

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

England & Wales · Charity number 1137092

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [07245606](#)

Registered 2010-07-27

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Easton Christian Family Centre
Beaufort Street
Easton
Bristol
BS5 0SQ

Phone 07816638715

Email info@bridgesforcommunities.com

Website www.bridgesforcommunities.com

Activities

Objects: THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS ('THE OBJECTS') ARE FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT AND ARE RESTRICTED TO THE FOLLOWING:(A) THE PROMOTION OF EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY INCLUDING BUT NOT BY WAY OF LIMITATION THROUGH ADVANCING EDUCATION AND RAISING AWARENESS IN EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY, THE PROMOTION OF ACTIVITIES TO FOSTER UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN PEOPLE FROM DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS AND CULTIVATING A SENTIMENT IN FAVOUR OF EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IN SUCH PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES FROM TIME TO TIME MAY THINK FIT;(B) THE PROMOTION OF RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS HARMONY INCLUDING BUT NOT BY WAY OF LIMITATION THROUGH THE PROMOTION OF KNOWLEDGE AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN DIFFERENT RACIAL GROUPS AND BELIEFS AND PRACTICES OF DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS FAITHS AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION AND RAISING AWARENESS OF THE DIFFERENT RACIAL GROUPS AND FAITHS IN ORDER TO PROMOTE GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN PERSONS OF DIFFERENT RACIAL GROUPS AND DIFFERENT FAITHS IN SUCH PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES FROM TIME TO TIME MAY THINK FIT.

Activities: The charity promotes racial and religious respect and trust by facilitating interaction between people of different cultures and faiths. Activities include:- events that bring people together from different

communities- connecting people seeking sanctuary with settled communities - training to educate and equip bridge builders

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE WORLD
- Bristol City
- North Somerset
- South Gloucestershire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£241,685	£290,582	-	-
2023-12-31	£200,084	£175,056	-	-
2023-05-31	£267,067	£280,772	-	-
2022-05-31	£209,749	£181,501	-	-
2021-05-31	£182,958	£130,978	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Owen Robert Lynch	Chair	
Azza Mustafa		2020-04-23
Daniel John Gregory		2016-10-16
Mrs Lizzie Briggs		2017-10-16
Roxanne Daniela Bennett		2019-10-24

Accounts

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 DECEMBER 2024

Company Number 07245606
Charity Number 1137092

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2024, which complies with statutory requirements, the governing documents and the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS102).

Charitable Purposes & Activities

The charitable purposes of Bridges for Communities are:

- (a) the promotion of equality and diversity, including but not by way of limitation through advancing education and raising awareness in equality and diversity, the promotion of activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds and cultivating a sentiment in favour of equality and diversity in such parts of the United Kingdom, the Middle East and the world as the Trustees from time to time may think fit;
- (b) the promotion of racial and religious harmony, including but not by way of limitation through the promotion of knowledge and mutual understanding between different racial groups and beliefs and practices of different religious faiths and the advancement of education and raising awareness of the different racial groups and faiths in order to promote good relations between persons of different racial groups and different faiths in such parts of the United Kingdom, the Middle East and the world as the Trustees from time to time may think fit.

During the period from January to December 2024, Bridges for Communities has organised the following activities in line with the charitable purposes:

a) The promotion of equality and diversity

- Befriending support provided through local volunteers to 71 of Bristol's most vulnerable asylum seekers and for 54 refugee families who have been resettled by Bristol City Council and the Home Office.
- RefuLingua language courses in Arabic, Pashto, Dari, Somali and Farsi for 91 people, taught by 15 tutors from refugee and migrant backgrounds.
- Stitching Together courses for 141 women from refugee backgrounds, providing the opportunity to learn or develop their sewing skills alongside local volunteers.
- 24 group walks organised for 1300 asylum seekers and local volunteers as part of the Walk With Me project.
- 8 Bristol Welcome Events organised for 258 people, bringing together newly arrived refugee families and local volunteers, helping new arrivals to grow in their sense of belonging in the city, and responding to the violent disorder in the summer by providing restorative activities for those directly impacted.

b) The promotion of racial and religious harmony

- 10 Peace Feast events, enabling 531 people from diverse communities to share a meal together. These events included guest speakers on a range of topics and were organised in partnership with local community groups.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

- School Linking connections for 14 schools, with 28 teachers trained and over 660 children from different backgrounds taking part.
- 9 Listening Spaces events that enabled 400 people to hear and share one another's perspectives and experiences. This included spaces where people discussed the violent disorder that took place in Bristol and around the UK during the summer, as well as a large interfaith event at Bristol Cathedral during Ramadan.
- Cultural Awareness training for 100 new volunteers who provide one-to-one support for refugees and asylum seekers through Bridges for Communities, for 48 people who attended our Welcome to the UK courses, and for 25 who attended our 'Lunch & Learn' sessions.

Achievements and Performance

The trustees are satisfied that the activities outlined above represent good progress towards achieving the objectives of the charity, and also towards the strategic goals outlined in last year's trustees report and in the Strategy for 2023-2025.

The scope and focus of the work have been similar to the previous year, with the notable addition of activities in direct response to the violent disorder that took place across the UK in the summer. These included Listening Spaces where people had the opportunity to discuss what had taken place and listen to a range of opinions, as well as restorative craft activities that were organised for families directly impacted by the attack on a hotel housing asylum seekers.

In the area of promoting equality and diversity, efforts have again focused on welcoming people seeking sanctuary in Bristol from war and persecution, and on connecting them into local communities. This work has fostered compassion and empathy towards new arrivals at a time of political division over immigration, seeking to make Bristol a more welcoming and inclusive city so that equality is experienced by all and diversity is celebrated. The willingness and enthusiasm of significant numbers of Bristolians to volunteer their time (over 4,000 volunteer hours) and energy, and the feedback received from those being supported are indicators that this work has had some success. 90% of Walk With Me participants, for example, report that they feel more connected to their local community.

In the area of promoting racial and religious harmony, efforts have focused on connecting people from different backgrounds, inspiring them towards positive action and equipping them to live well together. The regular events and activities of Peace Feasts, Bristol School Linking and Listening Spaces are the main ways in which this happens. 80% of attendees at Peace Feasts, for example, say they intend to do more to make their communities more welcoming.

Bridges for Communities has faced a more challenging year financially, with grant income lower than in previous years. This has led the management to consider making some staff changes for the start of next year. The trustees are aware of these changes and working closely with the management team to ensure a smooth and supportive process for all involved. Despite this challenge, Bridges for Communities finishes the year in a satisfactory position financially and able to continue its charitable activities thanks to the strength of the charity's reserves and the ongoing support of its donors.

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In all of the above, the trustees have had regard to the guidance from the Charities Commission regarding public benefit as it relates to the activities of the charity.

Plans for future periods

Bridges for Communities seeks to build on the achievements of the last year and continue to grow and improve as a charity.

Our strategic priorities for the 3-year period 2023-2025 are:

1. To improve the depth of our existing project work in Bristol
2. To increase the reach of our work through impactful storytelling, listening spaces and helpful resources
3. To invest in improving the diversity and equity of the organisation and strengthening management
4. To improve the long-term sustainability of Bridges

Our aims for the year ahead include:

1. Expand our School Linking work into secondary schools for the first time
2. Strengthen our partnerships in 5 key priority areas of Bristol, investing in social cohesion where it is most needed
3. Provide training to new audiences, equipping people in organisations and businesses across the South West
4. Enable more people with lived experience of the issues we work with to get involved as volunteers, staff and trustees of Bridges
5. Create inspiring digital resources that equip people to build bridges in communities and areas where they live and work
6. Facilitate conversations around politics, faith, community, migration and other topics, so that people with different views are able to listen to one another

Financial review

The charity is grateful for donations and grants of £180,296 for the 12 months to 31 December 2024 (7 months to 31 December 2023: £148,491), and total fees generated by council contracts, training and events of £60,999 for the 12 months to 31 December 2024 (7 months to December 2023: £51,190). The £19k budgeted deficit for 2024 widened to an actual deficit of £49k (December 2023: Surplus of £25,028). This shortfall was primarily due to a notable reduction in grant and contract income compared to expectations. Although inflationary pressures led to increased employment and project delivery costs, the charity took steps to limit overall expenditure where possible, in order to mitigate the financial impact. Encouragingly, since the year end, we have seen an upward trend in both grant and contract income, which offers reassurance around the short to medium term sustainability of our current operational delivery.

Investment powers and policy

The constitution of Bridges for Communities authorises the Trustees to make and hold investments using the funds of the Charity.

Cash balances are currently held with Barclays Bank and CAF Shawbrook Bank.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

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Reserves Policy

At the period end, the charity held unrestricted reserves of £81,367 (December 2023: £120,477) and restricted reserves of £27,823 (December 2023: £37,610). Unrestricted, non-designated reserves ("free reserves") were £29,348 (December 2023: £38,671) and account for just below 6 months of reserves based on 2024 expenditure (December 2023: 8 months), which the trustees consider adequate at this stage of the charity's life.

The Trustees' reserves policy states that the charity should hold a minimum of 6 months of free reserves (unrestricted, designated funds) based on the operating costs in the current budget. The 6 months' reserves will include 3 months set aside for unplanned closure and 3 months' reserves as a response fund, enabling us to respond at short notice to pressing needs among migrant and refugee communities where situations can develop rapidly. Whilst reserves are just below that threshold as at year end, the Trustees are confident that the reserves will return to targeted levels going forward.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Organisation

Bridges for Communities is a company limited by guarantee, number 07245606, as well as a registered charity, in which the company directors also form the Board of Trustees. The day to day running of the charity is delegated to the Managing Director. The liability of each Trustee in the event of a winding up is limited to £1.

Risk management

The systems of internal control are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include:

- (a) an annual budget approved by the Trustees;
- (b) regular consideration by the Trustees of financial reports;
- (c) delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- (d) identification and management of risks.

The Trustees aim to review on a regular basis the main risks that the charity faces. They do this by updating the risk register, and by considering a range of potential risks including reputational damage, loss of key staff, loss of key funders and breach of the GDPR. They believe that maintaining appropriate reviews of the controls over key financial systems provides sufficient resources in the event of unexpected adverse conditions. The Trustees are pleased to confirm that the internal financial controls conform to guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.

Trustee recruitment and training

New trustees can be appointed when appropriate. Suitable candidates are recruited through our network of contacts and partnerships, and through the role being advertised on our website.

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PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Candidates are considered on the basis of their skills, experience and sympathy with the aims of the charity, and will go through an interview process. New trustees will have the opportunity of reviewing appropriate documents including the accounts as part of their induction process. The induction process will also involve the candidate receiving an induction pack and having the opportunity to observe a board meeting before their formal appointment to the board.

Plans for future periods

Bridges for Communities seeks to build on the achievements of the last period and continue to grow and improve as a charity.

Our strategic priorities for the 3-year period 2023-2025 are:

1. To improve the depth of our existing project work in Bristol.
2. To increase the reach of our work through impactful storytelling, listening spaces and helpful resources.
3. To invest in improving the diversity and equity of the organisation and strengthening management.
4. To improve the long-term sustainability of Bridges.

Our aims for the year ahead include:

1. Develop and grow our current training offer, reaching a wider audience and generating additional income for the charity.
2. Explore ways in which we can reach new audiences, especially in areas that are less diverse or have higher levels of intolerance.
3. Identify ways in which we can be more inclusive and equitable as an organization.
4. Implement the improved system for monitoring and evaluating outcomes of our work that we developed last year.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of Bridges for Communities for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Accepted Accounting Practice).

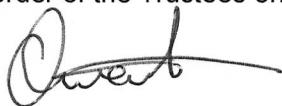
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting 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 going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

42 Carrington Road
Bristol
BS3 2AG

Signed by order of the Trustees on 17/9/25.....



Rev O R Lynch
Chair of the Trustees

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Status

The Charity is governed by its Articles of Association. It was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee, number 7245606, on 6 May, 2010 and was registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales, number 1137092 on 27 July 2010.

Trustees

The Trustees who are directors for the purpose of company law and who served during the year are:

Rev O R Lynch (Chair)
Mr J J Kay
Mr D J Gregory
Mrs L Briggs
Mrs R Bennett
Mrs A Mustafa

Registered Office

42 Carrington Road
Bristol
BS3 2AG

Independent Examiner

Joshua Kingston BSc. ACA
Burton Sweet Limited
The Clock Tower
5 Farleigh Court
Old Weston Road
Flax Bourton
Bristol
BS48 1UR

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
Leicester
LE87 2BB

Shawbrook Bank
Brentwood
CM13 3BE

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the period ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors 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 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.

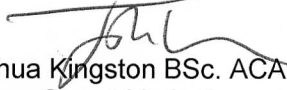
Independent examiner's statement

I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.


Joshua Kingston BSc. ACA
Burton Sweet Limited
The Clock Tower
5 Farleigh Court
Old Weston Road
Flax Bourton
Bristol BS48 1UR

Date: 17/01/2025.....

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds At Year Ended 31 December 2024 £	Total Funds At Period Ended 31 December 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	66,534	113,762	180,296	148,491
Charitable activities	3	60,999	-	60,999	51,190
Investment income		390	-	390	403
Total income		127,923	113,762	241,685	200,084
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	4	7,070	7,345	14,415	8,875
Charitable activities	5	151,781	124,386	276,167	166,181
Total expenditure		158,851	131,731	290,582	175,056
Net income/(expenditure)	6	(30,928)	(17,969)	(48,897)	25,028
Transfers between funds	13	(8,183)	8,183	-	-
Net movement in funds		(39,111)	(9,786)	(48,897)	25,028
Total funds at 1 Jan 2024	13	120,477	37,610	158,087	133,059
Total funds at 31 December 2024	13	81,366	27,824	109,190	158,087

The Charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the period as set out above.

All of the activities of the charitable company are classed as continuing.

See note 9 for comparative Statement of Financial Activities.

The notes on pages 11 to 19 form part of these financial statements

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

BALANCE SHEET

Company Registration Number 07245606

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	31 December 2024 £	31 December 2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	3,994	7,264
Current assets			
Debtors	11	17,132	34,854
Cash at bank		125,937	138,926
		143,069	173,780
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(37,873)	(22,957)
Net current assets		105,196	150,823
Net assets		109,190	158,087
Income funds			
Unrestricted funds			
General funds	14	33,342	45,935
Designated funds	14	48,025	74,543
Restricted funds	14	27,823	37,610
Total funds		109,190	158,087

For the year ended 31 December 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the period in question in accordance with section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

The directors 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 special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on 17/9/25 and are signed on their behalf by:



Rev O R Lynch
(Chair of Trustees)

The notes on pages 11 to 19 form part of these financial statements

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

- a) The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2019.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

The accounts have been prepared on the going concern basis as discussed in the Trustee's Annual Report. The Trustees know of no material reason why this should not be appropriate.

