



Registered Charity Number: 1147460

WATFORD MUSLIM YOUTH CENTRE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Name	Watford Muslim Youth Centre
Charity Registration Number	1147460
Principle Office	61 Harford Drive Watford Hertfordshire WD17 3DQ
Board of Trustees	Zahid Mahmood Zarin Imran Khan Dr Saiqah Azad Sohbat Ali Aqib Dahoud Riaz Hannan Tabassum Mohammad Munir
Bankers	Lloyds Bank PLC 32A Intu Shopping Centre Watford Hertfordshire WD17 2UB

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WATFORD MUSLIM YOUTH CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 and confirm that they comply with the Charities Act 2011, the trust deed and the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Public Benefit Statement

The trustees have complied with their duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Aims and Objectives

Our Aims

To further or benefit the residents of Watford and the neighbourhoods without distinction of sex, race, religious background, ethnicity or language, by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organizations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents.

In furtherance of these objects but not otherwise, the trustees shall have power: To establish or secure the establishment of a community centre and to maintain or manage or co-operate with any statutory authority in the maintenance and management of such a centre for activities promoted by the charity in furtherance of the above objects.

Our Objectives

Watford Muslim Youth Centre's (WMYC) **main objective of the charity is to fundraise (using various fundraising streams) to help construct a multipurpose community centre**, offering a wide range of educational and recreational activities for everyone especially the youth. WMYC hopes to form the ideal place to address community problems and provide solutions for the entire community. The prospect of a community centre offers a much-needed resource to bring all communities together to create a vibrant environment to facilitate the development of the youth.

In addition to fundraising, we also try to implement the following objectives either within our fundraising events or separate non-fundraising events:

- promote social, culture, leisure activities for young male and females for the Watford and surrounding areas;
- support the growth of young people's abilities and potential in order to encourage them to participate in coping and dealing with those traditions and forces that damage and oppress their community, and in working towards a more just and peaceful community;
- offer programmes of social and personal development to young people to enable the building of good character;
- provide a voice for and on behalf of the local area to ensure that local services identified as required are provided to meet local needs;
- offer mentoring of young people to help them realise their value and meaning within society to prepare them for better engagement within the community;
- help young people understand citizenship and their positive contribution to society;

- enhance the spiritual values of young people to enable them to feel at peace within themselves and their community;
- support vulnerable young females within the community to assist them in dealing with sensitive issues whilst maintaining their position and dignity within the community;
- enhance the education of the inhabitants of Watford and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare by the provision of a community centre to improve the conditions of life of those inhabitants. Particularly those who have need of such facilities by reason of the youth, age, infirmity or disablement, poverty of social and economic circumstances; and
- promote a place where ALL residents in the area from the entire community can meet and learn from one another and share experiences and understanding.

Review of activities and achievements

Watford MP Dean Russell's Sponsored Fast

Watford locals gathered for a meaningful iftar event, where MP Dean Russell completed a sponsored fast, raising an impressive £1,200 for Watford Muslim Youth centre. Dean said: "One of the things that really comes to mind when I think of the Muslim community in Watford is the word community, I see how we work together we support each other we help each other." The evening was filled with inspiring speeches in the spirit of Charity and delicious food as attendees broke their fast together.

Watford Football Club hosts Iftar Functions

In April 2023, Watford Football Club's 'We Campaign' team hosted a wonderful iftar event that brought the local community together. Attendees enjoyed a delicious three-course meal while breaking their fast and celebrating the spirit of Ramadan. The evening featured heartfelt speeches, updates on Watford Muslim Youth Centre construction progress, and moments of reflection through prayers, highlighting the importance of community during this special month. Inspector Matt Langley from the Watford Police department remarked *"Lovely evening, thanks for the invite, hopefully we can do this more often."* Taofiq Olomowewe, a professional footballer for Burnley said: *"I feel like with faith and community it's interlinked, I see you as my brothers in Islam."*

In March 2024, we enjoyed another wonderful iftar event. The night featured a stadium tour, offering a unique behind-the-scenes experience at the club. A fun fundraising auction added an exciting element, with proceeds supporting the charity and its initiatives. Attendees were inspired by heartfelt speeches that highlighted the charity's progress and impact. The evening also included a moment for congregational prayer and spiritual reflection, allowing everyone to come together in gratitude and mindfulness. To cap off the night, guests all enjoyed a delicious three-course meal, fostering connections among friends and family.

