

TRIRATNA BUDDHIST COMMUNITY (SHREWSBURY)

England & Wales · Charity number 1157987

Details

Other names SHREWSBURY TRIRATNA BUDDHIST GROUP

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2014-07-24

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address All Saints Hall
Queen Street
Shrewsbury
SY1 2JU

Phone 07528369502

Email akasaraja@gmail.com

Website www.shrewsburybuddhistcentre.co.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS TO SUPPORT THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE BUDDHIST RELIGION, IN PARTICULAR BY: (1) ENCOURAGING MEMBERS AND OTHERS TO LIVE ETHICAL LIVES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TEACHINGS OF THE BUDDHA; (2) SUPPORTING ORDAINED MEMBERS OF THE TRIRATNA BUDDHIST COMMUNITY AND OTHER DULY ORDAINED BUDDHISTS, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CIO;(3) MAINTAINING CLOSE COMMUNICATION WITH AND WORKING UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF THE TRIRATNA BUDDHIST ORDER AND IN CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER GROUPS WITH THE SAME OBJECTS; AND (4) USING APPLICATIONS OF THE BUDDHA'S TEACHING TO PROMOTE THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF ALL.

Activities: Our key activities are:Running introductory courses on meditation and buddhismRunning a weekly class to help regular group members deepen their understanding and practice of meditation, ethics and Dharma (the teachings of the Buddha)Providing opportunities for group-based study of the DharmaSupporting people to train for ordination in the Triratna Buddhist Order

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Shropshire

Finances

| Period end | Income | Expenditure | Assets | Employees |
|------------|---------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| 2025-04-05 | £36,053 | £33,929 | - | - |
| 2024-04-05 | £45,492 | £26,596 | - | - |
| 2023-04-05 | £35,289 | £14,472 | - | - |
| 2022-04-05 | £32,944 | £27,620 | - | - |
| 2021-04-05 | £26,673 | £28,086 | - | - |

Trustees

| Name | Role | Appointed |
|-------------------------|-------|------------|
| Jonathan Bruton | Chair | 2020-10-06 |
| Amritamati Clark | | 2025-09-18 |
| Suchitta Paull | | 2025-05-29 |
| Tim Abhayanara Crosskey | | 2016-01-17 |

TRIRATNA BUDDHIST COMMUNITY (SHREWSBURY)

England & Wales - Charity number 1157987

Accounts

Shrewsbury Triratna Buddhist Centre

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period 6 April 2024 to 5 April 2025

Report on Activities

Overview

During the reporting period, the Shrewsbury Triratna Buddhist Centre delivered a consistent programme of activities aligned with its charitable purposes, namely the advancement of Buddhism for the benefit of the public. We provided opportunities for meditation and devotional practice, Buddhist study and community engagement, serving both established practitioners and members of the wider public.

Activities were delivered primarily at the Centre's premises, with some online provision.

Meditation and Devotional Practice

Meditation remained central to the Centre's activities throughout the year. The programme included regular open meditation sessions, guided meditations, chanting sessions, and monthly meditation support sessions. These activities were generally open to the public, with the exception of the meditation support sessions, and supported mental wellbeing, emotional resilience and spiritual development.

Buddhist Education and Study

The Centre offered structured learning opportunities to support engagement with Buddhist teachings and practice. These included public courses, study groups, Dharma talks and themed Sangha events, chapter meetings for Order Members, and study groups based in the Centre library.

Community Engagement and Wellbeing

Alongside its core religious activities, the Centre hosted community-focused activities including yoga and Pilates classes and a community choir.

Festivals and Special Events

We marked key dates in the Buddhist calendar, including the Buddha's enlightenment and his passing away. We also celebrated the Sangha as a spiritual community and the life of influential Indian Buddhist leader Dr B R Ambedkar.

For the first time, 2025 was launched with an event we christened the Rainy Season Retreat. This was a series of additional events each day for January on top of our normal open classes, the aim of which was to give the Sangha the opportunity to engage more intensely with practice.

Governance

The Centre hosted trustees' meetings and other governance and planning meetings to ensure effective oversight, safeguarding and strategic development.