- b) Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from donations is included in income when it is receivable, except as follows:

- I. When donors specify that donations given to the Charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods;
- II. When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the Charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred until the pre-conditions have been met.

- c) Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that activity exclusive of recoverable VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

Governance costs comprise the costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs are included within support costs.

- d) The charity contributes to defined contribution pension schemes. Contributions payable to the charity's pension schemes are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.
- e) Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful life of that asset as follows:
Office equipment - 25% - 33% p.a. on cost
- f) Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts.
- g) Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.
- h) Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.
- i) Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.
- j) Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.
- k) Designated funds are funds set aside by the Trustees out of unrestricted funds for specific purposes or projects.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 31 December 2024 £
Donations	51,534	56,373	107,907
Grants receivable	15,000	57,389	72,389
	66,534	113,762	180,296

Prior year comparatives

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 31 December 2023 £
Donations	35,629	30,644	66,273
Grants receivable	30,400	51,818	82,218
	66,029	82,462	148,491

3 Income from Charitable Activities

Current period

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 31 December 2024 £
Funding for Resettlement project	42,613	-	42,613
Tickets for Peace Feasts	4,025	-	4,025
Language & Cultural Awareness Training	12,857	-	12,857
Fundraising events	1,504	-	1,504
	60,999	-	60,999

Prior year

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 31 December 2023 £
Funding for Resettlement project	43,500	-	43,500
Tickets for Peace Feasts	1,618	-	1,618
Language & Cultural Awareness Training	1,200	2,886	4,086
Fundraising events	1,986	-	1,986
	48,304	2,886	51,190

During the period, the charity received a total of £42,613 (7 months to Dec 2023: £43,500) from government, in the form of grants and contract income.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

4 Expenditure on Raising Funds

Current Period	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	12 Months To 31 December 2024 £
Training and events	815	21	836
Bank and online payment charges	254	22	276
Wages and salaries	5,581	7,302	12,883
Pension costs	420	-	420
	7,070	7,345	14,415

Prior year	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	7 Months To 31 December 2023 £
Bank and online payment charges	983	14	997
Wages and salaries	3,948	3,651	7,599
Pension costs	279	-	279
	5,210	3,665	8,875

5 Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	12 Months To 31 December 2024 £	7 Months To 31 December 2023 £
<u>Direct costs</u>		
Staff training	2,828	785
Travel	12,905	11,538
Subsistence	311	49
Hospitality	2,571	1,522
Volunteer expenses	4,408	2,872
Materials	5,889	5,275
Training and events	10,921	6,001
Telephone	1,535	665
Professional fees	3,375	2,352
Venue costs	3,711	2,723
Wages and salaries	160,355	95,605
National insurance	4,781	2,534
Pension costs	7,144	3,536
Charity Contribution	-	100
	220,734	135,557

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

5 Expenditure on Charitable Activities (continued)

	12 Months To 31 December 2024	7 Months To 31 December 2023
	£	£
Support costs		
Bank and online payment charges	45	14
Office expenses	2,322	2,409
Website & IT	1,708	952
Printing, postage & stationary	494	346
Insurance	1,599	960
Governance costs	1,810	1,695
Consultancy fees	4,705	3,122
Office rent	4,949	2,845
Telephone	19	-
Wages and salaries	31,900	15,540
National insurance	737	211
Pension cost	1,874	1,035
Depreciation	3,271	1,495
	55,433	30,624
Total expenditure on charitable activities	276,167	166,181

6 Net income for the year is stated after charging:

	12 Months To 31 December 2024	7 Months To 31 December 2023
	£	£
Depreciation	3,271	1,495
Independent examiner's fee	1,129	1,014
Independent examination Accounts preparation	681	681

7 Staff costs and numbers

The aggregate payroll costs were:

	12 Months To 31 December 2024	7 Months To 31 December 2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	204,426	118,244
Social security costs	5,938	3,024
Employer's pension costs	9,018	5,072
	219,382	126,340

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

7 Staff costs and numbers (continued)

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

No trustees have been remunerated or reimbursed for their out of pocket travel expenses (Dec 2023: Nil)

The key management personnel comprise the Trustees and the Managing Director. The aggregate remuneration received by key management personnel during the year was £33,408 (7 months to Dec 2023: £16,002)

The average weekly number of employees based on average headcount during the period was as follows:

	12 Months To 31 December 2024 No.	7 Months To 31 December 2023 No.
Administration	24	24

This represents 14 part time members of staff working the equivalent number of hours of 6.5 full-time staff (2023: 6.7), and 10 language tutors who are casual workers.

8 Taxation

The Charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

9 Comparative Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 31 December 2023 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	66,029	82,462	148,491
Charitable activities	48,304	2,886	51,190
Investment income	403		403
Total income	114,736	85,348	200,084
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	5,210	3,665	8,875
Charitable activities	95,312	70,869	166,181
Total expenditure	100,522	74,534	175,056
Net income/(expenditure)	14,214	10,814	25,028
Transfers between funds	(5,000)	5,000	-
Net movement in funds	9,214	15,814	25,028
Total funds at 31 May 2023	111,263	21,796	133,059
Total funds at 31 December 2023	120,477	37,610	158,087

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Office Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 Jan 2024	13,677	13,677
Additions	-	-
At 31 December 2024	13,677	13,677
Depreciation		
At 1 Jan 2024	6,413	6,413
Charge for period	3,270	3,270
At 31 December 2024	9,683	9,683
Net book value		
At 31 December 2024	3,994	3,994
At 31 December 2023	7,264	7,264

11 Debtors

	12 Months To 31 December 2024 £	7 Months to 31 Dec 2023 £
Other debtors	14,460	29,160
Prepayments and accrued income	371	2,152
Gift Aid	2,301	3,542
	17,132	34,854

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	12 Months To 31 December 2024 £	7 Months to 31 Dec 2023 £
Trade creditors	3,149	1,289
Other taxation and social security	3,925	8,251
Other creditors	1,405	1,500
Accruals and deferred income	29,394	11,917
	37,873	22,957

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (continued)

	12 Months To 31 December 2024 £	7 Months To 31 December 2023 £
Deferred income (included in Accruals and deferred income)		
Deferred income at start of year	10,222	26,041
Amounts released from previous years	(10,222)	(26,041)
Resources deferred during the year	27,583	10,222
	<u>27,583</u>	<u>10,222</u>

13 Movement in funds

Year ended 31 December 2024	1 Jan 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	31 December 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	45,935	101,717	(64,706)	(49,604)	33,342
Designated funds					
Peace Feast	1,398	4,025	-	5,000	10,422
Refugee Social	-	-	-	-	-
Resettlement fund	61,257	-	(55,140)	27,400	33,517
Refulingua	4,734	6,793	(23,151)	9,020	(2,604)
Training Resources	7,154	15,390	(15,853)	-	6,690
	<u>74,543</u>	<u>26,208</u>	<u>(94,144)</u>	<u>41,420</u>	<u>48,025</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>120,477</u>	<u>127,925</u>	<u>(158,850)</u>	<u>(8,183)</u>	<u>81,367</u>
Restricted funds					
Refugee Social	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Peace Feast	-	15,773	(15,439)	-	335
Befriend Project	2,112	26,661	(23,978)	-	4,796
Refulingua	2,604	7,560	(7,560)	-	2,604
Strategic Plan	7,002	-	(2,442)	-	4,560
School Linking	9,940	11,000	(12,686)	-	8,254
Sharing Festivals	1,264	2,000	(2,786)	(477)	-
Stitching Together	3,673	22,225	(29,541)	3,643	-
Walk With Me	4,524	19,593	(28,657)	4,540	-
Listening Spaces	6,490	3,950	(8,642)	477	2,275
	<u>37,610</u>	<u>113,762</u>	<u>(131,731)</u>	<u>8,183</u>	<u>27,823</u>
Total funds	<u>158,087</u>	<u>241,685</u>	<u>(290,582)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>109,190</u>

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

13 Movement in funds (continued)

Period ended 31 December 2023	1 June 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	31 December 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	36,349	54,184	(39,598)	(5,000)	45,935
Designated funds					
Peace Feast	5,049	5,393	(9,044)	-	1,398
Refugee Social	2,008	1,000	(3,008)	-	-
Resettlement fund	63,123	43,860	(45,726)	-	61,257
RefuLingua	4,734	-	-	-	4,734
Training Resource	-	10,300	(3,146)	-	7,154
	74,914	60,552	(60,923)	-	74,543
Total unrestricted funds	111,263	114,737	(100,522)	(5,000)	120,477
Restricted funds					
Befriend Project	5,183	12,556	(15,627)	-	2,112
RefuLingua	-	18,671	(16,066)	-	2,604
Strategic Plan	625	10,000	(3,623)	-	7,002
School Linking	11,474	5,083	(6,617)	-	9,940
Sharing Festivals	1,541	-	(277)	-	1,264
Stitching Together	3,464	13,782	(13,573)	-	3,673
Walk With Me	(491)	19,006	(13,991)	-	4,524
Listening Spaces	-	6,250	(4,760)	5,000	6,490
	21,796	85,348	(74,534)	5,000	37,610
Total funds	133,059	200,084	(175,056)	-	158,087

Designated funds

The trustees have designated funds for individual projects to ensure that they can continue. Further information on these funds can be found within restricted funds descriptions below.

The Resettlement fund provides support for families who have been resettled in Bristol by the City Council. We receive contracted income from Bristol City Council to deliver Resettlement Support for families seeking sanctuary in Bristol. This income is then transferred from Unrestricted Funds to the Resettlement Fund, allowing for more accurate monitoring or project finances.

The Training Resource fund aims to equip individuals, community groups and businesses around the UK, to connect and welcome people from different cultures and backgrounds. This is achieved through delivering cultural training and creating digital resources.

Restricted funds

The Befriend project provides one-to-one support for asylum seekers and refugees.

The Refugee Social project organises social activities where refugees and asylum seekers can enjoy themselves and spend time getting to know people.

The RefuLingua project enables people from refugee and migrant backgrounds to gain work experience and employment through teaching their native language. The fund ended the year with a negative balance; the charity chose to transfer unrestricted funds to continue the delivery of this project.

The Peace Feasts project organises events where people from different backgrounds can share a meal together, in order to promote friendship and social cohesion.

The Strategic Plan and Technology Development fund includes a grant received to help with the costs of the charity's 5-year strategic plan. We received a generous £10,000 capital grant from the Clothworkers Foundation, allowing us to purchase new audio, visual and IT equipment for efficient, safe and connected working.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

13 Movement in funds (continued)

The School Linking project connects classrooms in different parts of Bristol for conversations around identity, community, equality and diversity.

The Sharing Festivals Project aims to build understanding of different cultures and faiths by sharing religious festivals. The Grand Iftar on College Green was funded by Bristol City Council and the West of England Combined Authority's Love our High Streets Project, with additional support from Feeding Bristol and community partners.

The Stitching Together project provides welcoming spaces for refugee and asylum seeking women to be creative, while gaining confidence and making friends. The fund ended the year with a negative balance; the charity chose to transfer unrestricted funds to continue the delivery of this project.

The Walk With Me project provides one-to-one and group walks to connect refugees and asylum seekers into local communities and improve wellbeing. The fund ended the year with a negative balance; the charity chose to transfer unrestricted funds to continue the delivery of this project.

The Listening Spaces Project facilitates intentional listening and dialogue between people of different cultures, races, faiths, social class and political opinion, in order to build understanding and be better equipped to live well together.

14 Analysis of net assets

Year ended 31 December 2024	Unrestricted		Restricted	Total 2024
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	3,994	-	-	3,994
Net current assets	29,348	48,025	27,823	105,196
	33,342	48,025	27,823	109,190

Period ended 31 December 2023	Unrestricted		Restricted	Total 2023
	General Funds	Designated Funds		
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	7,264	-	-	7,264
Net current assets	38,671	74,543	37,610	150,823
	45,935	74,543	37,610	158,087

15 Company limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee having no share capital. Every member is liable to contribute £1 towards the costs of dissolution and the liabilities incurred by the charity in the event of the charity being wound up.

16 Related party transactions

The total amount of donations received without conditions from trustees and related parties during the period was £3,840 (7 months to Dec 2023: £2,240).

No payments were made to trustees for reimbursement of expenses in either the current period, or prior year.

Accounts

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 DECEMBER 2023

Company Number 07245606
Charity Number 1137092

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Contents	Pages
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Statement of Financial Activities	8
Balance sheet	9
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BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements of the Charity for the seven-month period ended 31 December 2023, which complies with statutory requirements, the governing documents and the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS102). The Trustees have changed their accounting year date from 31 May to 31 December.

Objects of the Charity

The charitable purposes of Bridges for Communities are:

- (a) the promotion of equality and diversity, including but not by way of limitation through advancing education and raising awareness in equality and diversity, the promotion of activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds and cultivating a sentiment in favour of equality and diversity in such parts of the United Kingdom, the Middle East and the world as the Trustees from time to time may think fit;
- (b) the promotion of racial and religious harmony, including but not by way of limitation through the promotion of knowledge and mutual understanding between different racial groups and beliefs and practices of different religious faiths and the advancement of education and raising awareness of the different racial groups and faiths in order to promote good relations between persons of different racial groups and different faiths in such parts of the United Kingdom, the Middle East and the world as the Trustees from time to time may think fit.

During the period from June to December 2023, Bridges for Communities has organised the following activities in line with the charitable purposes:

a) The promotion of equality and diversity

- Befriending support provided through local volunteers to 41 of Bristol's most vulnerable asylum seekers and for 32 refugee families from the Middle East and Afghanistan who have been resettled by Bristol City Council and the Home Office.
- RefuLingua language courses in Arabic, Pashto, Dari, Somali and Farsi for 57 people, taught by 8 tutors from refugee and migrant backgrounds.
- Stitching Together courses for 78 women from refugee backgrounds, providing the opportunity to learn or develop their sewing skills alongside local volunteers.
- 12 group walks organised for 467 asylum seekers and local volunteers as part of the Walk With Me project.
- 9 Bristol Welcome Events organised for 582 people, bringing together newly arrived refugee families and local volunteers, helping new arrivals to grow in their sense of belonging in the city.

b) The promotion of racial and religious harmony

- 3 Peace Feast events, enabling 210 people from diverse communities to share a meal together. These events included guest speakers on a range of topics and were organised in partnership with local community groups.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

- School Linking connections for 15 schools, with 30 teachers trained and over 900 children from different backgrounds taking part.
- A soft launch of the new Listening Spaces initiative during Inter Faith Week, with short videos produced and shared on social media featuring the faith stories and perspectives of people from the 7 largest faith groups in Bristol.
- Cultural Awareness training for 92 new volunteers who provide one-to-one support for refugees and asylum seekers through Bridges for Communities, and for 70 people who are part of other voluntary organisations or welcome hubs in Bristol and Somerset.

