

RETURN

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07372351 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1142412

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 5 April 2021
for
The Black Country Net

S A R Accountants
Shire Barn
Hewell Lane
Tardebigge
Worcestershire

The Black Country Net

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 5 April 2021

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 3
Independent Examiner's Report	4
Statement of Financial Activities	5
Balance Sheet	6 to 7
Notes to the Financial Statements	8 to 11
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	12 to 13

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 5 April 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The principle objectives of the company are :-

- to promote the advancement of education of the general public in Christian principles;
- to advance Christian education of school children and young people;
- to promote such other purposes currently recognised as charitable and any new charitable purpose.

Working primarily in the Black Country boroughs of Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton, promoting church partnerships and helping communities by encouraging business enterprise, food banks and the like.

The main activities have been facilitating the regular gatherings of leaders from both Church, business, public and charitable sectors, including representatives of youth and children's works, on a monthly basis, either in the local boroughs or on a wider basis across the Black Country. These, we are pleased to report, have spawned many initiatives at every level.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the information contained in the Charity Commissioner's General Guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's objectives and activities. The Trustees consider that considerable public benefit will be achieved and many members of the public will benefit.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

Sadly, in light of the Covid 19 Pandemic, alongside many other Charities and organisations, much of our activities had to be curtailed (e.g. the ever popular breakfast gatherings at the Village Hotel) or adjusted (Zoom meetings) to meet the demands of the crisis! Love Walsall in particular have been doing virtual breakfasts throughout lockdown via Zoom, gathering people around the themes of work, live, play, learn and worship.

However, we are still delighted to be able to report that priority objectives, especially in the discipline of networking connections across the Black Country remain strong and growing, specifically in regard to Next Generation development, with Ben Harris and Ben Butterworth increasingly becoming strong players within this arena.

Thankfully, we were also able to help and stay connected with many of our friends and supporters via YouTube and Facebook meetings called "Together : Apart" which capitalised on relationships improved and developed by Together 2020. It's "One Show" magazine format proved more than helpful to the Charity's communication efforts and all of our Core Team and Directors have to be congratulated into quickly becoming chat show hosts, adapting well to the new circumstances.

In conclusion, we are pleased to report that the Charity continues to flourish in every arena in spite of the many challenges.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The total net income/(expenditure) for the year amounts to £7,727 (2020 £14,148). Total funds carried forward amount to £93,402 (2020 £85,675)

The vast majority of the finances required to fund the activities are raised through regular giving and one-off donations from individuals, local churches and businesses, supplemented by the refund of income tax from HM Revenue and Customs through the gift aid scheme. Additionally grants are sourced and received on an ad-hoc basis.

The Black Country Net

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 5 April 2021

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

The policy agreed by the directors is to aim to hold in unrestricted reserves not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets (the "free" reserves) sufficient to cover the general overhead expenses and salary costs not specifically funded by external agencies or able to be covered by other committed income such as rents for a period of six months. As of 5th April 2021, we feel that the free reserves available of £93,402 would meet this objective.

Risk policy and review

The directors review risk periodically and are satisfied that major risks to which the charity is exposed, are adequately mitigated through insurance, strategic planning, policies and procedures.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

New directors are appointed by the existing directors. A selection and recruitment process takes place when potential board members are selected after making careful enquiry as to their suitability and their support of the objectives of the trust. The board aims to have a broad range of skills represented, in particular expertise in Christian doctrine, finance and charity law. The board of directors currently comprises of 6 members who meet quarterly. Director Linsey Wildsmith whilst being on staff brings an additional level of expertise to the board.

A Core Team, consisting of the board of directors plus at least 4 others, and a borough representatives Team also provide input and advice into the management of the trust.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07372351 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1142412

Registered office

Alpha House
9 Tipton Street
Sedgley
West Midlands
DY3 1HE

Trustees

Revd P G Chamberlain
J Cook
T Fellows
A Lowe (resigned 2.6.20)
Mrs L J Wildsmith Communications manager

Company Secretary

K R Davis

The Black Country Net

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 5 April 2021

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent Examiner

Sally-Ann Reeves FCCA

S A R Accountants

Shire Barn

Hewell Lane

Tardebigge

Worcestershire

Approved by order of the board of trustees on and signed on its behalf by:

Joh Q 24/9/21
J Cook - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
The Black Country Net

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Black Country Net ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 5 April 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.



