



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From **1 August 2023**
Period end date

Period start date To **31 July 2024**

Charity name: **Santi Vanaram Buddhist association.**

Charity registration number: **1125174**

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To foster and support the observance of the Buddhist Faith within the community contributing to the spiritual wellbeing through daily services, Public celebration of religious festivals, and providing educational presentations and lecture.2. To encourage and embrace the values of our diverse society by raising awareness and understanding through interfaith group membership and involvement to promote harmonious relationships between different racial and ethnic groups within our community.3. To foster and maintain links with Buddhist organisations nationally and internationally.
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.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>The monks have provided daily morning and the evening services that are open to all.</p> <p>Attendees whilst predominantly from the Thai communities from Kent and East Sussex and London include people from Bangladesh India, Lao, Burma and the UK. The monks led by the Abbot Phra Boonsee kongjok have been available outside of the daily services to receive visitors for spiritual guidance, teaching the Dhamma and visiting people's homes for blessings.</p> <p>The temple is a member of the IPAG Focus Group which is a Kent Police</p>

		<p>Force advisory group for diversity and inclusion.</p> <p>The temple was asked to deliver a presentation at Park Way Primary schools on Buddhism as part of the school curriculum on different faiths. As always, the Buddhist calendar was adhered to with Vassa in August, a period of retreat and reflection for the monks during the rainy season, This lasts for a three – month period.</p> <p>The amazing Thailand festival, was celebrating in August held in Maidstone, supported by the lockmedow Entertainment Centre, Thai orchid restaurants Maidstone, and Maidstone Borough Council.</p> <p>At the end of the Vassa, a kathina ceremony was held to offer the monks new robes and another personal items, and it a change of the monks and Buddhism to make merit, the kathina only celebrated one a year.</p> <p>I November the Loykratong festival of Light was held at the temple and support the festival by Thai orchid r maid and on the Medway River.</p> <p>December 31st New year eve. the temple held a new year blessings prayer and the member of the temple observed the precepts and practice Dhamma.</p> <p>April is the Thai new year, another name was Songkran. The Songkran festival is celebrated at the temple where water is important, and respect is paid for the monks and to the elders by pouring water over their hands. Songkran was further celebrated with the community.</p> <p>The year ended in July with a candle ceremony and a river festival, the candle represents the light of wisdom and illuminating the darkness of the ignorance, the river festival celebrated in Maidstone Town, held by the Maidstone Borough Council.</p> <p>Opportunity is taken at all these ceremonies and festivals to raise money for the temple and its day to day running</p>
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		<p>expenses. There is no access to public monies, all money is entirely from voluntary donations.</p> <p>The temple exists by the hard work and dedication from its members and supporters and the volunteers who work tirelessly to support it for which we are forever grateful. After the monks have been offered their food each day, any remaining food is eaten by the members and volunteers, some of whom take it home to feed their families, without which they would struggle in these challenges times.</p> <p>Outside of the Vassa three – months period, Monk are allowed to travel and have at other temples and supported them during the year and necessary. This is a reciprocal act.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	We confirm that the Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefits.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	There is no specific policy in place regarding access to grants. No application has been made to date.
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	No policy on social involvement.
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>None of the year's programme would be at all times po without the volunteers support. The monks rely entirely on volunteers to offer food to them daily and to provide any transport where necessary.</p> <p>The temple only exists in the hard work and dedication from its members and supporters and the volunteers who work tirelessly to support it for which we are forever grateful.</p>

Other		
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Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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.	Para 1.20	<p>The year was entirely successful with more people attending the temple and the various events.</p> <p>There appears to be a growing interest in Buddhism and its way of life amongst the general public.</p> <p>The Abbot Phra Boonsee kongjok and another monks have been available outside of the daily services to receive visitors for spiritual guidance, teaching the Dhamma and visiting people's homes for blessings.</p> <p>It is difficult to quantify inner peace but the sheer joy on people face says it all. The temple achieves both peace and calm and laughter where necessary. People who come to the temple enjoy the opportunity to meditate with the monks guidance.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	Objectives are not set and measured specifically.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	All funds are raised entirely by the endeavours of the hard-working volunteers both at the temple and at festivals held elsewhere. All money raised goes straight to the day-to-day operation of the temple and its events
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The year ended with a surplus of £29,743, which was an increase over last year (2023 £6,223). Donations were significantly higher and there was an exceptional £20,000 loan taken for renovation work to be carried out on the temple.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	A policy is in place to retain six months expenditures. As the charity relies entirely on the voluntary donations the trustees felt it prudent to retain this in case of worst case scenarios.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£20,000
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	If the current building was uninhabitable alternatives ones would be secured via the insurance held.