Achievements and performance

This section assesses the charity's performance against its objectives:

The trustees are satisfied that the activities outlined above represent good progress towards achieving the objectives of the charity, and also towards the strategic goals outlined in last year's trustees report and in the Strategy for 2023-2025.

The scope and the impact of our work have seen steady growth compared to the previous year, with the notable addition of a new initiative called Listening Spaces.

In the area of promoting equality and diversity, efforts have focussed on welcoming people seeking sanctuary in Bristol from war and persecution, and on connecting them into local communities. This work has fostered compassion and empathy towards new arrivals at a time of political division over immigration, seeking to make Bristol a more welcoming and inclusive city so that equality is experienced by all and diversity is celebrated. The willingness and enthusiasm of significant numbers of Bristolians to volunteer their time and energy, and the feedback received from those being supported are indicators that this work has had some success.

In the area of promoting racial and religious harmony, efforts have focussed on connecting people from different backgrounds, inspiring them towards positive action and equipping them to live well together. The regular events and activities of Peace Feasts and Bristol School Linking were complimented by the addition of the new Listening Spaces initiative. 95% of participants at Peace Feasts said they had met someone new from a different culture or faith at the event, and feedback from other activities also showed that people for the activities to be ways to meet new people, grow in their understanding of one another, and be inspired towards action.

Bridges for Communities finishes the period in a satisfactory position financially, and able to continue its charitable activities thanks to the strength of the charity's reserves and the ongoing support of its donors.

In all of the above, the trustees have had regard to the guidance from the Charity Commission regarding public benefit as it relates to the activities of the charity.

Financial review

The charity is grateful for donations and grants of £148,491 for the 7 months to 31 December 2023 (12 months to 31 May 2023: £142,443) and total fees generated by council contracts, training, and events of £51,190, for the 7 months to 31 December 2023 (12 months to 31 May 2023: £124,458).

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

resulting in a surplus of £25,028 (May 2023: deficit of £13,705). Unrestricted reserves at the end of the period were £120,478 (May 2023: £111,263). The small deficit in the year to May 2023 was as a result of investing in the development of Bridges three-year strategy, increasing the Managing Director's working hours to oversee expanding project delivery, spending down a surplus of School Linking funds, and an investment in a core Bridges project from our reserves. The surplus at 31 December, largely relates to corporate giving, which was recognised on receipt, before being designated toward specific project expenditure for the subsequent 12 month period. We were also fortunate to receive a £10k grant towards office and project delivery equipment. The £7K surplus in this fund will be depreciated over the coming three years.

Investment powers and policy

The constitution of Bridges for Communities authorises the Trustees to make and hold investments using the funds of the Charity.

Cash balances are currently held with Barclays Bank and CAF Shawbrook Bank.

Reserves policy

At the period end the charity held unrestricted reserves of £120,478 (May 2023: £111,263) and restricted reserves of £37,610 (May 2023: £21,796). Unrestricted, non-designated, reserves ("free reserves") were £38,671 (May 2023: £34,142) and account for approximately 8 months of reserves based on 2024 core budgeted expenditure (May 2023: 7 months), which the Trustees consider adequate at this stage of the charity's life. The Trustees' reserves policy states that the charity should hold a minimum of 6 months of free reserves (unrestricted, non-designated funds) based on the operating costs in the current budget. The 6 months reserves will include 3 months set aside for unplanned closure and 3 months reserves as a response fund, enabling us to respond at short notice to pressing needs among migrant and refugee communities where situations can develop rapidly.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Organisation

Bridges for Communities is a company limited by guarantee, number 07245606, as well as a registered charity, in which the company directors also form the Board of Trustees. The day to day running of the charity is delegated to the Managing Director. The liability of each Trustee in the event of a winding up is limited to £1.

Risk management

The systems of internal control are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include:

- (a) an annual budget approved by the Trustees,
- (b) regular consideration by the Trustees of financial reports;
- (c) delegation of authority and segregation of duties;

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

(d) identification and management of risks.

The Trustees aim to review on a regular basis the main risks that the charity faces. They do this by updating the risk register, and by considering a range of potential risks including reputational damage, loss of key staff, loss of key funders and breach of the GDPR. They believe that maintaining appropriate reviews of the controls over key financial systems provides sufficient resources in the event of unexpected adverse conditions. The Trustees are pleased to confirm that the internal financial controls conform to guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.

Trustee recruitment and training

New trustees can be appointed when appropriate. Suitable candidates are recruited through our network of contacts and partnerships, and through the role being advertised on our website. Candidates are considered on the basis of their skills, experience and sympathy with the aims of the charity, and will go through an interview process. New trustees will have the opportunity of reviewing appropriate documents including the accounts as part of their induction process. The induction process will also involve the candidate receiving an induction pack and having the opportunity to observe a board meeting before their formal appointment to the board.

Plans for future periods

Bridges for Communities seeks to build on the achievements of the last period and continue to grow and improve as a charity.

Our strategic priorities for the 3-year period 2023-2025 are:

1. To improve the depth of our existing project work in Bristol.
2. To increase the reach of our work through impactful storytelling, listening spaces and helpful resources.
3. To invest in improving the diversity and equity of the organisation and strengthening management.
4. To improve the long-term sustainability of Bridges.

Our aims for the year ahead include:

1. Develop and grow our current training offer, reaching a wider audience and generating additional income for the charity.
2. Explore ways in which we can reach new audiences, especially in areas that are less diverse or have higher levels of intolerance.
3. Identify ways in which we can be more inclusive and equitable as an organisation.
4. Implement the improved system for monitoring and evaluating outcomes of our work that we developed last year.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of Bridges for Communities for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. 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 judgments and accounting 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 going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

42 Carrington Road
Bristol.
BS3 2AG.

Sep 17 2024

Signed by order of the Trustees on



Rev O R Lynch
Chair of the Trustees

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Status

The Charity is governed by its Articles of Association. It was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee, number 7245606, on 6 May, 2010 and was registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales, number 1137092 on 27 July 2010.

Trustees

The Trustees who are directors for the purpose of company law and who served during the year are:

Rev O R Lynch (Chair)
Mr J J Kay
Mr D J Gregory
Mrs L Briggs
Mrs R Bennett
Mrs A Mustafa

Registered Office

42 Carrington Road
Bristol
BS3 2AG

Independent Examiner

Joshua Kingston BSc. ACA
Burton Sweet Limited
The Clock Tower
5 Farleigh Court
Old Weston Road
Flax Bourton
Bristol
BS48 1UR

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
Leicester
LE87 2BB

Shawbrook Bank
Brentwood
CM13 3BE

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the period ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors 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 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

I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.

Joshua Kingston BSc. ACA
Burton Sweet Limited
The Clock Tower
5 Farleigh Court
Old Weston Road
Flax Bourton
Bristol BS48 1UR

Joshua Kingston

Sep 17 2024
Date:

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds At End Of The Period 31 December 2023	Total Funds At Start Of The Period 31 May 2023
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	66,029	82,462	148,491	142,443
Charitable activities	3	48,304	2,886	51,190	124,458
Investment income		403	-	403	166
Total income		114,736	85,348	200,084	267,067
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	4	5,210	3,665	8,875	14,491
Charitable activities	5	95,312	70,869	166,181	266,281
Total expenditure		100,522	74,534	175,056	280,772
Net income/(expenditure)	6	14,214	10,814	25,028	(13,705)
Transfers between funds	13	(5,000)	5,000	-	-
Net movement in funds		9,214	15,814	25,028	(13,705)
Total funds at 1 June 2023	13	111,263	21,796	133,059	146,764
Total funds at 31 December 2023	13	120,477	37,610	158,087	133,059

The Charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the period as set out above.

All of the activities of the charitable company are classed as continuing.

See note 9 for comparative Statement of Financial Activities.

The notes on pages 10 to 18 form part of these financial statements

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

BALANCE SHEET

Company Registration Number 07245606

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

		31 December 2023	31 May 2023
	Note	£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	7,264	2,207
Current assets			
Debtors	11	34,854	14,026
Cash at bank		138,926	152,222
		<u>173,780</u>	<u>166,248</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(22,957)</u>	<u>(35,396)</u>
Net current assets		150,823	130,852
Net assets		<u>158,087</u>	<u>133,059</u>
Income funds			
Unrestricted funds			
General funds	14	45,935	36,349
Designated funds	14	74,543	74,914
Restricted funds	14	37,610	21,796
Total funds		<u>158,087</u>	<u>133,059</u>

For the period ended 31 December 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the period in question in accordance with section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

The directors 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 special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on Sep 17 2024 and are signed on their behalf by:



Rev O R Lynch
(Chair of Trustees)

The notes on pages 10 to 18 form part of these financial statements

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

- a) The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2019.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

The accounts have been prepared on the going concern basis as discussed in the Trustee's Annual Report. The Trustees know of no material reason why this should not be appropriate.

- b) Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from donations is included in income when it is receivable, except as follows:

- I. When donors specify that donations given to the Charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods;
- II. When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the Charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred until the pre-conditions have been met.

- c) Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that activity exclusive of recoverable VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

Governance costs comprise the costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs are included within support costs.

- d) The charity contributes to defined contribution pension schemes. Contributions payable to the charity's pension schemes are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.
- e) Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful life of that asset as follows:
Office equipment - 25% - 33% p.a. on cost
- f) Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts.
- g) Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.
- h) Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts.
- i) Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.
- j) Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.
- k) Designated funds are funds set aside by the Trustees out of unrestricted funds for specific purposes or projects.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 31 December 2023 £
Donations	35,629	30,644	66,273
Grants receivable	30,400	51,818	82,218
	66,029	82,462	148,491

Prior year comparatives

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 31 May 2023 £
Donations	40,581	6,429	47,010
Grants receivable	12,700	82,733	95,433
	53,281	89,162	142,443

3 Income from Charitable Activities

Current period

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 31 December 2023 £
Funding for Resettlement project	43,500	-	43,500
Language courses	-	-	-
Tickets for Peace Feasts	1,618	-	1,618
Training of volunteers	1,200	2,886	4,086
Fundraising events	1,986	-	1,986
	48,304	2,886	51,190

Prior year

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 31 May 2023 £
Funding for Resettlement project	111,701	-	111,701
Language courses	4,885	-	4,885
Tickets for Peace Feasts	4,122	-	4,122
Training of volunteers	3,750	-	3,750
	124,458	-	124,458

During the period, the charity received a total of £43,500 (May 2023: £155,451) from government, in the form of grants and contract income.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

4 Expenditure on Raising Funds

Current Period	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total funds 31 December 2023 £
Training and events	-	-	-
Bank and online payment charges	983	14	997
Wages and salaries	3,948	3,651	7,599
Pension costs	279	-	279
	5,210	3,665	8,875

Prior year	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 31 May 2023 £
Training and events	1,508	23	1,531
Bank and online payment charges	192	48	240
Wages and salaries	5,717	6,752	12,469
Pension costs	251	-	251
	7,668	6,823	14,491

5 Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	7 Months To 31 December 2023 £	12 Months To 31 May 2023 £
<u>Direct costs</u>		
Staff training	785	1,979
Travel	11,538	14,902
Subsistence	49	365
Hospitality	1,522	3,576
Volunteer expenses	2,872	4,700
Materials	5,275	3,471
Training and events	6,001	20,089
Telephone	665	1,656
Professional fees	2,352	13,366
Venue costs	2,723	3,068
Film production costs	-	577
Wages and salaries	95,605	144,633
National insurance	2,534	4,024
Pension costs	3,536	5,016
Charity Contribution	100	-
	135,557	221,422

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

5 Expenditure on Charitable Activities (continued)

	7 Months To 31 December 2023	12 Months To 31 May 2023
	£	£
Support costs		
Bank and online payment charges	14	25
Office expenses	2,409	2,430
Website & IT	952	1,845
Printing, postage & stationary	346	497
Insurance	960	1,227
Governance costs	1,695	1,551
Consultancy fees	3,122	4,718
Office rent	2,845	3,972
Wages and salaries	15,540	25,073
National insurance	211	496
Pension cost	1,035	1,572
Depreciation	1,495	1,453
	30,624	44,859
Total expenditure on charitable activities	166,181	266,281

6 Net income for the year is stated after charging:

	7 Months To 31 December 2023	12 Months To 31 May 2023
	£	£
Depreciation	1,495	1,453
Independent examiner's fee	1,014	869
Independent examination Accounts preparation	681	681

7 Staff costs and numbers

The aggregate payroll costs were:

	7 Months To 31 December 2023	12 Months To 31 May 2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	118,244	181,523
Social security costs	3,024	4,771
Employer's pension costs	5,072	7,241
	126,340	193,535

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

7 Staff costs and numbers (continued)

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

No trustees have been remunerated or reimbursed for their out of pocket travel expenses (May 2023: Nil)

The key management personnel comprise the Trustees and the Managing Director. The aggregate remuneration received by key management personnel during the seven month period was £16,002 (12 months to May 2023: £28,570)

The average weekly number of employees based on average headcount during the period was as follows:

	7 Months To 31 December 2023 No.	12 Months To 31 May 2023 No.
Administration	24	21

This represents 14 part time members of staff working the equivalent number of hours of 6.7 (2023: 6.7) full-time staff, and 10 language tutors who are casual workers.

