

Wilaya Trust Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2020

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity name: Wilaya Trust

Charity registration number: 1137354

Registered address: 28 Coniston Avenue, Oxford, Oxfordshire, OX3 0AN

Board of Trustees

Dr Muhammad Isa Waley

Dr Muhammad Afifi Al-Akiti

Mr Neamul Mohsin

Executive Committee

Managing Director: Dr Talal Al-Azem

Financial manager: Mr Neamul Mohsin

Operations manager: Ms Caroline O'Connor

Independent Examiner

Mr Sohail Bhatti, FCCA, 96 Eynsham Road, Oxford, OX2 9BX

Bankers

The Co-Operative Bank, Plc 1 Balloon Street, Manchester, M60 4EP

Structure, governance, and management

Governing document

The Wilaya Trust is constituted as a charitable trust registered with the Charity Commission on 18 July 2010, under charity number 1137354. It is governed by a deed of trust last amended on 24 December 2016.

Organisational structure

The charity trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. The trustees give their time freely and receive no remuneration or other financial benefits. The trustees appoint a managing director and grant him/her the powers to appoint an executive committee that will serve in fulfilling the objectives and obligations of the charity, as laid out in the declaration of trust ratified on the 18th day of July 2010, with approval of two or more trustees.

The trustees meet together as a body annually, and as required for extra regular sessions. The executive committee meets regularly to execute the objectives of the trust and oversee aspects of the charity's work. Sub-committees are currently established for finance and for the day-to-day management of educational and social activities. The managing director, who also serves as Secretary to the Trustees, chairs the executive committee meetings and both sub-committees, and reports back to the trustees in the annual and extra-regular meetings. The day-to-day management of particular activities are delegated to staff and volunteers.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The existing trustees are responsible for the recruitment of new trustees but in so doing the trustees seek the views and recommendations of the executive committee and other shareholders. In selecting new trustees, the Trust seeks to identify individuals who are recognised in the field of community-based education for their dedication to and expert knowledge in the objectives of the Trust, as laid out in the declaration of trust.

Risk management

The executive committee and trustees have assessed the risks the charity faces and have identified the major risks by area of activity, the nature of those risks, the likelihood of the risks happening, and the measures taken to manage them. No risk matrix has been produced, as the Trust does not own any properties or significant assets. Appropriate Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) checks, supported by regularly reviewed policies, are made for all those who work with children or other vulnerable groups as part of the Trust's activities.

Objectives and activities

Objectives

The objects of the charity are set out in the charity's trust deed and are summarised as follows:

To advance the education of the public in particular but not exclusively in the subjects of religion, philosophy, ethics, spirituality, civic responsibility and skills of critical thinking;

To advance education and training with a view to cultivating personal development and social responsibility, through the arrangement of apprenticeships, particularly but not exclusively in craftsmanship, agriculture and animal husbandry;

To advance the Islamic faith, with emphasis on its relation to the above two objects, through religious instruction and devotional services.

Activities and achievements

The charity carries out a wide range of activities in pursuance of its charitable aims. The trustees consider that these activities, summarised below, provide benefit both the Muslim and wider communities of Oxford, Oxfordshire and Southeast England.

Educational Activities

In the year of 2020, the Trust organised a range of courses in the following subjects:

- **Courses in Islamic revelation:** courses were on Sundays, free of charge;
- **Courses in Arabic:** courses were held throughout the week at a subsidized fee;
- **A Qur'anic memorisation programme:** this programme provided a number of classes throughout Oxford for children, by CRB-checked and qualified instructors;
- **A Qur'anic recitation (tajwid) programme:** a twelve-week introductory programme to the science of reciting the Qur'an, and a further twelve-week seminar on practicing the art of recitation;
- **Ethics and spirituality:** courses were held on Monday, Thursday, and Sundays for the study of ethics and spirituality in accordance with the Islamic tradition;
- **Nature and the crafts:** workshops and seminars to be held at Willowbrook Farm in Hampton Gay, Oxfordshire, providing participants with discussion and hands-on experience on the importance of craftsmanship, agriculture, and animal husbandry, and the relationship of these to a holistic approach to individual and community well-being. Unfortunately, these had to be cancelled owing to the COVID-19 lockdowns.