Financial Review

Total income: £36,053

Total expenditure: £33,929

Surplus for the year: £2,123

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Triratna Shrewsbury**Receipts and payments account for years ended 5 April**

| | 2025 | 2024 | variance |
|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Receipts | | | |
| Donations from regular activities | 1,603 | 2,467 | - 864 |
| Donations from intro courses, etc. | 7,476 | 5,142 | 2,334 |
| Planned giving | 9,760 | 11,630 | - 1,870 |
| Gift aid reclaim | - | 3,587 | - 3,587 |
| Bookshop sales | 903 | 1,310 | - 407 |
| Flat rental | 8,725 | 6,720 | 2,005 |
| Room hire | 1,593 | 2,853 | - 1,260 |
| Fundraising | 575 | 6,382 | - 5,807 |
| One-off gifts | 190 | 200 | - 10 |
| Outreach groups | 638 | - | 638 |
| Retreats | 4,544 | 3,117 | 1,427 |
| Stock adjustment | 45 | 2,059 | - 2,014 |
| Sundry | - | 25 | - 25 |
| Total | 36,053 | 45,492 | - 9,439 |
| Payments | | | |
| Accountancy fees | 571 | 510 | 61 |
| Bookshop and library | 903 | 941 | - 38 |
| CCPAS and DBS | 150 | 358 | - 208 |
| Chair and mitra meetings | 674 | 736 | - 62 |
| Cleaning, kitchen, shrine expenses | 924 | 1,122 | - 198 |
| ECA development fund | 1,705 | 1,399 | 306 |
| Fundraising contributions | 80 | 1,438 | - 1,358 |
| Garden | - | 845 | - 845 |
| Insurance | 1,275 | 1,249 | 26 |
| Loan interest | - | 609 | - 609 |
| Maintenance | 4,181 | 3,243 | 938 |
| Office expenses | 1,055 | 221 | 833 |
| Outreach groups | 1,481 | - | 1,481 |
| Payment fees | 432 | - | 432 |
| Private preceptors retreat | 238 | 285 | - 48 |
| Publicity | 823 | 838 | - 16 |
| Retreat allowance | 1,792 | 1,958 | - 166 |
| Retreats - venue hire | 3,900 | 4,202 | - 302 |
| Sundry | - | 482 | - 482 |
| Support - Chair & Centre co-ord. | 9,600 | 2,400 | 7,200 |
| Visiting teachers expenses | 144 | 908 | - 764 |
| Training for teachers | 608 | 420 | 188 |
| Travel | - | 263 | - 263 |
| Utilities | 3,395 | 2,168 | 1,226 |
| Total | 33,929 | 26,596 | 7,334 |
| Surplus for the year | 2,123 | 18,896 | - 16,773 |

Triratna Shrewsbury

Balance sheets as at 5 April

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Assets | | |
| Premises | 201,356 | 201,356 |
| Cash at bank | 14,890 | 12,741 |
| Debtors | 150 | - |
| Bookshop stock | 2,104 | 2,059 |
| Total Assets | 218,499 | 216,155 |
| Less Liabilities | | |
| Creditors | 221 | - |
| Net Assets | 218,279 | 216,155 |
| Financed by: | | |
| Accumulated fund | 216,155 | 197,259 |
| Add surplus for the year | 2,123 | 18,896 |
| | <u>218,279</u> | <u>216,155</u> |

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SHREWSBURY BUDDHIST CENTRE

I report on the accounts of the charity the Shrewsbury Buddhist Centre for the Year Ended 5th April 2025

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts: you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2)e of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply; it is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the charity Commissioners under section 43(7) (b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

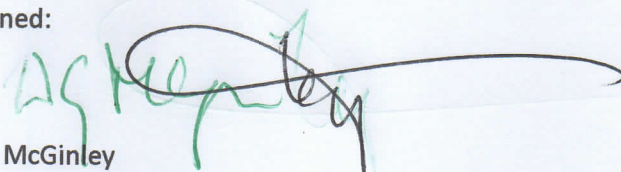
BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with records. It includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion given by the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER' STATEMENT

All records that were asked for were provided to me in my examination, and no matters came to light that suggested true and accurate records were not being kept.

Signed:



W. McGinley

Upper Demesne,
The Turning,
Garway,
HR2 8RJ

21st January 2026

TRIRATNA BUDDHIST COMMUNITY (SHREWSBURY)

England & Wales - Charity number 1157987

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report for the Triratna Buddhist Community (Shrewsbury) (charity number 1157987) for the 2023-24 financial year

Registered address

8 Darwin Street, Shrewsbury SY3 8QE

Organisational structure and appointment of trustees

The charity is a CIO. Its trustees are appointed by the board of trustees.