8 Taxation

The Charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

9 Comparative Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 31 May 2023 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	53,281	89,162	142,443
Charitable activities	124,458	-	124,458
Investment income	166	-	166
Total income	177,905	89,162	267,067
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	7,668	6,823	14,491
Charitable activities	182,754	83,527	266,281
Total expenditure	190,422	90,350	280,772
Net income/(expenditure)	(12,517)	(1,188)	(13,705)
Transfers between funds	53,368	(53,368)	-
Net movement in funds	40,851	(54,556)	(13,705)
Total funds at 1 June 2022	70,412	76,352	146,764
Total funds at 31 May 2023	111,263	21,796	133,059

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Office Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 June 2023	7,125	7,125
Additions	6,552	6,552
At 31 December 2023	<u>13,677</u>	<u>13,677</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 June 2023	4,918	4,918
Charge for period	1,495	1,495
At 31 December 2023	<u>6,413</u>	<u>6,413</u>
Net book value		
At 31 December 2023	<u>7,264</u>	<u>7,264</u>
At 31 May 2023	<u>2,207</u>	<u>2,207</u>

11 Debtors

	31 December 2023 £	31 May 2023 £
Other debtors	29,160	1,282
Prepayments and accrued income	2,152	10,305
Gift Aid	3,542	2,439
	<u>34,854</u>	<u>14,026</u>

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	7 Months To 31 December 2023 £	12 Months To 31 May 2023 £
Trade creditors	1,289	2,941
Other taxation and social security	8,251	1,426
Other creditors	1,500	1,604
Accruals and deferred income	11,917	29,425
	<u>22,957</u>	<u>35,396</u>

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (continued)

	7 Months To 31 December 2023 £	12 Months To 31 May 2023 £
Deferred income (included in Accruals and deferred income)		
Deferred income at start of year	26,041	19,745
Amounts released from previous years	(26,041)	(12,245)
Resources deferred during the year	10,222	18,541
	<u>10,222</u>	<u>26,041</u>

13 Movement in funds

Period ended 31 December 2023	1 June 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	31 December 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	36,349	54,184	(39,598)	(5,000)	45,935
Designated funds					
Peace Feast	5,049	5,393	(9,044)	-	1,398
Refugee Social	2,008	1,000	(3,008)	-	-
Resettlement fund	63,123	43,860	(45,726)	-	61,257
RefuLingua	4,734	-	-	-	4,734
Training Resources	-	10,300	(3,146)	-	7,154
	<u>74,914</u>	<u>60,552</u>	<u>(60,923)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>74,543</u>
Total unrestricted funds	111,263	114,736	(100,522)	(5,000)	120,478
Restricted funds					
Befriend Project	5,183	12,556	(15,627)	-	2,112
RefuLingua	-	18,671	(16,066)	-	2,604
Strategic Plan	625	10,000	(3,623)	-	7,002
School Linking	11,474	5,083	(6,617)	-	9,940
Sharing Festivals	1,541	-	(277)	-	1,264
Stitching Together	3,464	13,782	(13,573)	-	3,673
Walk With Me	(491)	19,006	(13,991)	-	4,524
Listening Spaces	-	6,250	(4,760)	5,000	6,490
	<u>21,796</u>	<u>85,348</u>	<u>(74,534)</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>37,610</u>
Total funds	133,059	200,084	(175,055)	-	158,087

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

13 Movement in funds (continued)

Year ended 31 May 2023	1 June 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	31 May 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	42,987	56,333	(62,971)	-	36,349
Designated funds					
Peace Feast	4,168	4,423	(7,637)	4,095	5,049
Refugee Social	2,998	563	(1,553)	-	2,008
RefuLingua	11,916	4,885	(16,315)	4,248	4,734
Resettlement fund	-	111,701	(101,946)	53,368	63,123
Befriend Project	7,095	-	-	(7,095)	-
School Linking	1,248	-	-	(1,248)	-
	27,425	121,572	(127,451)	53,368	74,914
Total unrestricted funds	70,412	177,905	(190,422)	53,368	111,263
Restricted funds					
Befriend Project	2,943	26,766	(24,526)	-	5,183
Refugee Social	-	500	(500)	-	-
RefuLingua	-	2,500	(2,500)	-	-
Peace Feast	-	7,250	(7,250)	-	-
Strategic Plan	5,000	-	(4,375)	-	625
School Linking	15,041	4,295	(7,862)	-	11,474
Sharing Festivals	-	14,000	(12,459)	-	1,541
Stitching Together	-	20,446	(16,982)	-	3,464
Walk With Me	-	13,405	(13,896)	-	(491)
Resettlement fund	53,368	-	-	(53,368)	-
	76,352	59,396	(62,824)	(53,368)	21,796
Total funds	146,764	237,301	(253,246)	-	133,059

Designated funds

The trustees have designated funds for individual projects to ensure that they can continue. Further information on these funds can be found within restricted funds descriptions below.

The Resettlement fund provides support for families who have been resettled in Bristol by the City Council.

Restricted funds

The Befriend project provides one-to-one support for asylum seekers and refugees.

The Refugee Social project organises social activities where refugees and asylum seekers can enjoy themselves and spend time getting to know people.

The RefuLingua project enables people from refugee and migrant backgrounds to gain work experience and employment through teaching their native language.

The Peace Feasts project organises events where people from different backgrounds can share a meal together, in order to promote friendship and social cohesion.

The Strategic Plan and Technology Development fund includes a grant received to help with the costs of the charity's 5-year strategic plan. We received a generous £10,000 capital grant from the Clothworkers Foundation, allowing us to purchase new audio, visual and IT equipment for efficient, safe and connected working.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

13 Movement in funds (continued)

The School Linking project connects classrooms in different parts of Bristol for conversations around identity, community, equality and diversity.

The Sharing Festivals Project aims to build understanding of different cultures and faiths by sharing religious festivals. The Grand Iftar on College Green was funded by Bristol City Council and the West of England Combined Authority's Love our High Streets Project, with additional support from Feeding Bristol and community partners.

The Stitching Together project provides welcoming spaces for refugee and asylum seeking women to be creative, while gaining confidence and making friends.

The Walk With Me project provides one-to one and group walks to connect refugees and asylum seekers into local communities and improve wellbeing.

The Listening Spaces Project facilitates intentional listening and dialogue between people of different cultures, races, faiths, social class and political opinion, in order to build understanding and be better equipped to live well together.

14 Analysis of net assets

Period ended 31 December 2023	Unrestricted		Restricted	Total 2023
	General	Designated		
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	7,264	-	-	7,264
Net current assets	38,671	74,543	37,610	150,823
	45,935	74,543	37,610	158,087

Year ended 31 May 2023	Unrestricted		Restricted	Total 2023
	General Funds	Designated Funds		
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	2,207	-	-	2,207
Net current assets	34,142	74,914	21,796	130,852
	36,349	74,914	21,796	133,059

15 Company limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee having no share capital. Every member is liable to contribute £1 towards the costs of dissolution and the liabilities incurred by the charity in the event of the charity being wound up.

16 Related party transactions

Owen Lynch is a trustee of both Bridges for Communities and Severn Vineyard Church. During the period, unrestricted grant income of £Nil (May 2023: £2,000) was received from Severn Vineyard Church. No balances were due to or from Severn Vineyard Church at the year end.

The total amount of donations received without conditions from trustees and related parties during the period was £2,240 (May 2023: £5,323).

No payments were made to trustees for reimbursement of expenses in either the current period, or prior year.

Accounts

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 MAY 2023

Company Number 07245606
Charity Number 1137092

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

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BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 May 2023, which complies with statutory requirements, the governing documents and the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS102).

Objects of the Charity

The charitable purposes of Bridges for Communities are:

- (a) the promotion of equality and diversity, including but not by way of limitation through advancing education and raising awareness in equality and diversity, the promotion of activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds and cultivating a sentiment in favour of equality and diversity in such parts of the United Kingdom, the Middle East and the world as the Trustees from time to time may think fit;
- (b) the promotion of racial and religious harmony, including but not by way of limitation through the promotion of knowledge and mutual understanding between different racial groups and beliefs and practices of different religious faiths and the advancement of education and raising awareness of the different racial groups and faiths in order to promote good relations between persons of different racial groups and different faiths in such parts of the United Kingdom, the Middle East and the world as the Trustees from time to time may think fit.

During the past year, Bridges for Communities has organised the following activities in line with the charitable purposes:

a) The promotion of equality and diversity

- Befriending support provided through local volunteers to 50 of Bristol's most vulnerable asylum seekers and for 44 refugee families from the Middle East and Afghanistan who have been resettled by Bristol City Council and the Home Office.
- RefuLingua language courses in Arabic, Pashto, Dari and Somali for 72 people, taught by 9 tutors from refugee and migrant backgrounds.
- Stitching Together courses for 143 women from refugee backgrounds, providing the opportunity to learn or develop their sewing skills alongside local volunteers.
- 13 group walks organised for 459 asylum seekers and local volunteers as part of the Walk With Me project.
- 21 Bristol Welcome Events organised for 1862 people, bringing together newly arrived refugee families and local volunteers, helping new arrivals to grow in their sense of belonging in the city.

b) The promotion of racial and religious harmony

- 8 Peace Feast events, enabling 544 people from diverse communities to share a meal together. These events included guest speakers on a range of topics and were organised in partnership with local community groups.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

- School Linking connections for 16 schools, with 32 teachers trained and over 500 children from different backgrounds taking part.
- A 'Grand Iftar' event for 500 people on College Green, in partnership with Muslims for Bristol, Bristol Cathedral and Bristol City Council.
- Cultural Awareness training: 'Welcome to the UK' cultural orientation course for 30 Afghan refugees resettled in Bristol; volunteer training for 141 people who want to provide one-to-one support for refugees and asylum seekers; 'Supporting Refugees' training for 30 people who are part of other voluntary organisations or welcome hubs in Somerset; training for 38 volunteers in 15 new Welcome Hubs that have opened to support people arriving from Ukraine.

Achievements and performance

This section assesses the charity's performance against its objectives:

The trustees are satisfied that the activities outlined above represent good progress towards achieving the objectives of the charity, and also towards the strategic goals outlined in last year's trustees report.

The scope and the impact of our work have seen steady growth compared to the previous year, with the notable addition of the large Grand Iftar event in April. A comprehensive strategic review and subsequent launch of a new 3-year strategy in January 2023 has prepared the way for further growth in the years ahead.

In the area of promoting equality and diversity, efforts have focussed on welcoming people seeking sanctuary in Bristol from war and persecution, and on connecting them into local communities. This work has fostered compassion and empathy towards new arrivals at a time of political division over immigration, seeking to make Bristol a more welcoming and inclusive city so that equality is experienced by all and diversity is celebrated. The willingness and enthusiasm of significant numbers of Bristolians to volunteer their time and energy, and the feedback received from those being supported are indicators that this work has had some success.

In the area of promoting racial and religious harmony, efforts have focussed on connecting people from different backgrounds, inspiring them towards positive action and equipping them to live well together. The regular events and activities of Peace Feasts and Bristol School Linking were complimented this year by a high profile event on College Green, the Grand Iftar, which brought together the Muslim community and other faith communities in the city. 99% of participants at Peace Feasts said they had met someone new from a different culture or faith at the event, and feedback from other activities also showed that people for the activities to be ways to meet new people, grow in their understanding of one another, and be inspired towards action.

Bridges for Communities finishes the year in a satisfactory position financially, and able to continue its charitable activities thanks to the strength of the charity's reserves and the ongoing support of its donors.

In all of the above, the trustees have had regard to the guidance from the Charities Commission regarding public benefit as it relates to the activities of the charity.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

Financial review

The charity is grateful for donations and grants of £142,443 (2022: £104,467) and total fees generated by council contracts, training and events of £124,458 (2022: £105,281), resulting in a deficit of £13,705 (2022: surplus of £28,248). Unrestricted reserves at the end of the year were £111,263 (2022: £70,412). The small deficit in the year to May 2023 was as a result of investing in the development of Bridges three-year strategy, increasing the Managing Director's working hours to oversee expanding project delivery, spending down a surplus of School Linking funds, and an investment in a core Bridges project from our reserves.

Investment powers and policy

The constitution of Bridges for Communities authorises the Trustees to make and hold investments using the funds of the Charity.

Cash balances are currently held with Barclays Bank and CAF Shawbrook Bank.

Reserves policy

At the year end the charity held unrestricted reserves of £111,263 (2022: £70,412) and restricted reserves of £21,796 (2022: £76,352). Unrestricted, non-designated, reserves ("free reserves") were £34,142 (2022: £39,925) and account for approximately 7 months (2022: 6 months) of operating costs based on the 2023/24 budget, which the Trustees consider adequate at this stage of the charity's life. The Trustees' reserves policy states that the charity should hold at least 6 months of free reserves (unrestricted, non-designated funds) based on the operating costs in the current budget, and a maximum of 12 months of free reserves (beyond which it will take action to spend some funds in line with the furtherance of its charitable objectives).

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Organisation

Bridges for Communities is a company limited by guarantee, number 07245606, as well as a registered charity, in which the company directors also form the Board of Trustees. The day to day running of the charity is delegated to the Managing Director. The liability of each Trustee in the event of a winding up is limited to £1.

Risk management

The systems of internal control are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include:

- (a) an annual budget approved by the Trustees,
- (b) regular consideration by the Trustees of financial reports;
- (c) delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- (d) identification and management of risks.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

The Trustees aim to review on a regular basis the main risks that the charity faces. They do this by updating the risk register, and by considering a range of potential risks including reputational damage, loss of key staff, loss of key funders and breach of the GDPR. They believe that maintaining appropriate reviews of the controls over key financial systems provides sufficient resources in the event of unexpected adverse conditions. The Trustees are pleased to confirm that the internal financial controls conform to guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.

Trustee recruitment and training

New trustees can be appointed when appropriate. Suitable candidates are recruited through our network of contacts and partnerships, and through the role being advertised on our website. Candidates are considered on the basis of their skills, experience and sympathy with the aims of the charity, and will go through an interview process. New trustees will have the opportunity of reviewing appropriate documents including the accounts as part of their induction process. The induction process will also involve the candidate receiving an induction pack and having the opportunity to observe a board meeting before their formal appointment to the board.

Plans for future periods

Bridges for Communities seeks to build on the achievements of the last year and continue to grow and improve as a charity.

Our strategic priorities for the 3-year period 2023-2025 are:

1. To improve the depth of our existing project work in Bristol.
2. To increase the reach of our work through impactful storytelling, listening spaces and helpful resources.
3. To invest in improving the diversity and equity of the organisation and strengthening management.
4. To improve the long-term sustainability of Bridges.

Our aims for the current year include to:

1. launch a 2-year pilot of our new 'Listening Spaces' initiative which will enable people from different backgrounds and perspectives to have the opportunity to engage in dialogue and better understand each other's point of view.
2. create more digital and practical resources that enable people to grow in their curiosity and confidence.
3. improve the experience and learning opportunities that our volunteers have during their engagement with Bridges.
4. continue investing in the co-design and co-production of our programmes with our beneficiaries.
5. develop a more comprehensive system for monitoring and evaluating the outcomes of our work.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of Bridges for Communities for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. 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 judgments and accounting 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 going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

42 Carrington Road
Bristol.
BS3 2AG.

Signed by order of the Trustees on Jan 08 2024



Rev O R Lynch
Chair of the Trustees

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

Status

The Charity is governed by its Articles of Association. It was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee, number 7245606, on 6 May, 2010 and was registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales, number 1137092 on 27 July 2010.

Trustees

The Trustees who are directors for the purpose of company law and who served during the year are:

Rev O R Lynch, Chair
Mr J J Kay
Mr D J Gregory
Mrs L Briggs
Mrs R Bennett
Mrs A Mustafa

Registered Office

42 Carrington Road
Bristol
BS3 2AG.

Independent Examiner

Joshua Kingston, BSc., ACA
Burton Sweet Limited,
The Clock Tower,
5 Farleigh Court,
Old Weston Road,
Flax Bourton,
Bristol
BS48 1UR

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc,
Leicester.
LE87 2BB

Shawbrook Bank,
Brentwood.
CM13 3BE

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 May 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors 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 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

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.