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	All funds are raised entirely by the endeavours of the hard- working volunteers both at the temple and at the festival held elsewhere. All money raised goes straight to the day-to-day operation of the temple and its events.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	It would be difficult without the current enigmatic Abbot but the charity would continue.
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated Association.
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	Para 1.25	Appointed by members at the Annual General Meeting each year.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Santi Vanaram Buddhist Association.
Other name the charity uses	Wat Santivanaram.
Registered charity number	1125174
Charity's principal address	108 Deanwood drive Parkwood Gillignham Kent ME8 8BL 9LL

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Phra Boonsee kongjok	Chairman	15 April 2023	Members at AGM
2	Miss Thongsuk wannawong	Secretary	15 April 2023	Members at AGM
3	MRS Benjapan Sage	Treasure	14 April 2024	Members at AGM
4	Miss Kullapreeya Anupa	Trustee	15 April 2023	Members at AGM
5	MRS ketvadee Thomson	Trustee	15 April 2023	Members at AGM
6	MRS Wirairuk Burt	Trustee	15 April 2023	Members at AGM
7	Miss Lampai Sanmeng	Trustee	14 April 2024	Members at AGM
8	Miss Ponsawan Malaisri	Trustee	14 April 2024	Members at AGM
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

[illegible]

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

[illegible]

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

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

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

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Other optional information

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Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

K Boonsee

Twannawong

Full name(s)

Phra Boonsee Kongjok

Miss Thongsuk Wannawong

**Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)**

Chairman

Secretary

Date

05-12-2024

Santi Vanaram Buddhist Association

Receipts (Income) and payments (expenditure) account year ending 31st July 2024

Section A Receipts and Payments

	Unrestricted Funds to the nearest £	Last Year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts		
Donations Received - Cash	53,344	36,560
Donations Received - Direct Debit	8,417	3,077
Gift Aid Receipt	767	400
Medway Council Tax Rebate	-	6,087
Bank Interest Received	306	-
Sub total (Gross income AR)	62,834	46,124
A2 Asset and investment		
Loan Received from external funder	20,000	-
Sub total	20,000	-
Total Receipts	82,834	46,124
A3 Payments		
Telephone / broadband	971	807
Council Tax	428	2,355
Gas and Electric	2,439	2,022
Water Rates	525	334
Insurance	490	610
Bank Charges	88	-
Accountancy Fees	180	-
Postage and Stationery	264	-
General Expenses	5,201	2,553
Repairs and Maintenance	28,161	-
Sub total	38,747	8,681
A4 Asset and investment purchases		
Mortgage Repayments	9,344	31,220
Property Improvements	5,000	-
Sub total	14,344	31,220
Total Payments	53,091	39,901
Net of receipts /(payments)	29,743	6,223
A6 Cash funds last year end	21,857	15,634
Cash funds this year end	51,600	21,857

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	
B1 Cash funds	HSBC Bank Account	5,244	21,857
	Co-op Bank Account	26,030	-
	Co-op Savings Account	20,326	-
	Total cash funds	51,600	21,857
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			
Freehold property	Cost	217,500	
	Current Value	370,000	
B5 Liabilities	Triodos Bank Uk Ltd - Mortgage	59,651	
	Loan from External Funder	20,000	
		79,651	

Property at 108 Deanwood Drive, Parkwood, Gillingham, ME8 9LL, subject to mortgage. Current market valuation taken from sale of 106 Deanwood Drive (Sale April 2018)

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all of the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

T Wannawong

MISS THONABUK WANNAWONG

29/11/2024



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity name
Santi Vanaram Buddhist Association

On accounts for the year
ended

31st July 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1125174

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/07/2024.

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 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.

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

Signed:

Date:

29/11/2024

Name:

Paul Baker

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

FAIA, FFA, FIPA, FTA

Address:

Applied Accountancy Ltd, 50A Clifford Way, Maidstone, Kent ME16 8GD