

Charity Commission no: 1153530

Report to the Charity Commission 2021/22

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Foreword

The Trustees present the Charitable Fund Annual Report together with the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021, which have been prepared in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.

The main objective of the Charity is to relieve sickness and to promote good health by advancing and sustaining an education and teaching program based at Lira University, Lira Regional Referral hospital and schools of nursing in Lira and in Wau South Sudan. It is designed to improve the health care of the people of Uganda and South Sudan.

Trustees

The Trustees serving for the financial year 2021/22 were as follows:

Mr Andrew Goodwin – Treasurer (resigned 31st March 2022)

Dr Frankie Dormon - Medical lead

Dr Antoinette McAulay - Chair

Rev Canon Jane LLOYD (deceased 12th April 2021)

Mr Mark Mould (resigned 27th April 2021)

Mrs Sarah Currell

Ms Judy Mella

Charitable Fund is registered with the Charity Commission (no. 1153530) in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

Reference and Administrative details

Poole Africa Link Charity (R.C.N. 1153530) was registered with the Charity Commission on 23rd August 2013. Prior to this date Poole Africa Link (PAL) was managed as a separate Trust Fund within the Poole Hospital NHS FT Charity (R.C.N. 1055808). Charitable funds received by the Charity are held and administered as funds and held on trust for purposes relating to developing health services in Africa, particularly Uganda and South Sudan.

Principal charitable fund advisor to the Board of Trustees

The Deputy Director of Finance of Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust had day to day responsibility for the management of the Charity and was responsible for overseeing the financial management and accounting for the Charity during the year. (A new treasurer has since been appointed)

Registered address of the Charity

Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Finance Dept.
Longfleet Road
Poole Hospital NHS Trust
Longfleet Road
Poole
Dorset
BH15 2JB

Banking details

Lloyds Bank
Poole High Street
Poole,
Dorset

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity was registered as a single purpose charity with the Charity Commission on 23rd August 2013. PAL is a restricted fund. As such the income and property of the fund are applied totally towards the promotion of the objects of advancing and sustaining an education and training programme designed to improve the healthcare of the people of Uganda, South Sudan and other areas in Sub Saharan Africa, as agreed by the Trustees.

Appointment of Trustees:

New trustees are appointed when existing trustees retire or resign. Trustees would normally be expected to have a professional background (e.g. legal, accounting, medical, or health) or direct involvement in humanitarian aid in sub Saharan Africa and would be expected to have a good understanding of the aims and objectives of the Charity and the relationship with Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. In the first instance new Trustees are nominated to the existing Trustees and appointment is confirmed by a majority vote of the existing Trustees.

POOLE AFRICA LINK Charity commission no:1153530

Annual Review: Our Activities

The Poole Africa link was set up in 2009 when a link was formed between Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Wau Hospital in South Sudan and we made twelve successful visits there. October 2015 saw a change in direction for Poole Africa Link. Due to the political situation in South Sudan it was decided to concentrate on a new location in Lira, Northern Uganda. The town of Lira has a referral hospital, with 500 beds, and several schools of nursing. We teach there and at Lira University Hospital, which currently has three intakes of midwifery students, plus some business and IT courses. In addition they have built a new maternity facility and a hospital both of which are now open and working towards functioning to full capacity. The midwives once trained have an extended role as they work in remote village clinics. As well as midwifery they work as nurse practitioners particularly for sick children, and are trained to give simple anaesthesia and perform caesarean sections. Our partnership is supported by a formal MOU signed in 2016.

In previous years there have been ten visits by our teams to Lira. The teams were involved in teaching and running courses in the University, the new University hospital and Lira Referral Hospital where we carried out ward-based teaching and delivered practical changes resulting in improved patient safety and care. Items of essential kit and teaching aid were donated to both the hospital and the university.

A visit by a team of five planned for March 2020 was called off at the last minute due to the COVID-19 virus. We were then unable to visit due to COVID-19 restrictions. We were able however to remain in contact with our colleagues in Lira by email, What's App and regular zoom meetings. During these we ascertained how best we could assist them during this time. We continued to fundraise and were able to purchase several large lots of essential PPE and hand sanitizer which we had driven up from Kampala to Lira. We also sent teaching lectures about COVID-19 and safe use of PPE on USB sticks and via the internet.

During this reporting year one team member has resumed visits to Lira having secured funding for a breast cancer project. At the end of the reporting year we began plans and communication to re-establish future team visits. Our ties and communication remained strong despite the pandemic.

We also continue to support the population of Wau via the Sister Grace's children's feeding program; helping children in dire situations at risk from starvation.

Public Benefit

The benefits include increased knowledge and education for student nurses and qualified health care professionals in the developing world, particularly Lira Hospital and University. This will lead to improved mortality rates and improvements in all areas of patient health care and safety for those we are involved with, which relates to the aims of our work. We also continue to assist in South Sudan.