Trustees in the year under review

Tim Abhayanara Crosskey

Richard Nagamani Dawson (treasurer) (until 22.10.2023)

Simon Vajrapriya Moss (secretary) (until 15.6.2023)

Jonathan Akasharaja Bruton (Chair)

Zoe Saravantu Crosskey (until 11.2.2024)

Harvey Jayaratna Mason (until 17.12.2023)

Gillian Jyotidana Davies

Sioned Prabhakari Wynn (from 15.6.2023)

Jaine Ajayasraddha Daley (from 15.6.2023)

Fay Utpalavajri Pritchard (treasurer) (from 17.12.2023)

Purpose of the charity

The charity was originally set up in 2014 with the aim of bringing the benefits of Buddhist practice to the local community in Shrewsbury and the surrounding area. All adults in Shrewsbury and the local area are welcome to participate in our activities. Children are welcome to some of our activities under the supervision of a parent or guardian.

Our activities and performance in line with our charitable aims

- During the financial year in question, the Triratna Buddhist Community (Shrewsbury) continued to provide opportunities for the local and wider community to learn Buddhist meditation practices and study the Buddhist religion.
- We offered a total of 6 courses in both meditation and Buddhism during the period.
- We continued to offer a weekly class which allowed members of the local and wider community to attend the centre on a regular, drop-in basis to learn about meditation and Buddhism.
- As well as providing services of this sort to newcomers to Buddhism, the charity continued to provide a context for Triratna Buddhists to meet, study Buddhism and practise together.
- We also put on weekend meditation retreats for both experienced members of the community and newcomers to deepen their experience and practice of the Buddhist religion.
- We continued to provide a context for committed regulars to train for ordination in the Triratna Buddhist Order.

- We started offering regular opportunities for young people under the age of 30, with a young Buddhist as a member of the new centre management team (see below)
- We continued to foster and practise a healthy culture of volunteering, with many members of the community freely giving their time and energy to allow the community to continue to share the benefits of the Buddhist religion in the local and wider community.
- We set up a new centre management team, the Sanghadharakula, to take responsibility for the day-to-day running of the centre. This was done partly to relieve the trustees of this responsibility to allow them to focus on their statutory duties and their spiritual and financial oversight of the development of the community as a whole.
- We appointed a centre coordinator to take on a wide range of administrative responsibilities as part of the Sanghadharakula mentioned above. This was initially a voluntary position (see note below) with a retreat allowance.
- We also appointed a bookkeeper to do the centre's books in return for a retreat allowance.
- In the year under review, for the first time ever, we started offering financial support to the chair of the centre and the centre coordinator (the latter's circumstances having changed). We consider this to be an important step towards making it possible for people to devote time to the centre as a spiritual practice without losing out financially.
- We continued to provide financial support for the chair and the two Mitra convenors to go to the meetings that relate to their work. These are important for maintaining the inspiration and spiritual effectiveness of those individuals.
- We supported one Order member to go on a retreat for private preceptors – those Order members who take responsibility for ordaining other people. This is a key function in our movement that will ensure that it continues to grow and thrive.
- We continued to offer bursaries to help people with limited financial resources to go on retreat.

Our income and expenditure

- Our activities in the year under review were, as before, funded by a combination of planned giving by regular supporters and donations given for classes and courses. We claimed Gift Aid in the amount of £3587 on income in the previous year (22/23)
- Our income amounted to £45492, an increase of £10203 on the previous year. Our expenditure amounted to £26596, an increase of £12124, mainly accounted for by expenditure on financial support for the chair and the centre coordinator, a capital project to improve the building, maintenance, retreat venue hire and one-off funding grants. This left us with a surplus of £18896.
- We continued with a policy of prudent and far-sighted use of our financial resources and succeeded in paying off the remainder of our loans. The centre is therefore now owned outright by the charity, which puts it in a very advantageous position.