Joshua Kingston

Joshua Kingston, BSc., ACA
Burton Sweet Limited
The Clock Tower
5 Farleigh Court
Old Weston Road
Flax Bourton
Bristol BS48 1UR

Jan 08 2024
Date:

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	53,281	89,162	142,443	104,467
Charitable activities	3	124,458	-	124,458	105,281
Investment income		166	-	166	1
Total income		177,905	89,162	267,067	209,749
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	4	7,668	6,823	14,491	6,451
Charitable activities	5	182,754	83,527	266,281	175,050
Total expenditure		190,422	90,350	280,772	181,501
Net income/expenditure		(12,517)	(1,188)	(13,705)	28,248
Transfers between funds	13	53,368	(53,368)	-	-
Net movement in funds		40,851	(54,556)	(13,705)	28,248
Total funds at 1 June 2022	13	70,412	76,352	146,764	118,516
Total funds at 31 May 2023	13	111,263	21,796	133,059	146,764

The Charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.

All of the activities of the charitable company are classed as continuing.

See note 9 for comparative Statement of Financial Activities.

The notes on pages 10 to 18 form part of these financial statements

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

BALANCE SHEET

Company Registration Number 07245606

AS AT 31 MAY 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	2,207	3,062
Current assets			
Debtors	11	14,026	29,347
Cash at bank		152,222	143,528
		<u>166,248</u>	<u>172,875</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(35,396)</u>	<u>(29,173)</u>
Net current assets		130,852	143,702
Net assets		<u>133,059</u>	<u>146,764</u>
Income funds			
Unrestricted funds			
General funds	14	36,349	42,987
Designated funds	14	74,914	27,425
Restricted funds	14	21,796	76,352
Total funds		<u>133,059</u>	<u>146,764</u>

For the year ended 31 May 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011.

The directors 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 special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

Jan 08 2024

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on and are signed on their behalf by:



Rev O R Lynch
(Chair of Trustees)

The notes on pages 10 to 18 form part of these financial statements

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

1 Accounting policies

- a) The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 (*or Companies Act 2006*) and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2019.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

The accounts have been prepared on the going concern basis as discussed in the Trustee's Annual Report. The Trustees know of no material reason why this should not be appropriate.

- b) Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from donations is included in income when it is receivable, except as follows:

- I. When donors specify that donations given to the Charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods;
- II. When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the Charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred until the pre-conditions have been met.

- c) Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that activity exclusive of recoverable VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred. Support costs and costs that cannot be directly attributed have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of the resource.

Governance costs comprise the costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs are included within support costs.

- d) The charity contributes to defined contribution pension schemes. Contributions payable to the charity's pension schemes are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.
- e) Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful life of that asset as follows:

Office equipment - 25% - 33% p.a. on cost

- f) Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts.
- g) Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.
- h) Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.
- i) Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.
- j) Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations	40,581	6,429	47,010
Grants receivable	12,700	82,733	95,433
	<u>53,281</u>	<u>89,162</u>	<u>142,443</u>

Prior year comparatives

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations	55,667	8,983	64,650
Grants receivable	10,782	29,035	39,817
	<u>66,449</u>	<u>38,018</u>	<u>104,467</u>

3 Income from Charitable Activities

Current year

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Funding for Resettlement project	111,701	-	111,701
Language courses	4,885	-	4,885
Tickets for Peace Feasts	4,122	-	4,122
Training of volunteers	3,750	-	3,750
	<u>124,458</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>124,458</u>

Prior year

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Funding for Resettlement project	-	96,656	96,656
Language courses	-	3,580	3,580
Tickets for Peace Feasts	2,025	-	2,025
Training of volunteers	2,990	-	2,990
Facemasks sold	-	30	30
	<u>5,015</u>	<u>100,266</u>	<u>105,281</u>

During the year, the charity received a total of £155,451 (2022: £97,438) from government, in the form of grants and contract income.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

4 Expenditure on Raising Funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2023
	£	£	£
Current year			
Training and events	1,508	23	1,531
Bank and online payment charges	192	48	240
Wages and salaries	5,717	6,752	12,469
Pension costs	251	-	251
	<u>7,668</u>	<u>6,823</u>	<u>14,491</u>

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£
Prior year			
Training and events	934	34	968
Bank and online payment charges	679	46	725
Wages and salaries	2,290	2,407	4,697
Pension costs	61	-	61
	<u>3,964</u>	<u>2,487</u>	<u>6,451</u>

5 Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
	£	£
<u>Direct costs</u>		
Staff training	1,979	656
Travel	14,902	3,205
Subsistence	365	138
Hospitality	3,576	3,778
Volunteer expenses	4,700	2,395
Materials	3,471	3,029
Training and events	20,089	5,204
Telephone	1,656	-
Professional fees	13,366	3,677
Venue costs	3,068	1,110
Film production costs	577	-
Wages and salaries	144,633	106,459
National insurance	4,024	1,012
Pension costs	5,016	3,889
	<u>221,422</u>	<u>134,552</u>

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

5 Expenditure on Charitable Activities (continued)

	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Support costs		
Bank and online payment charges	25	9
Office expenses	2,430	2,292
Website & IT	1,845	5,393
Printing, postage & stationary	497	283
Insurance	1,227	845
Governance costs	1,551	1,755
Consultancy fees	4,718	5,810
Office rent	3,972	3,779
Wages and salaries	25,073	18,512
National insurance	496	234
Pension cost	1,572	744
Depreciation	1,453	842
	<u>44,859</u>	<u>40,498</u>
Total expenditure on charitable activities	<u>266,281</u>	<u>175,050</u>

Support costs are allocated on the basis of cost of activities undertaken directly.

6 Net income for the year is stated after charging:

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation	1,454	842
Independent examiner's fee	869	976
Independent examination Accounts preparation	681	765
	<u>2,904</u>	<u>1,583</u>

7 Staff costs and numbers

The aggregate payroll costs were:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	181,523	129,651
Social security costs	4,771	1,264
Employer's pension costs	7,241	4,693
	<u>193,535</u>	<u>135,608</u>

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

7 Staff costs and numbers (continued)

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

No trustees have been remunerated or reimbursed for their out of pocket travel expenses (2022: Nil)

The key management personnel comprise the Trustees and the Managing Director. The aggregate remuneration received by key management personnel during the period was £28,570 (2022: £25,231)

The average weekly number of employees based on average headcount during the year was as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Administration	21	21

This represents 21 part time members of staff working the equivalent number of hours of 6.7 (2022: 6.5) full-time staff.

8 Taxation

The Charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

9 Comparative Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	66,449	38,018	104,467
Charitable activities	5,015	100,266	105,281
Investment income	1	-	1
Total income	71,465	138,284	209,749
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	3,964	2,487	6,451
Charitable activities	53,128	121,922	175,050
Total expenditure	57,092	124,409	181,501
Net income/expenditure	14,373	13,875	28,248
Transfers between funds	(1,966)	1,966	-
Net movement in funds	12,407	15,841	28,248
Total funds at 1 June 2021	58,005	60,511	118,516
Total funds at 31 May 2022	70,412	76,352	146,764

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Office Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 June 2022	6,526	6,526
Additions	599	599
At 31 May 2023	<u>7,125</u>	<u>7,125</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 June 2022	3,464	3,464
Charge for year	1,454	1,454
At 31 May 2023	<u>4,918</u>	<u>4,918</u>
Net book value		
At 31 May 2023	<u>2,207</u>	<u>2,207</u>
At 31 May 2022	<u>3,062</u>	<u>3,062</u>

11 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Other debtors	1,282	4,238
Prepayments and accrued income	10,305	22,595
Gift Aid	2,439	2,514
	<u>14,026</u>	<u>29,347</u>

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	2,941	532
Other taxation and social security	1,426	3,941
Other creditors	1,604	2,186
Accruals and deferred income	29,425	22,514
	<u>35,396</u>	<u>29,173</u>

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (continued)

Deferred income (included in Accruals and deferred income)

	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income at start of year	19,745	12,717
Amounts released from previous years	(12,245)	(13,739)
Resources deferred during the year	18,541	20,767
	<u>26,041</u>	<u>19,745</u>

13 Movement in funds

Year ended 31 May 2023	1 June 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	31 May 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	42,987	56,333	(62,971)	-	36,349
Designated funds					
Peace feast	4,168	4,423	(7,637)	4,095	5,049
Refugee Social	2,998	563	(1,553)	-	2,008
RefuLingua project	11,916	4,885	(16,315)	4,248	4,734
Resettlement fund	-	111,701	(101,946)	53,368	63,123
b.friend project	7,095	-	-	(7,095)	-
School Linking	1,248	-	-	(1,248)	-
	<u>27,425</u>	<u>121,572</u>	<u>(127,451)</u>	<u>53,368</u>	<u>74,914</u>
Total unrestricted funds	70,412	177,905	(190,422)	53,368	111,263
Restricted funds					
Peace feast	-	7,250	(7,250)	-	-
Refugee Social	-	500	(500)	-	-
b.friend project	2,943	26,766	(24,526)	-	5,183
Resettlement fund	53,368	-	-	(53,368)	-
RefuLingua project	-	2,500	(2,500)	-	-
Strategic Plan	5,000	-	(4,375)	-	625
School Linking	15,041	4,295	(7,862)	-	11,474
Sharing festivals	-	14,000	(12,459)	-	1,541
Stitching Together	-	20,446	(16,982)	-	3,464
Walk With Me	-	13,405	(13,896)	-	(491)
	<u>76,352</u>	<u>89,162</u>	<u>(90,350)</u>	<u>(53,368)</u>	<u>21,796</u>
Total funds	<u>146,764</u>	<u>267,067</u>	<u>(280,772)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>133,059</u>

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

13 Movement in funds (continued)

Year ended 31 May 2022	1 June 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	31 May 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	44,837	65,311	(46,083)	(21,078)	42,987
Designated funds					
Peace feast	7,346	2,025	(8,878)	3,675	4,168
Refugee Social	1,000	4,129	(2,131)	-	2,998
RefuLingua project	4,822	-	-	7,094	11,916
b.friend project	-	-	-	7,095	7,095
School Linking	-	-	-	1,248	1,248
	13,168	6,154	(11,009)	19,112	27,425
Total unrestricted funds	58,005	71,465	(57,092)	(1,966)	70,412
Restricted funds					
b.friend project	16,621	13,067	(26,745)	-	2,943
Refugee Social	12	-	(12)	-	-
Resettlement fund	22,991	99,007	(68,630)	-	53,368
RefuLingua project	12,538	8,580	(23,084)	1,966	-
Strategic Plan	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
School Linking	8,349	12,630	(5,938)	-	15,041
	60,511	138,284	(124,409)	1,966	76,352
Total funds	118,516	209,749	(181,501)	-	146,764

Designated funds

The trustees have designated funds for individual projects to ensure that they can continue. Further information on these funds can be found within restricted funds descriptions below.

The Resettlement fund provides one-to-one support for families who have been resettled in Bristol by the City Council. This has been renamed from the Syrian Refugee Resettlement fund, to better represent the wider groups of people who are now helped by the fund. During the year, the trustees reconsidered the status of the funding received, and decided that the funds received should be treated as unrestricted Designated funds. Therefore, the balance brought forward at the start of the year was transferred to a Designated fund, and the income and expenditure for the year was allocated to this new fund.

Restricted funds

The b.friend project provides one-to-one support for asylum seekers and refugees.

The Refugee Social project organises social activities where refugees and asylum seekers can enjoy themselves and spend time getting to know people.

The RefuLingua project enables people from refugee and migrant backgrounds to gain work experience and employment through teaching their native language.

The Peace Feasts project organises events where people from different backgrounds can share a meal together, in order to promote friendship and social cohesion.

The Strategic Plan fund includes a grant received to help with the costs of the charity's 5-year strategic plan.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2023

13 Movement in funds (continued)

The School Linking project connects classrooms in different parts of Bristol for conversations around identity, community, equality and diversity.

The Sharing Festivals Project aims to build understanding of different cultures and faiths by sharing religious festivals. The Grand Iftar on College Green was funded by Bristol City Council and the West of England Combined Authority's Love our High Streets Project, with additional support from Feeding Bristol and community partners.

The Stitching Together project provides welcoming spaces for refugee and asylum seeking women to be creative, while gaining confidence and making friends.

The Walk With Me project provides one-to-one and group walks to connect refugees and asylum seekers into local communities and improve wellbeing.

14 Analysis of net assets

Year ended 31 May 2023	Unrestricted			Total 2023
	General funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	2,207	-	-	2,207
Net current assets	34,142	74,914	21,796	130,852
	36,349	74,914	21,796	133,059

Year ended 31 May 2022	Unrestricted			Total 2022
	General funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	3,062	-	-	3,062
Net current assets	39,925	27,425	76,352	143,702
	42,987	27,425	76,352	146,764

15 Company limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee having no share capital. Every member is liable to contribute £1 towards the costs of dissolution and the liabilities incurred by the charity in the event of the charity being wound up.

16 Related party transactions

Owen Lynch is a trustee of both Bridges for Communities and Severn Vineyard Church. During the year, unrestricted grant income of £2,000 (2022: £2,400) was received from Severn Vineyard Church. No balances were due to or from Severn Vineyard Church at the year end.

The total amount of donations received without conditions from trustees and related parties during the year was £5,323 (2022: £2,807).

No payments were made to trustees for reimbursement of expenses in either the current, or prior year.

Accounts

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 MAY 2022

Company Number 07245606
Charity Number 1137092

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

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BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 May 2022, which complies with statutory requirements, the governing documents and the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS102).

Objects of the Charity

The objectives of Bridges for Communities are:

The promotion of racial and religious respect and trust, for the benefit of people of different cultures and faiths in the UK and the Middle East, by, but not limited to:

- Developing grass-roots level projects that connect people from different communities in the UK and in the Middle East;
- Educating the public and raising awareness about different cultures and faiths, to promote good relations and respect for the beliefs and practices of others;
- Equipping individuals and organisations that are working towards our vision.

The charity has made good progress towards achieving these objectives this year, as evidenced by the achievements listed below. The scope and the impact of our work has again grown significantly, and has included a response to the arrival of people fleeing Afghanistan and Ukraine.

Bridges for Communities finishes the year in a strong position financially, and able to continue its charitable activities thanks to the strength of the charity's reserves and the ongoing support of its donors.

