



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 February 2023 to 31 January 2024

Charity name: Guru Nanak Sikh Temple (Scunthorpe)

Charity registration number: 1155573

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>The Guru Nanak Sikh Temple (Scunthorpe) "GNST(S)" objectives are to advance the Sikh religion for the benefit of the public in accordance with the religious tenets and doctrines attached thereto and the GNST(S) shall have the following powers exercisable in the furtherance of its said objectives but not otherwise, namely:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) To work for the spiritual uplift and mental purity of those who have faith in the Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji and the Ten Gurus.2) To hold congregations for the worship and teachings of religious tenets and doctrines.3) To arrange marriage ceremonies according to the rites and rituals of the Sikh religion and the prevailing law of England and Wales.4) To arrange ceremonial baptism (Amrit/Khande di Pahul)5) To organise special religious functions on important occasions like Birthdays and Martyrdom days (Shahidi Gurburbs) of the Sikh Gurus.6) To preach the message to the non-Sikh community on the Sikh way of worship and life by distributing literature in English and other languages on the lives and teachings of the Sikh Gurus.7) To arrange and provide facilities for the education of the community interested in Punjabi and English.8) To encourage and provide financial support for the community to participate in religious sports and social activities organised by the committee.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>During the period under review the temple operated effectively to deliver and meet all of its stated objectives including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weekly worship services, Kirtan and Langar seva.• Celebrated key birthdays, events etc.• Performed Wedding Ceremonies• Performed Baptisms.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performed Funeral Services and supported bereaved families • Provided pastoral care. • Provided religious educational entertainment e.g. Jatha's, visits etc. • Provided Panjabi classes for children. • Provided sports and other activities classes. • Celebrated the New Year. • Engaged with the local community including hosting school visits, community leaders, the local MP, Senior Police Officer, other faiths etc.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees have regard to guidance and are content the Charity is fully compliant with spirit of the Public Benefit Guidance, but work continues to further improve understanding.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	No applicable
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	No Applicable
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	All contributions are voluntary
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>The main achievements and the difference the work of the GNST(S) made are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A congregation point for the Sikh Community in the local area. It was encouraging to see the attendance grow including many Sikh's who are new to the Town. • The wellbeing, pastoral care and support to the Sikh Community in the local area. • The spiritual education of children. • Provision of activities for children. • Reaching out to the local non-Sikh community including participation in local areas community organisation activities, provision of meals to the homeless and poor. • Support the aged and needy. • Health and wellbeing awareness activities. • Community engagement to raise awareness of the Sikh faith and the GNST(S) including hosting school visits, community leaders, senior police officer, other faiths etc.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	The Trustees are satisfied the GNST(S) met all of its stated objectives during the year. Furthermore, a full refurbishment and redevelopment plan is being formulated for implementation with the purpose of improving the facilities for the Sangat and making the property sustainable for the long term.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	With legal case settled in favour of the GNST(S) and agreement reached with Balbir Singh regarding legal fees awarded by the Court and Wilkin Chapman regarding historical legal fees, the Trustees are pleased to report that the underlying fund raising improved year on year.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	The three rental properties generated an additional £527 net rental income compared with 2022-23. The Management Committee and Trustees will be reviewing the management of the properties.
Other		<i>The Trustees would like to record their grateful appreciation and thank the Sevadars, Kitchen Team and other volunteers for their seva, which keeps the Temple functioning and enables it to serve, engage and support the Sangat and local community during challenging and changing times. THANK YOU.</i>

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>During the period under review the Charity income was £84,531 (<i>Donations £56,609, Property Rent £17,370, Giftaid £10,517, and Interest £35</i>) and expenditure £60,362 including legal fees and dispute costs of £8,288 in respect of property ownership dispute with the previous Trustees and Sangat Loan repayments of £13,500 resulting in a net surplus of £23,700.</p> <p>The underlying position excluding non-recurring legal fees and loan repayment was a surplus of £45,488.</p> <p>In addition to donation income the Charity received property rental income of £17,370 and incurred costs of £411, producing in net rental income of £16,959.</p> <p>Giftaid claim was submitted and paid respect of 2021-22 (£10,517) and a claim in respect of 2022-2023 (estimated £10,316) will be submitted in the next financial year.</p> <p>The Trustees are pleased to report that the underlying financial strength and position of the Charity continued to improve in the year under review.</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<p>The Charity does not hold reserves other than any cash in hand, a current account and a small balance in a deposit account.</p> <p>Expenditure is covered by regular income and any deficit covered from the operating reserves held in cash.</p> <p>If funds are required for any special purpose, these are raised from the members through a special appeal or loans.</p>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£92,484 in Cash and Current/Deposit Accounts
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Some reserves held in cash to support ongoing operations and provision of services. The