There are no risks of detriment or harm to those we seek to assist and educate and the view from hospital managers and the university in Lira is that we bring a very positive and vital input to healthcare and patient survival. At present we work mostly amongst health care professionals in Lira Referral hospital and Lira University. We support where we can in South Sudan during the time of conflict. This is not exclusive and our only restrictions are around time and funding.

Staff from UK visiting Uganda will gain a fresh insight into health care from a differing perspective and assist with their self-development, resourcefulness, confidence and knowledge

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Benefits are measured through regular reporting and evaluation of each visit by all team members

The beneficiaries are primarily those with health care needs and in poverty in the developing world which our aims seek to address.

When able our teams travel to the hospital and university in Lira where currently most of our work is carried out, no fees are charged to the people there. Team members fundraise towards their fares but no set amount is levied for their contribution.

The private benefits may be said to be those incidental ones experienced by team members giving freely of their time and expertise to carry out the visits and ongoing contact with our colleagues in Lira. No other private benefits are received.

Reserves Policy

The Charity aims to spend all funds within a 2-3 year period. Most of the expenditure incurred by the Charity is normally in respect of contributions to team travel to Lira Uganda and subsistence during the trip. During this reporting year we have provided several large batches of PPE to Lira university hospital. Other expenditure normally includes insurance and medication. The charity also donates items of kit needed at the hospital in Lira and teaching aids for the University in Lira and a nurse training school in Wau.

The Charity applies for various grants from international organisations. Team members and supporters engage in fund raising activities to replenish reserves.

Investment Policy

The Charity aims to always ensure that it has a minimum of two years' operational costs in reserve. The Charity aims to spend all funds within a 2-3 year period and the Trustees have therefore decided to invest all of the charitable funds in short term fixed and instant access deposit accounts.

Risk Management

The major risks to which the Charity is exposed have been identified and considered. They have been reviewed and systems established to mitigate those risks. New risk assessments have been produced this year.

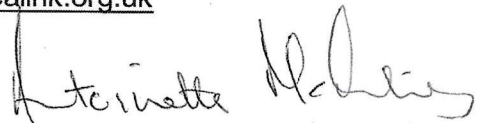
Acknowledgements

We express our thanks to all our colleagues in Lira, Uganda. As always we learn as much from our visits as we teach and Poole staff have a great personal developmental opportunity.

More information can be found on our website: www.pooleafricalink.org.uk



HILARY FENTON-HARRIS
Poole Africa Link Co-ordinator



DR ANTOINETTE McAULAY
Poole Africa Link Chair

15th December 2022



Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	4/1/21	To	3/31/22
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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					
Donations including gift aid	4,190	-	-	4,190	4,404
Legacy	10,000	-	-	10,000	-
FCDO Grant	- 0	17,836	-	17,836	-
Refund of travel costs	2,416	-	-	2,416	-
Interest received	4	-	-	4	12
Events income	- 0	-	-	-	2,162
Project income	- 0	-	-	-	12,300
	- 0	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	16,610	17,836	-	34,446	18,878
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	- 0	- 0	- 0	-	
	- 0	- 0	- 0	-	- 0
Sub total	- 0	- 0	- 0	-	- 0
Total receipts	16,610	17,836	- 0	34,446	18,878
A3 Payments					
Project expenditure general	3,752	-	-	3,752	7,755
FCDO Project expenditure	- 0	16,657	-	16,657	-
Costs of Generating Funds	5,941	-	-	5,941	3,756
	- 0	-	-	-	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
Sub total	9,693	16,657	-	26,350	11,511
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	- 0	- 0	- 0	-	
	- 0	- 0	- 0	-	- 0
Sub total	- 0	- 0	- 0	-	- 0
Total payments	9,693	16,657	- 0	26,350	11,511
Net of receipts/(payments)	6,916	1,180	-	8,096	7,367
A5 Transfers between funds	- 0	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	34,318	-	-	34,318	26,951
Cash funds this year end	41,235	1,180	-	42,415	34,318

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	Bank accounts	41,235	1,180	-

	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Total cash funds	41,235	1,180	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

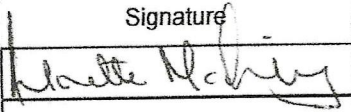

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets			
Details			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
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 liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			
Details			
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	MCAULAY	4/2/23
	ROBERT STONE	4/2/23

Independent Examiner



Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	4/1/21	To	3/31/22
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	- 0	-	-	-	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
	- 0	-	-	-	-
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	-	-	-
Total cash funds	41,235	1,180	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

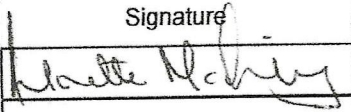

	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets			
Details			
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
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 liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			
Details			
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	MCAULAY	4/2/23
	ROBERT STONE	4/2/23

Independent Examiner