Baroness Dorothy Thornhill (former Elected Mayor of Watford) said: *"There has never been a time where a centre for young, Muslim youth is more needed in our town."* Peter Taylor (current Elected Mayor of Watford) said: *"The Watford Muslim Youth Centre is a brilliant project and we've been supporting it for many many years, It's great to see the progress that's been made in the building and already the impact that the team are making, we've had events here at Vicarage road and right across Watford."* Ian Stotesbury (Councillor) said: *"Sharing each other's company and thinking about faith, thinking about our experiences and hopefully raising some money to get this wonderful building finished for the community. Not just the Muslim community in Watford but for the whole community across the town."*

Mentoring

Professional volunteers deliver effective mentoring for people who are seeking guidance in their lives. This may relate to education, careers, health, spirituality, religious understanding and community cohesion. Tackling extremist ideas is also a central theme for our volunteers to ensure we can live in a harmonious society.

Women's Health, Wellbeing and Reflection Seminars

Over the past year, we successfully hosted a series of impactful seminars focused on Women's Health, Wellbeing, and Reflection, featuring expert presentations by qualified doctors. These sessions empowered our community and encouraged open dialogue on crucial and usually taboo health topics. Highlights Included:

- **Cervical Cancer:** Attendees gained valuable insights into prevention, the importance of regular screenings, and early detection strategies, guided by our knowledgeable speakers.
- **Breast Cancer:** Our informative sessions provided knowledge about risk factors, self-examinations, and the latest advancements in treatment, fostering awareness and proactive health measures.
- **Tackling Childhood Obesity:** We discussed effective strategies for promoting healthy habits and supporting the wellbeing of our children, equipping families with the tools they need for a healthier future.

These seminars created a supportive environment for sharing experiences and learning together, reinforcing our commitment to women's health and community wellbeing.

Funday at Watford Football Club Stadium

Approximately 5000 people filled Watford Football Stadium for an unforgettable Family Funday. The event was a tremendous success, raising thousands of pounds for the Watford Muslim Youth Centre and bringing the community together in celebration. A local police officer remarked; *"It's nice to see so many people from so many different parts of the community, you know. And it's nice people coming up to us, talking to us... Yeah, Alhumdulillah great day, great day."*

Families enjoyed a wide array of activities, from exciting games and friendly football matches to a vibrant selection of artisan stalls showcasing local talent. Delicious food, treats and raffle prizes were on offer. The day also featured a moment of togetherness with a congregational prayer, emphasising the spirit of community and shared values. Feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive, highlighting the event as a wonderful opportunity to connect with our local Football Club, which many deemed to be difficult otherwise. Peter Taylor (Elected Mayor of Watford) said *"It's fantastic to be here today at Vicarage Road on the pitch for the first time with hundreds of people here and loads of community groups, all coming together to support the Watford Muslim Youth Centre. And I know that's what the Watford Muslim Youth Centre is going to be all about, bringing people together, sharing our experiences and having a good time."*

Ladies Badminton Club

A women's only Badminton Club was set up to champion women's health and offer a place for women to come together for a night of social badminton fun. Women are encouraged to stay active as a means of promoting health and well-being. Sessions are hosted weekly.

8-A-Side Cricket Charity Tournament

We hosted an exciting 8-a-side Cricket Charity Tournament that brought teams together for a day filled with competition and community spirit! With over £1000 raised for the charity, the event was a fantastic success. Teams showcased their skills on the pitch, all vying for trophies that were presented by Elected Watford Mayor Peter Taylor and MP Dean Russell.

Kayaking trip

WMYC organised kayaking trip to raise money for the charity. Families and friends gathered for a day filled with laughter, teamwork, and adventure on the water!

Local Family Funday

We had an amazing time at our recent Family Funday, co-hosted by W3RT (Watford & 3 Rivers Trust)! Families from the community came together for a day filled with laughter and activities, all while supporting a great cause. Attendees enjoyed delicious food, browsed various stalls, and participated in fun activities for children. The highlight of the day included football sessions led by coaches from Watford Football Club, as well as exciting badminton matches that got everyone moving! Funds from the stalls and games were raised for the charity.

Law Students Work Experience

In conjunction with Citizens Advice Watford (CAW), we promoted a campaign to offer work experience for aspiring lawyers. We had a good level of interest, and many referrals were shared with CAW. We wish these young professionals all the best in the future careers.

Children's Iftar Quiz Night

We had a fantastic time at our Children's iftar quiz night hosted by Watford Football Club. The children enjoyed a delicious meal after diving into an exciting quiz filled with fun questions on various topics. The atmosphere was buzzing with enthusiasm as teams collaborated and cheered each other on.

786 Club

The 786 Club has been formed to provide a platform for the personal and religious development of our local youth. It comprises of Mentors who are young professionals (including doctors, dentists, consultants, solicitors and teachers) that are well versed in religious understanding. We are seeking to offer guidance and inspiration by volunteering our free time to the character building of today's youth and tomorrow's future.

786 Club is aiming to nurture the minds and hearts of our children, so that they learn how to implement Islamic teachings in the modern world. This is to be done in a fun way and by providing 'big brother' and 'big sister' support to help them grow into well-rounded adults.