		Trustees are content that sufficient reserves are held to cover any foreseeable operating expenses.
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	<p>No funds in deficit or variable investments.</p> <p>The Charity has loans totalling £99,200 to cover the trading deficit due to exceptional legal fees and mortgage redemption costs associated with a fraudulent mortgage taken out by Surjit Singh, a previous property Trustee, who has been removed by order of a High Court Judgement. These loans are interest free and no repayment date has been agreed.</p> <p>Loans outstanding have been reduced by £13,500 from £112,700 during the year.</p>
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	<p>The legal case relating to a property ownership dispute with the previous Trustees was decided by the Leeds High Court in favour of the GNST(S) and costs awarded in September/October 2019.</p> <p>The only uncertainty is the recovery of these costs from the defendants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surjit Singh, £132k+ (£95k + £37k + rental income), has been declared bankrupt. <i>Sadly, Surjit Singh has passed away and it is unlikely any of monies due will be recovered. Continue to remain in contact and liaise with the Trustee in Bankruptcy.</i> • Balbir Singh, circa £130k (£95k plus interest and costs), who financial status is unclear. As result of an application to the High Court, judgement has been granted to take possession of 48 Taylor Road and the order has been executed by Bailiff's and the property is now in the control of the GNST. Balbir Singh's son, Anwarjit Singh, offered to pay £95k for the property to be released back to his family and the GNST has also instructed an Estate Agent to market the property. Negotiating are ongoing in an attempt to reach a mutually acceptable conclusion. <p>Any legal fees and property dispute related costs continue to be paid when incurred.</p> <p>Post Year End:</p> <p>Following protracted negotiations Balbir Singh and his son agreed pay £80,000 to release them from their obligations in respect legal costs awarded by the High Court to the GNST(S). In light of Balbir Singh's financial position and age, the Management Committee and Trustees accepted the proposal and concluded the negotiations.</p> <p><i>The Management Committee and Trustees are content that with the historical legal fees issue resolved and the £80,000 paid by Balbir Singh the Charity will have sufficient funds to repay the loans from the Sangat in full during 2024-25 and place the GNST(S) on a sound financial footing for it continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future.</i></p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Funds are generated from donations and the provision of pastoral services to the local Sikh Community. Property rental income from the letting of two domestic properties on 22 Dale Street and 209a & 209b Frodingham Road, Scunthorpe. Giftaid income. Deposit account interest.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	Not applicable
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The only risk that remains is the recovery of legal costs awarded by the Leeds High Court from the defendants, Surjit Singh and Balbir Singh (<i>resolved post Year End</i>) and the repayment of member's loans. The Management Committee and Trustees are confident these risks are manageable with the continued support of the Sangat.
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Trust Deed and Written Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g. unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated religious organisation.
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	New Property Trustees were appointed through an election process by the Sangat (members). Three of the Charity Trustees resigned during the year and were replaced through an election process. Resignations: Balbir Kaur Gosal Rashpal Singh Nijjar Harbans Singh Soomal Replacements: Kulwinder Kaur Athwal Sukhjinder Kaur Chatha Taranpreet Singh Nijjar

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	Induction by the Management Committee with reference to the written Constitution, guidance from legal advisors and Charity Commission information. <i>Work continues to improve policies, processes and understanding.</i>
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	Other Sikh Temples in the UK and India
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	No formal relationship
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Guru Nanak Sikh Temple (Scunthorpe)
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1155573
Charity's principal address	207 Frodingham Road, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire DN15 7NS

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Sukhdev Singh	Trustee	3 January 2020	GNST Members (Sangat)
2	Kulwinder K Athwal	Trustee	19 October 2023	GNST Members (Sangat)
3	Sukhjinder K Chatha	Past President	19 October 2023	GNST Members (Sangat)
4	Taranpreet S Nijjar	Treasurer	19 October 2023	GNST Members (Sangat)

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
Not applicable		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
Sukhdev Singh		Confirmed by Leeds HC
Kulwinder Kaur Athwal	19 October 2023	Elected by Sangat
Sukhjinder Kaur Chatha	19 October 2023	Elected by Sangat
Taranpreet Singh Nijjar	19 October 2023	Elected by Sangat

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	Nil Property held on behalf the GNST(S) only
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	Nil
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	Nil

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Legal	Chapman Wilkins LLP	The Maltings, 11-15 Brayford Wharf E, Lincoln, LN5 7AY

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Not applicable

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

The Leeds High Court awarded costs to the GNST(S) and ordered the defendants, the previous Trustees, Surjit Singh and Balbir Singh, to contribute £95k each towards the legal costs incurred by the GNST(S). In addition, Surjit Singh has been ordered to repay the £36,611 paid by the GNST(S) to the LPA acting for the Lancashire Mortgage Corporation to redeem the fraudulent mortgage taken out by him secured against 209 Frodingham Road and property rent collected.