Triratna Shrewsbury**Receipts and payments account for years ended 5 April**

| | 2023 | 2024 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Receipts | | |
| Donations from regular activities | 3199.17 | 2466.93 |
| Donations from intro courses, etc. | 2688.42 | 5142.38 |
| Planned giving | 12827.74 | 11629.67 |
| Gift aid reclaim | 5817.58 | 3586.93 |
| Bookshop sales | 492.98 | 1309.55 |
| Flat rental | 6630.00 | 6720.00 |
| Room hire | 620.00 | 2852.50 |
| Fundraising | 1040.50 | 6382.45 |
| One-off gifts | 1500.00 | 200.00 |
| Retreats | 0.00 | 3117.40 |
| Stock adjustment | 0.00 | 2058.73 |
| Sundry | 472.66 | 25.00 |
| Total | 35289.05 | 45491.54 |
| Payments | | |
| Accountancy fees | 469.20 | 510.00 |
| Bookshop and library | 553.31 | 941.00 |
| CCPAS and DBS | 169.50 | 357.52 |
| Chair and mitra meetings | 733.79 | 736.00 |
| Cleaning, kitchen, shrine expenses | 491.45 | 1122.14 |
| ECA development fund | 1218.00 | 1399.00 |
| Fundraising contributions | 0.00 | 1438.00 |
| Garden | 4845.00 | 845.32 |
| Insurance | 1352.00 | 1248.77 |
| Loan interest | 1295.25 | 608.67 |
| Maintenance | 964.90 | 3243.47 |
| Office expenses | 0.00 | 221.25 |
| Private preceptors retreat | 97.50 | 285.00 |
| Publicity | 0.00 | 838.22 |
| Retreat allowance | 0.00 | 1958.00 |
| Retreats - venue hire | 0.00 | 4202.00 |
| Sundry | 101.18 | 482.39 |
| Support - Chair & Centre co-ord. | 0.00 | 2400.00 |
| Visiting teachers expenses | 0.00 | 907.80 |
| Training for teachers | 0.00 | 420.00 |
| Travel | 160.48 | 263.04 |
| Utilities | 2020.08 | 2168.13 |
| Total | 14471.64 | 26595.72 |
| Surplus for the year | 20817.41 | 18895.82 |

Triratna Shrewsbury

Balance sheets as at 5 April

| | 2023 | 2024 |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Premises | 201355.6 | 201355.6 |
| Cash at bank | 10903.79 | 12740.88 |
| Bookshop stock | 0.00 | 2058.73 |
| Total Assets | 212259.39 | 216155.21 |
| Less Liabilities | | |
| Loans | 15000.00 | 0.00 |
| Net Assets | 197259.39 | 216155.21 |
| Financed by: | | |
| Accumulated fund | 176431.98 | 197259.39 |
| Add surplus for the year | 20827.41 | 18895.82 |
| | <u>197259.39</u> | <u>216155.21</u> |

Notes

Gift Aid - claim of £3,586.93 received from 22/23 income; claim for 23/24 to be processed and included in 23/24 accounts.

Loan 1 - Fully repaid December 2023. All loans have now been fully repaid.

Bookshop Stock valuation introduced on 05/04/23 for more accurate accounting. Closing stock 05/04/23

23050.91

21131.08

ded in 24/25 accounts.

04/23 £2058.73

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SHREWSBURY BUDDHIST CENTRE

I report on the accounts of the charity the Shrewsbury Buddhist Centre for the Year Ended 5th April 2024

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts: you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2)e of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply; it is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the charity Commissioners under section 43(7) (b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

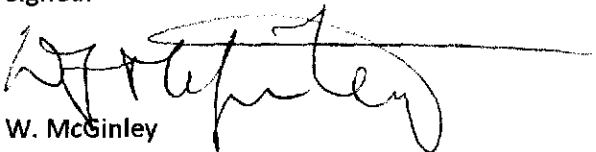
BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with records. It includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion given by the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER' STATEMENT

All records that were asked for were provided to me in my examination, and no matters came to light that suggested true and accurate records were not being kept.

Signed:



W. McSinley

Upper Demesne,
The Turning,
Garway,
HR2 8RJ

21st January 2025

TRIRATNA BUDDHIST COMMUNITY (SHREWSBURY)

England & Wales - Charity number 1157987

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report for the Triratna Buddhist Community (Shrewsbury) (charity number 1157987) for the 2022-23 financial year

Registered address

86 Canon Street, Shrewsbury SY2 5HF

Organisational structure and appointment of trustees

The charity is a CIO. Its trustees are appointed by the board of trustees.