The 786 Club aims to give young people the opportunity to:

- Enjoy Islamic educational & fun activities
- Meet and learn from influential, young Muslim professionals
- Be inspired to develop a noble character, based on the Sunnah
- Help our local community through kind acts of charity

- Learn more about their talents & achieving their true potential
- Developing their lives in a well-rounded way- through personal, educational and religious education

Plans for Future Periods

We intend to continue to raise funds towards the construction of the multipurpose community centre via fundraising events and applications of grants. We also intend to expand on our existing range of community activities for the residents of Watford and surrounding areas.

Financial Review

During 2023-2024, the charity's activities continued to focus on delivering the needs of the community as well as establishing a multipurpose community Centre.

The charity's incoming resources totalled to £64k in the year (2023: £54k). These comprise of donations and collections. A surplus of £57k (2023: £48k) is recorded for the period and, at 31 March 2024, reserves of £1.37M (2023: £1.31M) are shown.

Reserves Policy

There are no current operating costs in existence and the current policy is to maximise reserves as part of financing future activities including the establishment of a multipurpose community centre.

Principle Funding Sources

The charity's main source of income is donations and monies raised from fundraising events.

Investment policy and objectives

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

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

Watford Muslim Youth Centre (WMYC) is constituted as a charitable trust and registered with the Charity Commission on 25 May 2012 under the charity number 1147460. It is governed by a deed of trust dated 16 May 2012.

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 benefit.

The trustees meet as a body at least twice a year and are responsible for all decisions taken in relation to the community facilities and activities provided by the charity. To assist in the smooth running of the charity, the trustees have set up several sub-committees that consist of the Central Executive Committee, Finance Committee, Activity Committee, Grants and Consultation Committee, Corporate Fundraising Committee and the Fundraising Committee.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The existing trustees are responsible for the appointment of new trustees and will take into consideration the views and recommendations of both the elders and community leaders. This approach ensures the new trustees are respected members of the local community, ensuring that good relations are fostered with the people of the local community we serve.

In selecting new trustees, we seek to identify people who regularly attend fundraising events and charitable activities organised by the charity and are willing to volunteer to help in our broader community work especially for youth work. Potential trustees are invited to attend trustees' meetings as observers and are given more details of the charity's aim and objectives and, if all agree, they are then proposed as a new trustee at the subsequent trustee's meeting. This process allows due consideration of the person's eligibility, personal competence, specialist knowledge and skills.

Induction and training of trustees

Following appointment, new trustees are introduced to their new role and given copies of the trust deed and a guide to the policies and procedures adopted by our charity. A number of publications from the Charity Commission are also provided including the guidance on charities and public benefit. This ensures that new trustees are aware of the scope of their responsibilities under the Charities Act. Initially, new trustees work with an existing trustee assisting on particular activities and projects run by the charity. After satisfactory feedback from existing trustees, they are given the task of leading a particular activity or project, reporting progress at trustees' meetings.

All trustees and members of the sub-committees will have access to a wide variety of training opportunities in order to equip them to fulfil the aims and objectives of the charity.

Risk Management

The trustees have assessed the risks to the charity and review these risks regularly during the meetings held throughout the year. Risks are continually being identified and their impacts are assessed. It can be reported that, to date, the exercise of risk management has indicated minimal areas of concern, though it is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable, not absolute, assurance that all major risks have been adequately identified.

Use of Volunteers

Volunteers are important resource in our community work. We have over 40 people regularly giving their time in order to achieve the charity's aims and objectives. All of our volunteers also give up their time freely. We encourage all members of the community to be involved in voluntary activities and to share skills with each other. All those volunteers working on projects involving children or other vulnerable groups are required to undergo Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks.

Patrons and Supporters

Our existing patrons and supporters are:

- Baroness Dorothy Thornhill
- Peter Taylor (Elected Mayor of Watford)
- Patron Lord Richard Harrington (MP of Watford)
- Patron Shahid Afridi (International Cricketer)
- Patron Baroness Sayeeda Warsi

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of an annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom accounting standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which gives true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and the apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees for the purposes of charity law who served during the year end and up to the date of this report are set out on the Legal and administrative information page of this report.

Approved by the trustees on 8th December 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Zahid Zarin (Chair of Trustees)
8th December 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF WATFORD MUSLIM YOUTH CENTRE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Watford Muslim Youth Centre Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

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 all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

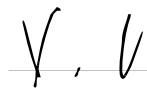
Independent Examiner's Statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed:



Hedayatullah Yahya FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
Yahya & Co Accountants Ltd
164 West Hendon Broadway
London
NW9 7AA

22nd January 2024

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
INCOMING RESOURCES				
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds:</i>				
Donation & legacies	3	58,617	58,617	52,604
Charitable Activities	4	4,941	4,941	1,043
Other trading activities	5	0	0	0
Other incoming resources	6	0	0	0
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		63,558	63,558	53,647
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Costs of generating funds		1,907	1,907	2,809
Charitable activities		5,078	5,078	3,080
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	7	6,985	6,985	5,889
NET MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS		56,573	56,573	47,758
<i>Reconciliation of funds</i>				
Total funds brought forward		1,309,091	1,309,091	1,261,333
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		1,365,664	1,365,664	1,309,091

The statement of Financial Activities included all gains and losses in the year.