Impact of Covid-19 on Activities

Bridges for Communities has again remained active throughout all the various stages of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our activities and services have been less impacted by the virus in 2021-22 than they were in 2020-21. Staff have been able to work in the office if they wanted to, but have still had flexibility to work from home when they've preferred. All our projects have been able to return to in-person delivery apart from some RefuLingua language lessons which have remained online. A small number of gathered events (Peace Feasts and Bristol Welcome Events) had to be postponed in the autumn and winter period due to the spread of the Omicron variant, but these activities were able to return to normal in the spring term.

The only area of our work that was significantly impacted this year was our ability to organise cultural exchange trips with countries in the Middle East – these have been unable to happen due to the uncertainty over travel arrangements caused by the virus.

Achievements and performance

This section assesses the charity's performance against its objectives:

- a) Developing grass-roots level projects that connect people from different communities in the UK and in the Middle East.**

During the year the charity has organised or facilitated the following:

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

- 5 Peace Feast events, with 296 people from diverse communities sharing a meal together. These events included guest speakers on a range of topics and were organised in partnership with Redcatch Community Garden, Bristol Sudanese Community Association, St. Mary Redcliffe church and Easton CE Academy School.
- Continuation of the Bristol School Linking project which we launched in 2020-21, with 13 primary schools participating, 24 teachers trained, and over 500 Year 5 children taking part.
- The b.friend project which has provided one-to-one support for 21 of Bristol's most vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers through local volunteers.
- The Resettlement b.friend programme which has provided one-to-one volunteer support for 55 refugee families from the Middle East and Afghanistan who have been resettled by Bristol City Council and the Home Office.
- Bristol Welcome Events that have brought together newly arrived refugee families and local volunteers, helping new arrivals to grow in their sense of belonging in the city. This year has seen an extensive programme of events for Afghans accommodated temporarily in hotels.
- Continuation of the Walk With Me project which was launched in 2020-21, with 24 refugees partnered with local volunteers for exercise, and 10 group walks involving 355 people.
- The Craft Collective project which brought together 42 women from refugee backgrounds to learn to sew alongside local volunteers.

The activities above enable people from different cultural and faith backgrounds to interact and build friendships. By doing so, they grow in their understanding of one another and this can, in turn, lead to a reduction in prejudice between groups. The benefit to wider society is that not only are these people more likely to live well alongside one another, but that they share the stories of their interactions with others and influence their perceptions as well. The work we do to help refugees and asylum seekers to integrate into wider society also contributes towards social cohesion in the city.

b) Educating the public and raising awareness about different cultures and faiths, to promote good relations and respect for the beliefs and practices of others.

- Sharing Festivals events, including a Sharing Ramadan event in Cardiff and 2 Eid celebration events in Bristol involving 309 people.
- RefuLingua language lessons in Arabic, Pashto and Somali for 75 people, taught by 8 tutors from refugee and migrant backgrounds.
- 'Welcome to the UK' cultural orientation course for 46 refugees resettled in Bristol and Taunton.
- Training sessions for 26 new b.friend volunteers who want to provide one-to-one support for refugees and asylum seekers of many different nationalities, at various stages in their asylum process.
- Training sessions for 58 people who want to volunteer their time to help support a refugee who has recently arrived in Bristol through one of the government's resettlement schemes.

These programmes are designed to equip people with the knowledge and tools they need to understand people of different cultures and faiths, and to live well alongside one another. This benefits wider society because participants then contribute towards more cohesive communities and also influence others to do the same.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

c) Equipping individuals and organisations that are working towards our vision.

- 'Supporting Refugees' Training for 31 people who are part of other voluntary organisations or community sponsorship groups
- Providing training for 86 volunteers in 15 new Welcome Hubs that have opened to support people arriving from Ukraine

These activities equip individuals and organisations with the knowledge and tools they need to contribute towards a more cohesive society, and thus they enable the expertise and models of Bridges for Communities to impact a wider audience.

The Trustees are satisfied that the activities outlined above represent good progress towards achieving the objectives of the charity and also towards the strategic goals outlined in last year's Trustees' Report.

In all of the above, the Trustees have had regard to the guidance from the Charity Commission regarding public benefit as it relates to the activities of the charity.

Financial review

The charity is grateful for donations and grants of £104,467 (2021: £137,055) and total fees generated by council contracts, training, events and cultural exchanges of £105,281 (2021: £45,901), which have enabled the charity to meet its running costs for the year. The charity generated a surplus of £28,248 (2021: £51,980). Unrestricted reserves at the end of the year were £70,412 (2021: £58,005).

Investment powers and policy

The constitution of Bridges for Communities authorises the Trustees to make and hold investments using the funds of the Charity.

Cash balances are currently held with Barclays Bank and CAF Shawbrook Bank.

Reserves policy

At the year end the charity held unrestricted reserves of £ 70,412 (2021: £58,005) and restricted reserves of £76,352 (2021: £60,511). Unrestricted, non-designated, reserves ("free reserves") were £39,925 (2021: £44,087) and account for approximately 8.9 months (2021: 12 months) of operating costs based on the 2022/23 budget, which the Trustees consider adequate at this stage of the charity's life. The Trustees' reserves policy states that the charity should hold at least 6 months of free reserves (unrestricted, non-designated funds) based on the operating costs in the current budget, and are pleased that this target has been met throughout the year.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

Organisation

Bridges for Communities is a company limited by guarantee, number 07245606, as well as a registered charity, in which the company directors also form the Board of Trustees. The day to day running of the charity is delegated to the Managing Director. The liability of each Trustee in the event of a winding up is limited to £1.

Risk management

The systems of internal control are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include:

- (a) an annual budget approved by the Trustees,
- (b) regular consideration by the Trustees of financial reports;
- (c) delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- (d) identification and management of risks.

The Trustees aim to review on a regular basis the main risks that the charity faces. They do this by updating the risk register, and by considering a range of potential risks including reputational damage, loss of key staff, loss of key funders and breach of the GDPR. They believe that maintaining appropriate reviews of the controls over key financial systems provides sufficient resources in the event of unexpected adverse conditions. The Trustees are pleased to confirm that the internal financial controls conform to guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.

Trustee recruitment and training

New trustees can be appointed when appropriate. Suitable candidates are recruited through our network of contacts and partnerships, and through the role being advertised on our website. Candidates are considered on the basis of their skills, experience and sympathy with the aims of the charity, and will go through an interview process. New trustees will have the opportunity of reviewing appropriate documents including the accounts as part of their induction process. The induction process will also involve the candidate receiving an induction pack and having the opportunity to observe a board meeting before their formal appointment to the board.

Plans for future periods

Bridges for Communities seeks to build on the achievements of the last year and continue to grow as a charity.

Our 5-year organisational goals (2018-23) are unchanged:

1. To become a small, dynamic and sustainable organisation that is a 'centre of excellence' based in Bristol and resourcing others elsewhere.
2. To have strong partnerships in local communities and a reputation for contributing towards social cohesion in Bristol, especially the integration of newcomers from other cultures and those who are socially isolated.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

3. To have a range of programs that are well established, consistently run, needs-led and strategic in nature (Peace Feast, RefuLingua, Bristol Welcome, b.friend, Cultural Exchange trips, Training etc.).
4. To have a strong and diverse team of part time staff that is working well together, and a diverse board of Trustees with a good skill mix to cover key governance areas.

Our strategic goals for the next year (2022-23) are:

1. Relaunching Peace Feast - running a programme of consistent and strategic events in Bristol throughout the year, and using the resources and tools that we developed last year to enable people to run events in other cities.
2. Growing our Bristol School Linking programme to include more schools and enable more children to have a positive and formative experience of 'living well with difference'.
3. Expanding our Walk With Me programme through partnership with other agencies, referrals, and co-production with beneficiaries, in order to provide more refugees with exercise and connection with local volunteers.
4. Continuing to support the most isolated and vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers through b.friend and its extension 'Resettlement b.friend'.
5. Providing employment and work experience for some of our RefuLingua tutors and expanding the programme into new community languages this year including Somali.
6. Delivering high quality training for individuals and organisations who are working cross-culturally, for host communities who are supporting refugees, and for refugees who are new to this country.
7. Investing in the co-design and co-production of our programmes with our beneficiaries, and improving our systems for monitoring and evaluating the impact of our work.
8. Relaunching our Sharing Festivals programme, giving members of faith communities the opportunity to visit one another and build understanding.
9. Developing and improving our Craft Collective programme by running termly sewing courses for beginners that equip women with key sewing skills useful for life and employment.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of Bridges for Communities for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure of the charitable company for that period. 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 judgments and accounting 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 going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

42 Carrington Road
Bristol.
BS3 2AG.

Signed by order of the Trustees on 3 October 2022

Rev O R Lynch
Chair of the Trustees

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

Status

The Charity is governed by its Articles of Association. It was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee, number 7245606, on 6 May, 2010 and was registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales, number 1137092 on 27 July 2010.

Trustees

The Trustees who are directors for the purpose of company law and who served during the year are:

Rev O R Lynch, Chair
Mr J J Kay
Mr D J Gregory
Mrs L Briggs
Mrs R Bennett
Mrs A Mustafa

Registered Office

42 Carrington Road
Bristol
BS3 2AG.

Independent Examiner

Joshua Kingston, BSc., ACA
Burton Sweet Limited,
The Clock Tower,
5 Farleigh Court,
Old Weston Road,
Flax Bourton,
Bristol
BS48 1UR

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc,
Leicester.
LE87 2BB

Shawbrook Bank,
Brentwood.
CM13 3BE

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 May 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors 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 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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.

Joshua Kingston, BSc., ACA
Burton Sweet Limited
The Clock Tower
5 Farleigh Court
Old Weston Road
Flax Bourton
Bristol BS48 1UR

Date: 3 October 2022

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	66,449	38,018	104,467	137,055
Charitable activities	3	5,015	100,266	105,281	45,901
Investment income		1	-	1	2
Total income		71,465	138,284	209,749	182,958
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	4	3,964	2,487	6,451	5,865
Charitable activities	5	53,128	121,922	175,050	125,113
Total expenditure		57,092	124,409	181,501	130,978
Net income/expenditure		14,373	13,875	28,248	51,980
Transfers between funds	13	(1,966)	1,966	-	-
Net movement in funds		12,407	15,841	28,248	51,980
Total funds at 1 June 2021	13	58,005	60,511	118,516	66,536
Total funds at 31 May 2022	13	70,412	76,352	146,764	118,516

The Charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.

All of the activities of the charitable company are classed as continuing.

See note 8 for comparative Statement of Financial Activities.

The notes on pages 11 to 19 form part of these financial statements

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

BALANCE SHEET

Company Registration Number 07245606

AS AT 31 MAY 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	3,062	750
Current assets			
Debtors	11	29,347	3,816
Cash at bank		143,528	132,688
		<u>172,875</u>	<u>136,504</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(29,173)</u>	<u>(18,738)</u>
Net current assets		143,702	117,766
Net assets		<u>146,764</u>	<u>118,516</u>
Income funds			
General funds	14	42,987	44,837
Designated funds	14	27,425	13,168
Restricted funds	14	76,352	60,511
Total funds		<u>146,764</u>	<u>118,516</u>

For the year ended 31 May 2022 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors 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 special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act applicable to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on 3 October 2022. and are signed on their behalf by:

Rev O R Lynch
(Chair of Trustees)

The notes on pages 11 to 19 form part of these financial statements

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

1 Accounting policies

- a) The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 (*or Companies Act 2006*) and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2019.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

The accounts have been prepared on the going concern basis as discussed in the Trustee's Annual Report. The Trustees know of no material reason why this should not be appropriate.

- b) Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from donations is included in income when it is receivable, except as follows:

- I. When donors specify that donations given to the Charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods;
- II. When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the Charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred until the pre-conditions have been met.

- c) Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that activity inclusive of VAT. Support costs and costs that cannot be directly attributed have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of the resource.

Governance costs comprise the costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs are included within support costs.

Expenditure is allocated to a particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

- d) The charity contributes to defined contribution pension schemes. Contributions payable to the charity's pension schemes are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.
- e) Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful life of that asset as follows:

Office equipment - 25% - 33% p.a. on cost

- f) Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts.
- g) Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.
- h) Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.
- i) Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.
- j) Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations	55,667	8,983	64,650
Grants receivable	10,782	29,035	39,817
	<u>66,449</u>	<u>38,018</u>	<u>104,467</u>

Prior year comparatives

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Donations	40,982	15,970	56,952
Grants receivable	10,873	69,230	80,103
	<u>51,855</u>	<u>85,200</u>	<u>137,055</u>

3 Income from Charitable Activities

Current year

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Funding for Resettlement project	-	96,656	96,656
Language courses	-	3,580	3,580
Tickets for Peace Feasts	2,025	-	2,025
Training of volunteers	2,990	-	2,990
Facemasks sold	-	30	30
	<u>5,015</u>	<u>100,266</u>	<u>105,281</u>

Prior year

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Funding for Resettlement project	-	35,852	35,852
Language courses	-	6,223	6,223
Tickets for Peace Feasts	1,699	-	1,699
Training of volunteers	987	-	987
Facemasks sold	-	1,140	1,140
	<u>2,686</u>	<u>43,215</u>	<u>45,901</u>

During the year, the charity received a total of £97,438 (2021: £19,872) from government, in the form of grants and contract income.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

4 Expenditure on Raising Funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2022 £
Current year			
Training and events	934	34	968
Bank and online payment charges	679	46	725
Wages and salaries	2,351	2,407	4,758
	<u>3,964</u>	<u>2,487</u>	<u>6,451</u>
Prior year			
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2021 £
Training and events	137	931	1,068
Bank and online payment charges	482	148	630
Wages and salaries	1,564	2,603	4,167
	<u>2,183</u>	<u>3,682</u>	<u>5,865</u>

5 Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
<u>Direct costs</u>		
Staff training	656	402
Travel	3,205	182
Subsistence	138	124
Hospitality	3,778	1,576
Volunteer expenses	2,395	3,003
Materials	3,029	1,696
Training and events	5,204	3,644
Professional fees	3,677	3,240
Venue costs	1,110	551
Film production costs	-	80
Wages and salaries	106,459	83,734
National insurance	1,012	-
Pension costs	3,889	3,368
	<u>134,552</u>	<u>101,600</u>

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

5 Expenditure on Charitable Activities (continued)

	Total Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2021 £
<u>Support costs</u>		
Bank and online payment charges	9	-
Office expenses	2,292	878
Telephone, website & IT	5,393	1,690
Printing, postage & stationary	283	429
Insurance	845	1,089
Governance costs	1,755	1,831
Consultancy fees	5,810	7,220
Office rent	3,779	2,653
Wages and salaries	18,512	7,154
National insurance	234	-
Pension cost	744	321
Depreciation	842	248
	<u>40,498</u>	<u>23,513</u>
Total expenditure on charitable activities	<u>175,050</u>	<u>125,113</u>

Support costs are allocated on the basis of cost of activities undertaken directly.