The above classes were held in rented facilities until the first COVID-19 lockdown of 2020, after which all classes were held exclusively online.

Social Activities

Similarly in the year 2020, the Trust organised a range of social activities for the local Oxford community, including:

- **Fortnightly Dialogues:** bi-weekly social gatherings in which members of the local community sit in discussion with local resident scholars on topics suggested by the community;
- **Finding Faith:** regular meetings and events to support new Muslims in Oxford, providing support, advice, and a simple learning programme necessary for a healthy understanding and realisation of Islam. We also organise special events for the development of community and companionship, encouraging positive integration into our greater Muslim community.
- **Date Palm Tree:** weekly gatherings at a community centre, providing a positive ethos for mothers to meet and support one another in raising of their children.
- **Ramadan Reminders:** held every evening throughout the month of Ramadan in an Oxford community centre, delivering a half-hour spiritual reminder and led by qualified local Muslim scholars.

The above social activities were all held in rented facilities until the first COVID-19 lockdown of 2020, after which all events were held exclusively online.

Achievements and Performance

Performance is reviewed by the trustees at each of their meetings. More than five hundred individuals, in Oxford specifically and from surrounding shires, registered and attended the various range of educational activities. Similarly, more than three hundred individuals regularly benefitted from the range of social activities that had been provided this year.

Financial Review

The trustees review the financial status of the charity at their meetings.

Principal funding sources

The charity's only source of income is donations provided by the public, and any fees paid for the Trust's charitable educational or social activities. Receipts grew from £51,042 in 2019 to £ 61,602 in 2020, while payments grew from £52,637 in 2019 to £ 53,376 in 2020. This growth in income and expenditure reflects the continued growth of the Trust's charitable activities in 2020, with five weekly courses, and the expansion of the Qur'an memorisation programme in response to demand.

Reserves and reserves policy

The Trust held a balance of £9,195 as of December 31, 2020. The Executive Committee, headed by the Finance Manager, are preparing a reserves policy to be implemented in the coming two years.

Investment policy and objectives

The charity has no long-term investments. Our cash reserves are held in a deposit account.

A Post-Year End Note on COVID-19

The impact of COVID-19 began to be felt in the first quarter of the financial year for which this document serves as the annual report. Immediately, the Trust pivoted to ensuring a continuity of its core services through online provision of courses, the adoption of more robust digital communications and social events to further the objective of buttressing our community-fostering projects, and a new member-based website. Financially, we have also introduced new forms of online donation and membership subscriptions to ensure financial continuity.

Approved on 21 September 2021 and signed on behalf of the charity's trustees by:



Mr Neamul Mohsin
(Chair of the Trustees)



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Wilaya Trust

No (if any)
1137354

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01/01/2020

To

Period end date
31/1/220

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Income from Charitable activities	8,685	-	-	8,685	15,165
Donations	28,959	19,050	-	48,009	34,439
Other	373	-	-	373	1,438
Giftaid	4,535	-	-	4,535	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	42,552	19,050	-	61,602	51,042
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	42,552	19,050	-	61,602	51,042
A3 Payments					
Charitable activities:	-	-	-	-	-
- Hire of premises	4,534	-	-	4,534	8,673
- Teacher fees	23,597	19,050	-	42,647	42,165
- Equipment & Teaching material	5,332	-	-	5,332	1,099
Governance	-	-	-	-	-
Other	863	-	-	863	699
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	34,326	19,050	-	53,376	52,636
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	34,326	19,050	-	53,376	52,636
Net of receipts/(payments)	8,226	-	-	8,226	- 1,594
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	969	-	-	969	2,563
Cash funds this year end	9,195	-	-	9,195	969

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		9,195	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	9,195	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Neamul Mohsin	28/08/2020	



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name

**On accounts for the year
ended**

Wilaya Trust

**Charity no
(if any)**

1137354

Set out on pages

2 to 3

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 12 / 2020**.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

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

**Independent
examiner's statement**

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

28-08-2022

Name:

Sohail Bhatti

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

FCCA

Address:

96 Eynsham Road

Oxford

OX2 9BX

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).