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	8		1,433,613		1,304,134
Current Assets					
Debtors	9	17,116		17,116	
Cash at bank		206,556		321,245	
Total Current Assets		<u>223,672</u>		<u>338,361</u>	
Liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>25,266</u>		<u>34,006</u>	
Net Current Assets or (Liabilities)			198,406		304,355
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	11	<u>266,355</u>		<u>299,398</u>	
			266,355		299,398
Net Assets/(Liabilities)			<u><u>1,365,664</u></u>		<u><u>1,309,091</u></u>
The funds of the charity:					
Unrestricted funds	12		1,365,664		1,309,091
Total charity funds			<u><u>1,365,664</u></u>		<u><u>1,309,091</u></u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1. Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005, and applicable to UK Accounting Standards and the Charities Act 2011.

1.2 Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds comprise of those funds which the trustees are free to use for any purpose in furtherance of the charitable objects. Unrestricted funds include designated funds where the trustees, at their discretion, have set aside resources for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are funds which are used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor or the terms of a specific appeal.

1.3 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources. It is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary Income is received by way of donations, collections, charity boxes and is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receipt basis.

Income resources from generating funds are accounted for when earned.

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services donated by volunteers has not been included in these accounts, except where the services provided are in the nature of professional services where a fee would otherwise be charged, in which case the donated service is valued at their chargeable rate.

Investment Income is included when receivable.

Incoming resources from grants, where there are performance or service deliverables required by the terms of the grant, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to payment through its performance.

Income resources from charitable trading activity are accounted for when earned.

1.4 Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources. All expenditures are taken into consideration on an accruals basis and have been classified under appropriate headings in the statement of financial activities.

1.5 Value Added Tax

Value added tax is not recoverable by the charity and charged against the category of the resources expended for which it was incurred.

1.6 Cost of generating funds

Costs of generating funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, or incurred in trading activities taken to raise funds.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

1.7 Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both the direct pay and non-pay costs and support costs relating to those activities.

1.8 Leasehold land and depreciation

Lease premium on land is stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided to write off cost of the asset over the term of the lease.

1.9 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised. Fixed assets are stated at historic cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures, fittings & equipment	25% straight line
Computer equipment	33% straight line

2. Related party transactions and trustees' remuneration

There were no donated services from trustees (2024: £nil). Trustees received no emoluments (2024: £nil).

3. Incoming resources from voluntary income

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Donations	58,617	58,617	52,604
Collections	0	0	0
	58,617	58,617	52,604

4. Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Event Income	4,941	4,941	1,043
	4,941	4,941	1,043

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

5. Activities from other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Event Income	-	-	-
	-	-	-

6. Other incoming resources

	Funds	2024	2023
	£	£	£
License Income	-	-	-
Rental Income	-	-	-
	-	-	-

7. Resources expended

	Unrestricted Funds Direct Costs	Support Costs	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Cost of generating funds	704	1,203	1,907	2,809
Charitable activities	4,781	297	5,078	3,080
	5,485	1,500	6,985	5,889

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

8. Fixed Assets: Tangible Assets

As at 1 April 2023	1,304,134
Additions	129,479
Disposals	-
As at 31 March 2024	<u>1,433,613</u>

Depreciation

As at 1 April 2023	-
Charge for the year	-
Disposals	-
As at 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>

Net Book Value

At 31 March 2024	<u>1,433,613</u>
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At 31 March 2023	<u>1,304,134</u>
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Costs relating to the construction of community centre have been capitalised.

Costs relating to the construction of community centre have been capitalized.

The leasehold land was valued professionally at £2,600,000 in 2018. The valuation complies with the international valuation standards and has been carried out in accordance with the professional practice.

The lease premium on the land will start to depreciate 10 days after the date of practical completion date over the agreed lease term of 125 year as stipulated in the sign lease agreement.

9. Analysis of debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Prepayments- Insurance	17,116	17,116
Total	17,116	17,116

10. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	17,106	27,106
Loan repayments	8,160	6,900
Total	25,266	34,006

11. Creditors: Amounts falling after more than one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Loans & overdrafts	116,355	149,398
Loan- Watford council	150,000	150,000
Total	266,355	299,398

12. Analysis of funds

	Balance b/fwd £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Fund c/fwd £
Unrestricted funds:				
Unrestricted general funds	1,309,091	63,558	6,985	1,365,664
	1,309,091	63,558	6,985	1,365,664