-forestry programmes, a project to support the education and lives of orphaned and vulnerable children in the care of their extended families, and a social enterprise company involved with solar energy and construction.

The main activities for awareness raising in the UK in recent years have been:

- Conference for sixth formers
- Public meetings for the farming and wider community
- Stands at agricultural shows, exhibitions
- Press releases to local newspapers, publicity and twice-yearly newsletters to all supporters

The opportunities to undertake some of these activities have been affected recently by the Covid pandemic.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Dolen Ffermio is a registered charity with 11 trustees making up the management committee.

Trustee selection is by members at the AGM. Post holders are similarly elected at the AGM. Potential trustees are normally members who have already had substantial involvement with Dolen Ffermio. They are invited to become co-opted members of the management committee before putting their names forward at the AGM. Induction takes place at meetings of trustees.

Traditionally, meetings have been face-to-face but, since the onset of the Covid pandemic, many have been held via Zoom. Key meetings, however, on a Strategic Review in December, 2021, and the AGM in April, 2022 were held face-to-face in the usual way.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

This is to confirm that the trustees of Dolen Ffermio have studied the guidance provided by the Charity Commission and take it into account when making decisions to which the guidance is relevant. The trustees consider that the charity's activities provide public benefit to the communities in Uganda where projects are located.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2022

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE IN 2021/22

General:

For the past two years our activities have been overshadowed by the impact of the Covid pandemic. We have not been able to undertake visits to Uganda in order to see projects and keep up-to-date first hand with progress and priorities. We do, however, have other good routes of communication and have been impressed with the ways in which partners in Uganda have continued work on projects despite challenges such as restricted movement and the closure of schools.

Developments in Kamuli District:

- The demonstration farm at Nakyaka is starting a new livestock venture with goats and pigs which provide manure for crops, and it is planned that the goats will be used for milk production for the local community. In addition, the introduction of bees is proving helpful for pollination, and community farmers are being trained in the harvesting of honey.
- Chilli peppers and vanilla have been introduced as valuable cash crops.
- The first permaculture course for teachers was held over 10 days in October, 2021. Our local consultant in Kamuli has persuaded the authorities to include permaculture as part of the national school curriculum.
- A grant from Community Foundation Wales has enabled seeds to be provided to 44 farming households following a shortage because of a poor harvest the previous year. A second grant is enabling training to be offered on use of a simple, eco-friendly brick machine to 30 community members.

Developments in Ngora District:

- The Orphans and Vulnerable Children Project is coming to an end after providing support over 9 years to 260 children. A linked, but new, venture is the development of the Ngora Vocational Training Institute which is intended to provide young people with IT skills and vocational training to government standards and, thereby, to lead to more opportunities for gainful employment. A site of 8 acres has been acquired by FARLU, our local partners in Ngora, and the land has been fenced with help from Dolen Llanbrynmair, a partner group in Wales.
- A source of larger meat-goat breeds was identified and a buck and two females were acquired to introduce a new element into the existing herd.
- The permaculture development site has been improved with the introduction of pineapples to other food crops and trees.
- FARLU's social enterprise company is involved with the installation and retail of solar products. Activity is picking up again after Covid restrictions. Activities relating to construction, however, are still slow as they are reliant on government contracts during a depressed economic period.
- Fenced paddocks have been made to grow supplementary food crops.

School Links:

The school links which we have worked hard to establish have been on hold since the start of the Covid pandemic. Schools in Uganda have been closed, and were reopened only in January, 2022, since when there has been a huge effort to help children catch up. Schools in Wales have also been affected but, as soon as schooling returns to normal in both countries we are determined to restart the programme. There are well-established links between Llanfyllin and Busoga High Schools, and between 6 primary schools in Mid-Wales and 6 in Kamuli District.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2022

Strategic Review by trustees:

During 2021 a small group, in consultation with Ugandan partners, undertook a major review of the operation of Dolen Ffermio, and it produced a report which was discussed at a whole-day meeting of trustees in December. Subsequently, an action plan was developed and approved by trustees. This plan looked at key challenges and opportunities, present and future objectives, and measures necessary to achieve them. Three sub-groups of trustees focusing on fundraising, communications, and safeguarding are addressing some of the issues which have arisen from the review.

Awareness Raising of World Food and Farming Issues:

Activities were very limited for a second year because of the Covid pandemic as conferences, events, shows and talks to groups could not proceed. However, we published articles in the local press on issues such as UK food security, projects in Uganda and climate change. We had a presence and display at a COP 26 event in Mid-Wales along with BRACE (Building Resilience against Climate Emergency) in which we are actively involved. One of our trustees mounted an exhibition at a high school using the work of Ugandan students on the topic of food. Two of our newer trustees are active in awareness- raising on social media platforms.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

In the financial year ended 28th February, 2022, total income was £30,975 and total expenditure £26,572, leading to a surplus for the year of £4,403. Most of the balance of £10,145 at the end of the year, however, was in the form of restricted funds raised or donated for specific purposes, leaving Dolen Ffermio's unrestricted funds or free reserves at an unacceptably low level. The trustees have, therefore, considered budget estimates of income and expenditure for the forthcoming year and have adopted policies designed to improve the position with regard to free reserves. This is also reflected in the reserves policy set out in a subsequent section.