6 Net income for the year is stated after charging:

	2022 £	2021 £
Depreciation	842	248
Independent examiner's fee	976	918
Independent examination Accounts preparation	765	720
	<u>1,583</u>	<u>1,886</u>

7 Staff costs and numbers

The aggregate payroll costs were:

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	129,651	91,838
Social security costs	1,264	3,791
Employer's pension costs	4,693	3,690
	<u>135,608</u>	<u>99,319</u>

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

7 Staff costs and numbers (continued)

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

No trustees have been remunerated or reimbursed for their out of pocket travel expenses (2021: Nil)

The key management personnel comprise the Trustees and the Managing Director. The aggregate remuneration received by key management personnel during the period was £25,231 (2021: £25,217)

The average weekly number of employees based on average headcount during the year was as follows:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Administration	21	10

This represents 21 part time members of staff working the equivalent number of hours of 6.5 full-time staff.

8 Taxation

The Charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

9 Comparative Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	51,855	85,200	137,055
Charitable activities	2,686	43,215	45,901
Investment income	2	-	2
Total income	54,543	128,415	182,958
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	2,183	3,682	5,865
Charitable activities	30,464	94,649	125,113
Total expenditure	32,647	98,331	130,978
Net income/expenditure	21,896	30,084	51,980
Transfers between funds	(1,407)	1,407	-
Net movement in funds	20,489	31,491	51,980
Total funds at 1 June 2020	37,516	29,020	66,536
Total funds at 31 May 2021	58,005	60,511	118,516

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Office Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 June 2021	3,372	3,372
Additions	3,154	3,154
At 31 May 2022	<u>6,526</u>	<u>6,526</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 June 2021	2,622	2,622
Charge for year	842	842
At 31 May 2022	<u>3,464</u>	<u>3,464</u>
Net book value		
At 31 May 2022	<u>3,062</u>	<u>3,062</u>
At 31 May 2021	<u>750</u>	<u>750</u>

11 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Other debtors	4,238	250
Prepayments and accrued income	22,595	791
Gift Aid	2,514	2,775
	<u>29,347</u>	<u>3,816</u>

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	532	1,290
Other taxation and social security	3,941	1,837
Other creditors	2,186	554
Accruals and deferred income	22,514	15,057
	<u>29,173</u>	<u>18,738</u>

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (continued)

Deferred income (included in Accruals and deferred income)

	2022 £	2021 £
Deferred income at start of year	12,717	22,400
Amounts released from previous years	(13,739)	(23,683)
Resources deferred during the year	20,767	14,000
	<u>19,745</u>	<u>12,717</u>

13 Movement in funds

Year ended 31 May 2022	1 June 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	31 May 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	44,837	65,311	(46,083)	(21,078)	42,987
Designated funds					
Peace feast	7,346	2,025	(8,878)	3,675	4,168
Refugee Social	1,000	4,129	(2,131)	-	2,998
RefuLingua project	4,822	-	-	7,094	11,916
b.friend project	-	-	-	7,095	7,095
School Linking	-	-	-	1,248	1,248
	<u>13,168</u>	<u>6,154</u>	<u>(11,009)</u>	<u>19,112</u>	<u>27,425</u>
Restricted funds					
b.friend project	16,621	13,067	(26,745)	-	2,943
Refugee Social	12	-	(12)	-	-
Resettlement fund	22,991	99,007	(68,630)	-	53,368
RefuLingua project	12,538	8,580	(23,084)	1,966	-
Strategic Plan	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
School Linking	8,349	12,630	(5,938)	-	15,041
	<u>60,511</u>	<u>138,284</u>	<u>(124,409)</u>	<u>1,966</u>	<u>76,352</u>
Total funds	<u>118,516</u>	<u>209,749</u>	<u>(181,501)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>146,764</u>

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

13 Movement in funds (continued)

Year ended 31 May 2021	1 June 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	31 May 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	37,516	54,543	(31,201)	(16,021)	44,837
Designated funds					
Peace feast	-	-	(1,446)	8,792	7,346
Refugee Social	-	-	-	1,000	1,000
RefuLingua project	-	-	-	4,822	4,822
	-	-	(1,446)	14,614	13,168
Restricted funds					
b.friend project	17,103	18,367	(18,849)	-	16,621
Refugee Social	1,175	-	(1,163)	-	12
Syrian refugee resettlement fund	9,484	40,445	(26,938)	-	22,991
RefuLingua project	-	23,603	(12,243)	1,178	12,538
Peace feasts	1,258	1,000	(3,136)	878	-
BC Trust	-	33,000	(32,351)	(649)	-
School Linking	-	12,000	(3,651)	-	8,349
	29,020	128,415	(98,331)	1,407	60,511
Total funds	66,536	182,958	(130,978)	-	118,516

Restricted funds

The b.friend project provides one-to-one support for asylum seekers and refugees.

The Refugee Social project organises social activities where refugees and asylum seekers can enjoy themselves and spend time getting to know people.

The Resettlement fund provides one-to-one support for families who have been resettled in Bristol by the City Council. This has been renamed from the Syrian Refugee Resettlement fund, to better represent the wider groups of people who are now helped by the fund.

The RefuLingua project enables Arabic-speaking refugees to teach their language to people in Bristol.

The Peace Feasts project organises events where people from different backgrounds can share a meal together, in order to promote friendship and social cohesion.

The Barrow Cadbury Trust's COVID-19 Support Fund enabled the continuation of several of our key projects during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The School Linking project connects classrooms in different parts of Bristol for conversations around identity, community, equality and diversity.

The Strategic Plan fund includes a grant received to help with the costs of the charity's 5-year strategic plan.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2022

14 Analysis of net assets

Year ended 31 May 2022	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	3,062	-	3,062
Net current assets	67,350	76,352	143,702
	<u>70,412</u>	<u>76,352</u>	<u>146,764</u>

Year ended 31 May 2021	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	750	-	750
Net current assets	57,255	60,511	117,766
	<u>58,005</u>	<u>60,511</u>	<u>118,516</u>

15 Company limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee having no share capital. Every member is liable to contribute £1 towards the costs of dissolution and the liabilities incurred by the charity in the event of the charity being

16 Related party transactions

Owen Lynch is a trustee of both Bridges for Communities and Severn Vineyard Church. During the year, unrestricted grant income of £2,400 (2021: £2,400) was received from Severn Vineyard Church. No balances were due to or from Severn Vineyard Church at the year end.

The total amount of donations received without conditions from trustees and related parties during the year was £2,807 (2021: £2,787).

No payments were made to trustees for reimbursement of expenses in either the current, or prior year.

Accounts

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 MAY 2021

Company Number 07245606
Charity Number 1137092

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

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BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 May 2021, which complies with statutory requirements, the governing documents and the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS102).

Objects of the Charity

The objectives of Bridges for Communities are:

The promotion of racial and religious respect and trust, for the benefit of people of different cultures and faiths in the UK and the Middle East, by, but not limited to:

- Developing grass-roots level projects that connect people from different communities in the UK and in the Middle East;
- Educating the public and raising awareness about different cultures and faiths, to promote good relations and respect for the beliefs and practices of others;
- Equipping individuals and organisations that are working towards our vision.

The charity has made good progress towards achieving each of these objectives this year. The scope and the impact of its work has again grown significantly despite the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic, as evidenced by the achievements listed below.

Impact of Covid-19 on Activities

Bridges for Communities has remained active throughout the various stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, with staff working from home for most of the year and activities and projects having to adapt to the new circumstances. Most projects have been able to continue, through a combination of online, over the phone and in-person delivery in accordance with government guidelines. These include RefuLingua, b.friend, Middle East b.friend, Craft Collective and Peace Feast. Our Bristol Welcome Events for refugees, Sharing Festivals events, and cultural exchange trips have all had to remain on pause throughout the year, but we have been able to launch two brand new projects called Walk With Me and Bristol School Linking.

We have not needed to lay off any members of our staff team due to the pandemic, and the management and trustees have sought to employ people for as much of their jobs as possible so that the activities of the charity could continue at a time when many people we work with were even more vulnerable to isolation than normal. A small number of our staff have been furloughed during the year – most of them for a small portion of their hours due to a reduction in their work load caused by Covid, but with the Craft Collective Coordinator furloughed for all of her 1 day-per-week role for one term due to the unfeasibility of running her project in the spring term. The team have continued to meet weekly online, and those in management roles have communicated regularly with those they oversee to provide support where needed.

To assess the ongoing impact of COVID-19 upon the charity, trustee meetings continued with increased frequency for the first part of the year, including increased communication on operational and financial circumstances between meetings. They returned to their normal quarterly pattern once the trustees were confident that the charity was through the initial adjustment phase and in a stable position financially.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

Bridges for Communities finishes the year in a strong position financially, and able to continue its charitable activities thanks to the strength of the charity's reserves and the ongoing support of its donors. Some uncertainty exists over access to future grants as trusts change their priorities in the next phases of COVID-19 response, so reviewing the financial position including cashflow forecasts and alternative fundraising opportunities remains a focus for management and the Trustees during this period.

Achievements and performance

This section assesses the charity's performance against its objectives:

a) Developing grass-roots level projects that connect people from different communities in the UK and in the Middle East.

During the year the charity has organised or facilitated the following activities:

- 5 Virtual Peace Feast events, with 210 people from diverse communities sharing a takeaway meal delivered by Bridges in the safety of their own homes, and with over 1800 people viewing the events online (either live or afterwards). These events included guest speakers on a range of topics and involved partnerships with Baraka Community Café, Bristol Refugee Festival, Jo Cox Foundation, The Awareness Foundation and others.
- A new project called Bristol School Linking, which recruited 13 primary schools, provided training for teachers, and enabled Year 5 children to meet others from a different part of the city.
- The b.friend project which has provided one-to-one support for 18 refugees and asylum seekers in Bristol through local volunteers.
- The Middle East b.friend programme has provided one-to-one volunteer support for 70 refugees from the Middle East who have been resettled in Bristol under the Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme.
- A new project called Walk With Me, which has enabled 15 refugees to get out of the house for some exercise alongside a local volunteer, as well as group walks involving 85 people.
- A facemasks project that enabled 19 volunteers and a Syrian refugee tailor to produce 880 facemasks together, with half being donated to those in need through a 'pay it forward' scheme.

The activities above enable people from different cultural and faith backgrounds to interact and build friendships. By doing so, they grow in their understanding of one another and this tends to lead to a reduction in prejudice. The benefit to wider society is that not only are these people more likely to live well alongside one another, but that they share the stories of their interactions with others and influence their perceptions as well. The work we do to help refugees and asylum seekers to integrate into wider society also contributes towards social cohesion in the city.

b) Educating the public and raising awareness about different cultures and faiths, to promote good relations and respect for the beliefs and practices of others.

- 'Welcome to the UK' cultural orientation course for 9 refugees resettled by Bristol City Council, Westbury Welcome, Sidmouth and Budleigh Community Sponsorship groups under the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme.
- 3 training sessions for 23 new b.friend volunteers who have gone on to provide one-to-one support for refugees and asylum seekers of many different nationalities, at various stages

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

in their asylum process.

- 6 training sessions for 42 people who want to volunteer their time to help support a refugee who has recently arrived in Bristol under the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme, or to provide homework help for one of their teenage children.

These training programmes are designed to equip people with the knowledge and tools they need to understand people of different cultures and faiths, and to live well alongside one another. This benefits wider society because participants then contribute towards more cohesive communities and also influence others to do the same.

a. Equipping individuals and organisations that are working towards our vision.

- 'Supporting Refugees' Training for 69 people at community sponsorship groups around the South West.
- Continuation of our RefuLingua project, giving 10 Arabic-speaking refugees an important step towards employment by equipping them with teaching skills and the opportunity to teach 65 students their language.
- Leading a consultation on refugee voice with resettled refugees in the South West, producing a report and recommendations on how those with lived experience can make more of a contribution towards refugee resettlement going forwards.

These activities equip individuals and organisations with the knowledge and tools they need to contribute towards a more cohesive society, and thus they enable the expertise and models of Bridges for Communities to impact a wider audience.

The trustees are satisfied that the activities outlined above represent good progress towards achieving the objectives of the charity and also towards the strategic goals outlined in last year's Trustees' Report.

In all of the above, the Trustees have had regard to the guidance from the Charity Commission regarding public benefit as it relates to the activities of the charity.

Financial review

The charity is grateful for donations and grants of £137,055 (2020: £89,497) and total fees generated by training, events and cultural exchanges of £45,901 (2019: £45,190), which have enabled the charity to meet its running costs for the year. The charity generated a surplus of £58,005 (2020: £17,696). Reserves at the end of the year were £57,356 (2019: £37,516).

Investment powers and policy

The constitution of Bridges for Communities authorises the Trustees to make and hold investments using the funds of the Charity.
Cash balances are currently held with Barclays Bank.

Reserves policy

At the year end the charity held unrestricted reserves of £44,837 (2020: £37,516) and restricted reserves of £60,511 (2020: £29,020). Unrestricted, non-designated, reserves ("free reserves")

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

were £44,087 (2020: £37,167) and account for approximately 12 months (2020: 9 months) of operating costs based on the 2021/22 budget, which the trustees consider adequate at this stage of the charity's life. The trustees' reserves policy states that the charity should hold at least 6 months of free reserves (unrestricted, non-designated funds) based on the operating costs in the current budget, and are pleased that this target has been met throughout the year.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, and making assessments regarding the issues relating to COVID-19, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Organisation

Bridges for Communities is a company limited by guarantee, number 7245606, as well as a registered charity, in which the company directors also form the Board of Trustees. The day to day running of the charity is delegated to the Managing Director. The liability of each Trustee in the event of a winding up is limited to £1.

Risk management

The systems of internal control are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include:

- (a) an annual budget approved by the Trustees,
- (b) regular consideration by the Trustees of financial reports;
- (c) delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- (d) identification and management of risks.

The Trustees aim to review on a regular basis the main risks that the charity faces. They do this by updating the risk register, and by considering a range of potential risks including reputational damage, loss of key staff, loss of key funders and breach of the GDPR. They believe that maintaining appropriate reviews of the controls over key financial systems provides sufficient resources in the event of unexpected adverse conditions. The Trustees are pleased to confirm that the internal financial controls conform to guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.