Surjit Singh, who sadly has passed away, was declared bankrupt and the latest statement of affairs received from his Trustee in Bankruptcy ("TIB") shows there may be insufficient funds to pay anything towards the costs awarded and owed to the GNST(S). The TIB continues with his enquiries and the bankruptcy is ongoing and GNST(S) continue to liaise with TIB.

Following a petition to the High Court Wolverhampton for the GNST(S) to be awarded control of Balbir Singh's property at 48 Taylor Road, Wolverhampton, and the adjacent plot of land Judgement was issued in favour of the GNST(S). *Post year end: following protracted negotiations, Balbir Singh and his son paid £80,000 in settlement of his liability. The Management Committee and Trustees feel under the circumstances this was fair outcome for both parties.*

If these costs are recovered, then the GNST(S) will have sufficient funds to repay the Members loans in full. *The MC and Trustees have resolved to repay all Sangat Loans during 2024-25 financial year, which will make the Charity debt free.*

A new Management Committee and Trustees were elected and it was agreed that in future the Property Trustees will also act as the Charity Trustees and work more closely with the Management Committee to ensure compliance with Charity Objectives.

Furthermore, with the financial position continuing to improve, attendances increasing and the support of the Sangat, the Management Committee and Trustees have decided to develop and implement a more comprehensive refurbishment programme to improve facilities and make the property sustainable for the long term.

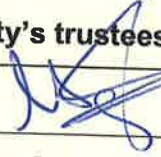

The Management Committee and Trustees continue to work on and ensure compliance with Health, Safety and Environmental obligations.

The Management Committee and Trustees developed and approved a reference document outlining the Strategic Goals and Objectives for the GNST(S).

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Sukhdev Singh	KULWINDER ATHWAL
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Trustee	Trustee
Date	26/11/2024	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Guru Nanak Sikh Temple (Scunthorpe)

1155573

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/02/2023


To

31/01/2024

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					
Congregation Donations	56,609	-	-	56,609	66,279
Includes Insurance claim & scrap sales	-	-	-	-	10,355
Rent	17,370	-	-	17,370	16,880
Giftaid	10,517	-	-	10,517	3,220
Deposit Account Interest	35	-	-	35	4
Other	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	84,531	-	-	84,531	96,738
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
Sangat Loans - Legal Case	-	-	-	-	-
Sangat Repayment - Legal Case	13,500	-	-	13,500	10,000
Sub total	13,500	-	-	13,500	10,000
Total receipts	71,031	-	-	71,031	86,738
A3 Payments					
Total Utilities	6,423	-	-	6,423	9,550
Total Other Property Occupancy Costs	12,007	-	-	12,007	14,294
Total employment & Travel costs	16,556	-	-	16,556	16,889
Total Food and Beverages	2,174	-	-	2,174	964
Total Legal Fees & Dispute Costs	8,288	-	-	8,288	9,088
Total Postage and Stationery	229	-	-	229	-
Total Bank Charges	341	-	-	341	562
Total Rental Property Costs	411	-	-	411	448
Total Other/Misc Costs	902	-	-	902	228
Sub total	47,331	-	-	47,331	52,023
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	47,331	-	-	47,331	52,023
Net of receipts/(payments)	23,700	-	-	23,700	34,715
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	68,784	-	-	68,784	34,069
Cash funds this year end	92,484	-	-	92,484	68,784

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	Cash in hand	988	-	-
	Bank	87,740	-	-
	Bank	3,756	-	-
	Total cash funds	92,484	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Not applicable	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	No applicable			
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	207 Frodingham Road, Scunthorpe		-	-
	209 Frodingham Road, Scunthorpe		-	-
	22 Dale Street, Scunthorpe		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Members Loans		99,200	To be agreed
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
			Sukhdev Singh	24/11/24



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Guru Nanak Sikh Temple (Scunthorpe)

On accounts for the year
ended

31/01/2024

Charity no
(if any)

1155573

Set out on pages

Charities Commission format Pages 1 & 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent
examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 the 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 material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

I have 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

25/11/24

Name:

Mark Jackson-Stapleton

Relevant professional

ACCOUNTANT

qualification(s) or body
(if any):

MAAT

Address:

1-3 Laneham Street

Scunthorpe

DN15 6LJ

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).

Give here details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.