Trustees in the year under review

Zoe Saravantu Stephenson (chair until 13.11.2022)

Tim Abhayanara Crosskey

Richard Nagamani Dawson (treasurer)

Simon Vajrapriya Moss (secretary)

Jonathan Akasharaja Bruton (chair from 13.11.2022)

Harvey Jayaratna Mason

Gillian Jyotidana Davies (from 09.04.2022)

Purpose of the charity

The charity was originally set up in 2014 with the aim of bringing the benefits of Buddhist practice to the local community in Shrewsbury and the surrounding area. All adults in Shrewsbury and the local area are welcome to participate in our activities. Children are welcome to some of our activities under the supervision of a parent or guardian.

Our activities and performance in line with our charitable aims

- During the financial year in question, the Triratna Buddhist Community (Shrewsbury) continued to provide opportunities for the local and wider community to learn Buddhist meditation practices and study the Buddhist religion.
- We offered six-week courses in both meditation and Buddhism during the period.
- We also initiated a new weekly class in January 2023 which allowed members of the local and wider community to attend the centre on a regular, drop-in basis to learn about meditation and Buddhism.
- As well as providing services of this sort to newcomers to Buddhism, the charity continued to provide a context for Triratna Buddhists to meet, study Buddhism and practise together.
- We also put on weekend meditation retreats for both experienced members of the community and newcomers to deepen their experience and practice of the Buddhist religion.
- We continued to provide a context for committed regulars to train for ordination in the Triratna Buddhist Order.
- We continued to foster and practise a healthy culture of volunteering, with many members of the community freely giving their time and energy to allow the community to continue to share the benefits of the Buddhist religion in the local and wider community.

Our income and expenditure

- Our activities in the year under review were, as before, funded by a combination of planned giving from regular supporters and donations given for classes and courses. We claimed Gift Aid in the amount of £5818 on income in the previous year (21/22)
- Our income amounted to £35289, an increase of £2345 on the previous year. Our expenditure amounted to £14472, an increase of £4117, mainly accounted for by expenditure on a garden project. This left us with a surplus of £20817.
- We continued with a policy of prudent and far-sighted use of our financial resources, enabling us to repay to the tune of £25411 capital from the loans we originally took out in 2014 to buy our centre. This left us with a remaining liability of £15000. We anticipate paying off the remaining loans in the 2023-24 financial year, which will free us up to provide further benefits in line with our charitable object without financial stress.

Triratna Shrewsbury
Receipts and payments account for years ended 5 April

2022

Receipts

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Donations from regular activities | 2587.61 |
| Donations from intro courses, etc. | 2207.12 |
| Planned giving | 13239.00 |
| Gift aid reclaim | 3442.77 |
| Bookshop sales | 742.97 |
| Flat rental | 6360.00 |
| Room hire | 395.00 |
| Fundraising | 2538.58 |
| One-off gifts | 100.00 |
| Retreats | 1300.00 |
| Sundry | 31.00 |

Total

32944.05

Payments

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| Loan interest | 575.59 |
| Maintenance | 1350.56 |
| Utilities | 1813.79 |
| Insurance | 1189.98 |
| Printing and social media | 169.56 |
| Teaching Support | 0.00 |
| Bookshop and library | 686.53 |
| Accountancy fees | 445.20 |
| Cleaning, kitchen, shrine expenses | 241.59 |
| CCPAS and DBS | 141.25 |
| Chair and mitra meetings | 414.00 |
| Training for teachers | 0.00 |
| Private preceptors retreat | 0.00 |
| Garden | 41.99 |
| ECA development fund | 1712.00 |
| Fundraising contributions | 0.00 |
| Retreats - venue hire | 1415.00 |
| Travel | 69.37 |
| Sundry | 88.29 |

Total

10354.70

Surplus for the year

22589.35

Triratna Shrewsbury

Balance sheets as at 5 April

2022

Assets

| | |
|--------------|----------|
| Premises | 201355.6 |
| Cash at bank | 15487.46 |
| Cash in hand | 0.00 |

Total Assets **216843.06**

Less Liabilities

| | |
|-------|----------|
| Loans | 40411.08 |
|-------|----------|

Net Assets **176431.98**

Financed by:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Accumulated fund | 153842.63 |
| Add surplus for the year | 22589.35 |
| | <u>176431.98</u> |

Notes

Gift Aid - claim of £5,817.58 received from 21/22 income; claim for 22/23 to
Loan 1 - reduced by £11,500 from £26,500 to £15,000. To be repaid by Dec
Loan 2 - reduced by £8,000 to £0; repaid early.
Loan 3 - fully repaid as per schedule.