Trustee recruitment and training

New trustees can be appointed when appropriate. Suitable candidates are recruited through our network of contacts and partnerships, and through the role being advertised on our website. Candidates are considered on the basis of their skills, experience and sympathy with the aims of the charity, and will go through an interview process. New trustees will have the opportunity of reviewing appropriate documents including the accounts as part of their induction process. The induction process will also involve the candidate receiving an induction pack and having the opportunity to observe a board meeting before their formal appointment to the board.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

Plans for future periods

Bridges for Communities seeks to build on the achievements of the last year and continue to grow as a charity. However, the management and trustees recognize that the uncertainty created by the spread of COVID-19 may mean that the year ahead is one where we seek to maintain and consolidate our position rather than seeking significant growth.

Our 5-year organisational goals (2018-23) are:

1. To become a small, dynamic and sustainable organisation that is a 'centre of excellence' based in Bristol and resourcing others elsewhere.
2. To have strong partnerships in local communities and a reputation for contributing towards social cohesion in Bristol, especially the integration of newcomers from other cultures and those who are socially isolated.
3. To have a range of programs that are well established, consistently run, needs-led and strategic in nature (Peace Feast, RefuLingua, Bristol Welcome, b.friend, Cultural Exchange trips, Training etc.).
4. To have a strong and diverse team of part time staff that is working well together, and a diverse board of trustees with a good skill mix to cover key governance areas.

Our strategic goals for the next year (2021-22) are:

- 1 Replicating the Peace Feast model by running a programme of consistent and strategic events in Bristol throughout the year, and by using the resources and tools that we developed last year to enable people to run events in other cities.
- 2 Expanding our Bristol School Linking programme to include more schools and to enable in-person connection between primary school students in different parts of the city.
- 3 Growing our Walk With Me programme through partnership with other agencies, referrals, and co-production with beneficiaries, in order to provide more refugees with exercise and connection with local volunteers.
- 4 Continuing to support the most isolated and vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers as we emerge from Covid-19, through b.friend and it's extension 'Middle East b.friend'.
- 5 Providing employment and work experience for some of our RefuLingua tutors and expanding the programme into new community languages this year.
- 6 Delivering high quality training for individuals and organisations who are working cross-culturally, for host communities who are supporting refugees, and for refugees who are new to this country.
- 7 Investing in the co-design and co-production of our programmes with our beneficiaries, and improving our systems for monitoring and evaluating the impact of our work.
- 8 Relaunching our Sharing Festivals programme, giving members of faith communities the opportunity to visit one another and build understanding.
- 9 Developing and improving our Craft Collective programme by running termly sewing courses for beginners that equip women with key sewing skills useful for life and employment.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Bridges for Communities for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (incorporating the directors' report) and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. 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 judgments and accounting 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 going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

42 Carrington Road
Bristol.
BS3 2AG.

Signed by order of the Trustees on 20 October 2021

Rev O R Lynch
Chair of the Trustees

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

Status

The Charity is governed by its Articles of Association. It was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee, number 7245606, on 6 May, 2010 and was registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales, number 1137092 on 27 July 2010.

Trustees

The Trustees who are directors for the purpose of company law and who served during the year are:

Rev O R Lynch, Chair
Mr J J Kay
Mr D J Gregory
Mrs L Briggs (née Bond)
Mrs R Bennett
Mrs A Mustafa

Registered Office

42 Carrington Road
Bristol
BS3 2AG.

Independent Examiner

Joshua Kingston, BSc., ACA
Burton Sweet Limited,
The Clock Tower,
5 Farleigh Court,
Old Weston Road,
Flax Bourton,
Bristol
BS48 1UR

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc,
Leicester.
LE87 2BB

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 May 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors 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 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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.

Joshua Kingston, BSc., ACA
Burton Sweet Limited
The Clock Tower
5 Farleigh Court
Old Weston Road
Flax Bourton
Bristol BS48 1UR

Date: 20 October 2021

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	51,855	85,200	137,055	89,497
Charitable activities		2,686	43,215	45,901	45,190
Investment income		2	-	2	3
Total income		<u>54,543</u>	<u>128,415</u>	<u>182,958</u>	<u>134,690</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	3	2,183	3,682	5,865	1,968
Charitable activities	4	30,464	94,649	125,113	115,026
Total expenditure		<u>32,647</u>	<u>98,331</u>	<u>130,978</u>	<u>116,994</u>
Net income/expenditure		21,896	30,084	51,980	17,696
Transfers between funds	12	(1,407)	1,407	-	-
Total funds at 1 June 2020		37,516	29,020	66,536	48,840
Total funds at 31 May 2021	12	<u>58,005</u>	<u>60,511</u>	<u>118,516</u>	<u>66,536</u>

The Charity has no recognised gains or losses other than the results for the year as set out above.

All of the activities of the charitable company are classed as continuing.

See note 8 for comparative Statement of Financial Activities.

The notes on pages 11 to 20 form part of these financial statements

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

BALANCE SHEET

Company Registration Number 07245606

AS AT 31 MAY 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	9	750	349
Current assets			
Debtors	10	3,816	5,825
Cash at bank		132,688	87,830
		<u>136,504</u>	<u>93,655</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(18,738)</u>	<u>(27,468)</u>
Net current assets		117,766	66,187
Net assets		<u>118,516</u>	<u>66,536</u>
Income funds			
General funds	13	44,837	37,516
Designated funds		13,168	-
Restricted funds	13	60,511	29,020
Total funds		<u>118,516</u>	<u>66,536</u>

For the year ended 31 May 2021 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors 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 special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act applicable to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

These financial statements were approved by the trustees on 20 October 2021 and are signed on their behalf by:

Rev O R Lynch
(Chair of Trustees)

The notes on pages 11 to 20 form part of these financial statements

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

1 Accounting policies

- a) The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, the Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS102), the requirements of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice based thereon, and the Companies Act 2006. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

The accounts have been prepared on the going concern basis as discussed in the trustee's annual report. The Trustees know of no material reason why this should not be appropriate.

- b) Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from donations is included in income when it is receivable, except as follows:

I. When donors specify that donations given to the Charity must be used in future accounting periods, the income is deferred until those periods;

II. When donors impose conditions which have to be fulfilled before the Charity becomes entitled to use such income, the income is deferred until the pre-conditions have been met.

Gifts in kind includes donated services and facilities which are recognised at a reasonable estimate of the amount the Charity would be prepared to pay for such items. An equivalent amount has been included as expenditure under the appropriate heading in the Statement of Financial Activities.

- c) Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that activity inclusive of VAT. Support costs and costs that cannot be directly attributed have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of the resource.

Governance costs comprise the costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs are included within support costs.

Expenditure is allocated to a particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

- d) The charity contributes to defined contribution pension schemes. Contributions payable to the charity's pension schemes are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

- e) Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful life of that asset as follows:

Office equipment - 25% p.a. on cost

- f) Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts.

- g) Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

- h) Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

1 Accounting policies (continued)

- i) Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the trustees.
- j) Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
Donations	40,982	15,970	56,952
Grants receivable	10,873	69,230	80,103
	<u>51,855</u>	<u>85,200</u>	<u>137,055</u>

During the year, the charity received government grants of £5,872 in regards to Covid-19.

Prior year comparatives

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
Donations	29,059	8,348	37,407
Donated services and facilities*	3,333	-	3,333
Grants receivable	11,000	37,757	48,757
	<u>43,392</u>	<u>46,105</u>	<u>89,497</u>

*The equivalent cost of donated services is reflected in charitable expenditure in note 4 as office space.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

3 Expenditure on Raising Funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
Current year	2021		
	£	£	£
Training and events	137	931	1068
Bank and online payment charges	482	148	630
Wages and salaries	1564	2603	4167
	2183	3682	5865

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
Prior year	2020		
	£	£	£
Training and events	127	456	583
Bank and online payment charges	553	-	553
Wages and salaries	416	416	832
	1096	872	1,968

4 Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
	£	£
<u>Direct costs</u>		
Staff training	402	725
Travel	182	992
Subsistence	124	394
Hospitality	1,576	1,757
Volunteer expenses	3,003	5,404
Materials	1,696	420
Training and events	3,644	4,843
Professional fees	3,240	-
Venue costs	551	2,264
Film production costs	80	800
Wages and salaries	83,734	70,806
National insurance	-	1,145
Pension costs	3,368	3,303
	101,600	92,853

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

4 Expenditure on Charitable Activities (continued)

	Total Funds 2021 £	Total Funds 2020 £
<u>Support costs</u>		
Bank and online payment charges	-	4
Office expenses	878	590
Telephone, website & IT	1,690	1,005
Printing, postage & stationary	429	328
Insurance	1,089	544
Governance costs	1,831	1,844
Consultancy fees	7,220	5,635
Office Space*	-	3,333
Office rent	2,653	915
Wages and salaries	7,154	7,240
National insurance	-	227
Pension cost	321	314
Depreciation	248	194
	23,513	22,173

Support costs are allocated on the basis of cost of activities undertaken directly.

*This represents the value of donated services (see note 2).

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

5 Net income for the year is stated after charging:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Depreciation	248	194
Independent examiner's fee	918	840
Independent examination Accounts preparation	720	720
	=====	=====

6 Staff costs and numbers

The aggregate payroll costs were:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	91,838	78,879
Social security costs	3,791	1,372
Employer's pension costs	3,690	3,617
	=====	=====
	99,319	83,868

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

6 Staff costs and numbers (continued)

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000.

No trustees have been remunerated or reimbursed for their out of pocket travel expenses (2019: Nil)

The key management personnel comprise the Trustees and the Managing Director. The aggregate remuneration received by key management personnel during the period was £25,217 (2020: £25,058)

The average weekly number of employees based on average headcount during the year was as follows:

	2021 No.	2020 No.
Administration	10	6

7 Taxation

The Charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

8 Comparative Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	43,392	46,105	89,497
Charitable activities	8,107	37,083	45,190
Investment income	3	-	3
Total income	51,502	83,188	134,690
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	1,096	872	1,968
Charitable activities	38,360	76,666	115,026
Total expenditure	39,456	77,538	116,994
Net income/expenditure	12,046	5,650	17,696
Transfers between funds	2,975	(2,975)	-
Net movement in funds	15,021	2,675	17,696
Total funds at 1 June 2020	22,495	26,345	48,840
Total funds at 31 May 2021	37,516	29,020	66,536

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Office Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 June 2020	2,723	2,723
Additions	649	649
At 31 May 2021	<u>3,372</u>	<u>3,372</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 June 2020	2,374	2,374
Charge for year	248	248
At 31 May 2021	<u>2,622</u>	<u>2,622</u>
Net book value		
At 31 May 2021	<u>750</u>	<u>750</u>
At 31 May 2020	<u>349</u>	<u>349</u>

10 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Other debtors	250	447
Prepayments and accrued income	791	607
Gift Aid	2,775	4,771
	<u>3,816</u>	<u>5,825</u>

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	1,290	55
Other taxation and social security	1,837	506
Other creditors	554	497
Accruals and deferred income	15,057	26,410
	<u>18,738</u>	<u>27,468</u>

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (continued)

Deferred income (included in Accruals and deferred income)

	2021 £	2020 £
Deferred income at start of year	22,400	15,767
Amounts released from previous years	(23,683)	(15,767)
Resources deferred during the year	14,000	22,400
	<u>12,717</u>	<u>22,400</u>

12 Movement in funds

Year ended 31 May 2021	1 June 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	31 May 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	37,516	54,543	(31,201)	(16,021)	44,837
Designated funds					
Peace feast	-	-	(1,446)	8,792	7,346
Refugee social	-	-	-	1,000	1,000
Refulingua project	-	-	-	4,822	4,822
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,446)</u>	<u>14,614</u>	<u>13,168</u>
Restricted funds					
b.friend project	17,103	18,367	(18,849)	-	16,621
Refugee Social events project	1,175	-	(1,163)	-	12
Syrian refugee resettlement fund	9,484	40,445	(26,938)	-	22,991
Refulingua project	-	23,603	(12,243)	1,178	12,538
Peace feasts	1,258	1,000	(3,136)	878	-
BC Trust	-	33,000	(32,351)	(649)	-
School links	-	12,000	(3,651)	-	8,349
	<u>29,020</u>	<u>128,415</u>	<u>(98,331)</u>	<u>1,407</u>	<u>60,511</u>
Total funds	<u>66,536</u>	<u>182,958</u>	<u>(130,978)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>118,516</u>

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

12 Movement in funds (continued)

Year ended 31 May 2020	1 June 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	31 May 2020 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	22,495	51,502	(39,456)	2,975	37,516
Restricted funds					
b.friend project	4,352	41,555	(23,804)	(5,000)	17,103
Lloyds Bank Foundation	1,270	-	(1,270)	-	-
Refugee Social events project	2,008	-	(833)	-	1,175
Syrian refugee resettlement fund	10,281	32,383	(33,180)	-	9,484
RefuLingua project	8,434	7,760	(18,219)	2,025	-
Peace feasts	-	1,490	(232)		1,258
	26,345	83,188	(77,538)	(2,975)	29,020
Total funds	48,840	134,690	(116,994)	-	66,536

Restricted funds

The b.friend project provides one-to-one support for asylum seekers and refugees.

Lloyds Bank Foundation for England and Wales funded short film projects and the annual Impact Report.

The Refugee Social Events project organises social activities where refugees and asylum seekers can enjoy themselves and spend time getting to know people.

The Syrian refugee resettlement fund provides one-to-one support for Syrian and Middle Eastern families who have been resettled in Bristol by the City Council.

The RefuLingua project enables Arabic-speaking refugees to teach their language to people in Bristol.

The Peace Feasts project organises events where people from different backgrounds can share a meal together, in order to promote friendship and social cohesion.

The Barrow Cadbury Trust's COVID-19 Support Fund enabled the continuation of several of our key projects during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The School Linking project connects classrooms in different parts of Bristol for conversations around identity, community, equality and diversity.

BRIDGES FOR COMMUNITIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2021

13 Analysis of net assets

Year ended 31 May 2021	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	750	-	750
Net current assets	57,255	60,511	117,766
	<u>58,005</u>	<u>60,511</u>	<u>118,516</u>

Year ended 31 May 2020	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	349	-	349
Net current assets	37,167	29,020	66,187
	<u>37,516</u>	<u>29,020</u>	<u>66,536</u>

14 Company limited by guarantee

The charity is a company limited by guarantee having no share capital. Every member is liable to contribute £1 towards the costs of dissolution and the liabilities incurred by the charity in the event of the charity being wound up.

15 Related party transactions

Owen Lynch is a trustee of both Bridges for Communities and Severn Vineyard Church. During the year, unrestricted grant income of £2,400 (2020: £2,400) and donated office space with equivalent value of £nil (2020: £3,333) was received from Severn Vineyard Church. No balances were due to or from Severn Vineyard Church at the year end.

The total amount of donations received without conditions from trustees and related parties during the year was £2,787 (2020: £3,368).

Details of payments to trustees are set out in note 6.