

## **Zimbabwe Victims' Support Fund and its Purposes**

During 2023, the ZVSF Trustees in the UK, working with our partners and colleagues in Zimbabwe, have continued to supply food aid to the people of Matabeleland. Their inability to meet their own food requirements was compounded by the problems caused by the collapse of the Zimbabwean dollar.

Pastors Robert Chatindo and Bheki Siziba have continued to supply food to the really needy people in Gwanda, Plumtree South, Beit Bridge, Masvingo, Mazwi, Killarney, Spring Farm and Heaney Junction – all these communities are in regions of acute deprivation and food shortage. We also supplied primary schools in Lupane with mealie meal during term times. As in previous years, 20 tonnes went to Hillside Methodist Church for onward distribution to the needy of Bulawayo, including the Island Hospice, Bulawayo Shelter and a hospice run by Youth for Christ.

ZVSF has also funded the creation of a community garden during 2023. Now known as Intuthuko (which means progress through training and development), it is located on some land at Escadini (some 12 miles outside the urban area) owned by the City Presbyterian Church of Bulawayo. Our funds were used to purchase a solar pump and install a network of rubber pipes which drip feed vegetable (for example: onions, carrots, cabbages and chomolia) plants. The activities on the garden are managed by a committee elected from the 'gardeners' who are aided by Xolani Ndlovu (a pastor at the Presbyterian Church) and ZDDT (Zimbabwe Democracy Development Trust).

## **Research and Consultation**

The Trustees remain in close contact with the partners and colleagues in Bulawayo so that they are aware of local developments. They also monitor Zimbabwean on-line publications and take into account such research as is published by FEWS Net (Famine Early Warning Systems Network – funded by US Aid) – which substantiate the reports from our colleagues. From time to time, one of our Trustees has visited Zimbabwe with a view to ensuring that ZVSF's modus operandi is in line with the needs of the people of Matabeleland. The most recent visit was in August 2024.

## **Advocacy and Information**

The Trustees have continued to post relevant information on the ZVSF website in order to communicate with those British people interested in and concerned about the plight of Zimbabweans. They have also opened a Facebook page which focuses on the work of ZVSF in Zimbabwe. They distribute to past and present donors bi-annual reports on the activities of ZVSF, and they promote the work of the Charity whenever and wherever possible by presentations, conversations and digital communications.

## ZIMBABWE VICTIMS' SUPPORT FUND

### RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 December 2023

2022		2023
£	RECEIPTS	£
88,243	Donations	72,072
16,692	Gift Aid Received	11,539
35	Interest	297
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104,970		83,908
	<b>PAYMENTS</b>	
87,151	Remittances to Zimbabwe	95,865
384	Bank Charges	468
125	Printing Costs	289
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87,660		96,622
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17,310	<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for year</b>	(12,715)
36,133	Funds brought forward	53,443
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53,443	Funds carried forward	40,728

The funds carried forward at 31 December 2023 (and 31 December 2022) are represented by cash at bank

*Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees*



Hon Treasurer

Date: 11.9.24



Trustee

Date: 17.9.2024

## Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the Zimbabwe Victims' Support Fund ("ZVSF")

I report on the accounts of ZVSF for the year to 31 December 2023, which are set out on page 1.

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

### Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



David Steeds MA FCA  
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30 July 2024