Dolen Ffermio's income has been mainly from various forms of donations (£14,216) and events (£10,470). Fundraising has inevitably been more challenging during the pandemic with, for example, restrictions on the number and nature of events.

Dolen Ffermio's expenditure broadly takes three forms:

- A basic budget for administration and publicity (8.5% of expenditure in 2021/22);
- Funds allocated to Ugandan partners to maintain and support existing projects; and
- Funds to develop new projects which have been identified with our partners in Uganda

As far as new developments are concerned, Dolen Ffermio intends to concentrate on a project to provide a water supply to 300 farming households around Nakya (for which a small feasibility study has already been undertaken), and the development of the Ngora Vocational Training Institute which was described in an earlier section (and towards which £8,790 is available from our fundraising in 2021/22). The focus in the coming year will be on attracting grants towards these projects, and a sub-committee of trustees is already working to this end.

RESERVES POLICY

The policy of the trustees of Dolen Ffermio is to build up sufficient free reserves to be able to continue, if necessary, to operate as a charity and maintain services in Uganda for a period of three months, and eventually for a period of six months.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 28 FEBRUARY 2022**

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees have conducted a review of the major risks the charity is exposed to. Where appropriate, procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the charity faces.

STATEMENT AS TO DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

In so far as the trustees are aware:

There is no relevant information which the charity's Independent Examiner is unaware of; and

The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the Independent Examiner is aware of that information.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the ongoing concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time of the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with section 130 Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations. 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.

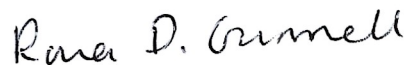
On behalf of the Board

Lorna Brown



Chair

Rona Gunnell



Secretary

Date

19/6/22

Date

18/06/2022

Independent examiner's report to the trustees on the unaudited financial statements of Dolen Ffermio

I report on the accounts of Dolen Ffermio for the year ended 28th February 2022 set out on pages 9-11.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act, as amended;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act, and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission and Regulations 11 of the 2006 Regulation. 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 disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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 as proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



.....
Thomas Ojo (BA, BSc, FCPA)
Independent examiner

Date: **21** /06/2022

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

1st March, 2021 to 28th February, 2022

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
RECEIPTS				
Fund-raising activities				
• The Big Give online (inc. pledges)	-	4,570	4,570	9,285
• Waterloo Foundation champion's grant	-	1,500	1,500	1,500
• The Catalogue		2,720	2,720	
• Plant sales	2,348	-	2,348	2,641
• Grand Draw	580	-	580	642
• Other fund-raising	252	-	252	
Membership subscriptions	210	-	210	
Sponsorship by individuals or groups of school places for children	-	1,060	1,060	931
Donations				
• Via Virgin Money Giving	1,701	-	1,701	1,222
• Via Wonderful Donations	51	-	51	
• Via standing orders	2,080	-	2,080	1,707
• Other donations	9,069	1,315	10,384	18,608
Gift Aid reclaimed from HMRC	1,998	-	1,998	8,423
Grants	1,500	-	1,500	-
Other receipts	21	-	21	
Total receipts	19,810	11,165	30,975	44,959

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
PAYMENTS				
Support for projects in Uganda				
• Demonstration Farm, Kamuli	10,315	-	10,315	22,194
• FARLU Technical & Vocational Training Institute, Ngora	1,937	1,235	3,172	13,299
• Sponsorship of school places for children, Ngora	29	560	589	1,440
• Permaculture courses	3,881	20.00	3,901	
• Nakya Water Project	285	-	285	
• Ngora Management costs and expenses	6,046	-	6,046	5,245
Trustees' and volunteers' expenses	179	-	179	
Expenses related to fund-raising	153	-	153	
Printing and other administrative costs	683	-	683	2,122
Bank charges	599	-	599	570
Accounting and examiner's fees	450	-	450	450
Miscellaneous	200	-	200	
Total payments	24,757	1,815	26,572	45,320

Net receipts for the year	-4,947	9,350	4,403	(361)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Bank Balance at 28th February 2022			10,145	5,742
Net Surplus / (Deficit for Year)			9,784	5,381

On behalf of the Board:

Lorna Brown

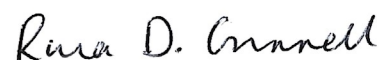


Chair

Date

19/6/22

Rona Gunnell



Secretary

Date

18/06/2022

Dolen Ffermio (Farming Link)

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 28th February 2022

Accounting Conventions

- 1 The financial statements have been prepared using the history cost conventions on a receipts and payment basis.
- 2 Income is made up of mainly donations and is both restricted and unrestricted.
- 3 Restricted and unrestricted income and expenses have been shown in separate columns.
- 4 Charity Trustees are only paid to cover out of pocket expenses on stamps and stationery.
- 5 There are no reasons to suggest that the charity will not continue as a going concern despite the problems brought about by Covid 19.
- 6 The only asset of the charity is the bank balance at the end of the financial year so there is no need for a separate statement of assets and liability.