Sally-Ann Reeves FCCA
S A R Accountants
Shire Barn
Hewell Lane
Tardebigge
Worcestershire

Date: 15th September 2021

The Black Country Net

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 5 April 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	5.4.21 Total funds £	5.4.20 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		48,787	-	48,787	78,595
Charitable activities					
Networking		12,015	-	12,015	6,642
Total		<u>60,802</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60,802</u>	<u>85,237</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Pastoral and Ministry		12,185	-	12,185	13,729
Networking		40,890	-	40,890	57,360
Total		<u>53,075</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53,075</u>	<u>71,089</u>
NET INCOME		<u>7,727</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,727</u>	<u>14,148</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		85,675	-	85,675	71,527
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>93,402</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>93,402</u></u>	<u><u>85,675</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

The Black Country Net

Balance Sheet

5 April 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	5.4.21 Total funds £	5.4.20 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Prepayments and accrued income		508	-	508	1,009
Cash at bank		93,394	-	93,394	85,166
		<u>93,902</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,902</u>	<u>86,175</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	5	(500)	-	(500)	(500)
		<u>93,402</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,402</u>	<u>85,675</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>93,402</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,402</u>	<u>85,675</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>93,402</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,402</u>	<u>85,675</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>93,402</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,402</u>	<u>85,675</u>
FUNDS	6				
Unrestricted funds				<u>93,402</u>	<u>85,675</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>93,402</u>	<u>85,675</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 5 April 2021.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 5 April 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.


The Black Country Net

Balance Sheet - continued

5 April 2021

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on
and were signed on its behalf by:

 24/9/21

.....
J Cook - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 5 April 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

	5.4.21	5.4.20
	£	£
Trustees' salaries	20,563	21,107
Trustees' pensions paid	946	353
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	21,509	21,460
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Trustees' expenses		
	5.4.21	5.4.20
	£	£
Trustees' expenses	-	73
	<hr/>	<hr/>

3. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	5.4.21	5.4.20
Administration	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

4. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	78,595	-	78,595
Charitable activities			
Networking	6,642	-	6,642
Total	<u>85,237</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>85,237</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Pastoral and Ministry	13,729	-	13,729
Networking	57,360	-	57,360
Total	<u>71,089</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,089</u>
NET INCOME	<u>14,148</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,148</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	71,527	-	71,527
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>85,675</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>85,675</u>

The Black Country Net

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 5 April 2021

5. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	5.4.21 £	5.4.20 £
Accruals and deferred income	500	500

6. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 6.4.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 5.4.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	42,241	(899)	(36,524)	4,818
Next Generation	36,674	7,188	-	43,862
Together 2020	6,760	1,181	-	7,941
Love Wolverhampton	-	-	60	60
Love Dudley	-	-	5,793	5,793
Love Sandwell	-	-	11,718	11,718
Love Walsall	-	-	18,953	18,953
Theology Network	-	257	-	257
	<u>85,675</u>	<u>7,727</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,402</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>85,675</u>	<u>7,727</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,402</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	39,863	(40,762)	(899)
Next Generation	19,373	(12,185)	7,188
Together 2020	1,308	(127)	1,181
Theology Network	258	(1)	257
	<u>60,802</u>	<u>(53,075)</u>	<u>7,727</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>60,802</u>	<u>(53,075)</u>	<u>7,727</u>

6. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 6.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 5.4.20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	44,232	(1,091)	(900)	42,241
Next Generation	27,295	8,979	400	36,674
Together 2020	-	6,260	500	6,760
	<u>71,527</u>	<u>14,148</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>85,675</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>71,527</u>	<u>14,148</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>85,675</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	39,416	(40,507)	(1,091)
Next Generation	22,585	(13,606)	8,979
Together 2020	23,236	(16,976)	6,260
	<u>85,237</u>	<u>(71,089)</u>	<u>14,148</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>85,237</u>	<u>(71,089)</u>	<u>14,148</u>

7. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

D Chamberlain, daughter in law of Trustee Revd P G Chamberlain, was paid £11,608 (2020 £12,999) during the year for Consultancy fees as the Next Generation coordinator.

The Black Country Net

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 5 April 2021

	5.4.21 £	5.4.20 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	42,680	69,843
Gift aid	6,107	8,752
	<hr/> 48,787	<hr/> 78,595
Charitable activities		
Breakfast meetings	(70)	5,530
Retreats	-	1,112
Other receipts	2,085	-
Covid 19 Support Grant	10,000	-
	<hr/> 12,015	<hr/> 6,642
Total incoming resources	60,802	85,237
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Trustees' salaries	20,563	21,107
Trustees' pensions paid	946	353
Trustees' expenses	-	73
IT Support	461	63
Insurance	1,102	1,430
Events	1,823	22,031
Retreats	-	2,261
Workers expenses	-	150
Computer equipment	1,424	47
Next Generation Coordinator	11,908	12,999
Consultancy	4,744	-
Gifts incl. visiting speakers	5,597	4,576
	<hr/> 48,568	<hr/> 65,090
Support costs		
Management		
Postage and stationery	5	902
Membership and subscriptions	951	350
	<hr/> 956	<hr/> 1,252
Finance		
Bank charges	78	131

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

The Black Country Net

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 5 April 2021

	5.4.21 £	5.4.20 £
Finance		
Information technology		
Software and web hosting	1,447	2,871
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	2,026	1,745
Total resources expended	<u>53,075</u>	<u>71,089</u>
Net income	<u>7,727</u>	<u>14,148</u>

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