2023

| | |
|----------|----------|
| 3199.17 | 26032.91 |
| 2688.42 | |
| 12827.74 | 9256.14 |
| 5817.58 | |
| 492.98 | |
| 6630.00 | |
| 620.00 | |
| 1040.50 | |
| 1500.00 | |
| 0.00 | |
| 472.66 | |

35289.05

1295.25
964.90
2020.08
1352.00
0.00
0.00
553.31
469.20
491.45
169.50
733.79
0.00
97.50
4845.00
1218.00
0.00
0.00
160.48
101.18

14471.64

20817.41

2023

201355.6
10893.79
0.00

212249.39

15000.00

197249.39

176431.98
20817.41
197249.39

to be processed and included in 23/24 accounts.
December 2024.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SHREWSBURY BUDDHIST CENTRE

I report on the accounts of the charity the Shrewsbury Buddhist Centre for the Year Ended 5th April 2023

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts: you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2)e of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply; it is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the charity Commissioners under section 43(7) (b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

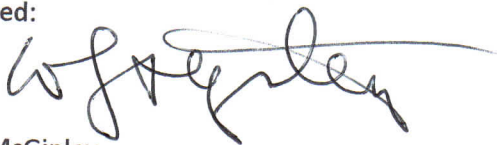
BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT.

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER' STATEMENT

All records that were asked for were provided to me in my examination, and no matters came to light that suggested true and accurate records were not being kept.

Signed:



W. McGinley

Upper Demesne,
The Turning,
Garway,
HR2 8RJ

6th July 2023

TRIRATNA BUDDHIST COMMUNITY (SHREWSBURY)

England & Wales - Charity number 1157987

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------|------|-----------------|-------|------|
| Period start date | | | Period end date | | |
| 6 | April | 2021 | 5 | April | 2022 |
| From | | | To | | |

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name Triratna Buddhist Community (Shrewsbury)

Other names charity is known by Shrewsbury Triratna

Registered charity number (if any) 1157987

Charity's principal address 86 Canon St
 Shrewsbury
 SY2 5HF

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 | Zoe Stephenson (Saravantu) | Chair | | Council of Trustees |
| 2 | Harvey Mason (Jayaratna) | | | Council of Trustees |
| 3 | Jonathan Bruton (Akasharaja) | | | Council of Trustees |
| 4 | Tim Crosskey (Abhayanara) | | | Council of Trustees |
| 5 | Simon Moss (Vajrapriya) | Secretary | | Council of Trustees |
| 6 | Karen Lambert (Vajradevi) | | To 28/11/2021 | Council of Trustees |
| 7 | Richard Dawson (Nagamani) | Treasurer | From 25/7/2021 | Council of Trustees |

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Constitution

Type of governing document
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

Charitable Incorporated Institution

How the charity is constituted
(eg. trust, association, company)

Appointed by the Council of Trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Our Council of Trustees met for a formal meeting every two months in the reporting period.

We maintain close communication with other members of the Triratna Buddhist Order and work in harmony with other Triratna Centres and Institutions.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To support the Buddhist religion, in particular by:

- 1) Encouraging people to live ethical lives in accordance with the teachings of the Buddha;
- 2) Using applications of the Buddha's teachings to promote the health and well-being of all;
- 3) Maintaining close communication with and working under the guidance of the Triratna Buddhist Order and in co-operation with other groups with the same objects;
- 4) Supporting ordained members of the Triratna Buddhist Order, and other duly ordained Buddhist, at the discretion of the Council of Trustees.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

At introductory level:

- Running meditation courses and drop-in classes for people who want to learn to meditate.
- Running introductory courses for people who want to learn about Buddhism
- Running courses especially for younger people (18-30) who want to learn about meditation and Buddhism

For regulars:

- Running a weekly class of meditation and discussion ("Sangha Night")
- Running regular study groups for people to deepen their understanding and practice of ethics, meditation and wisdom.
- Running occasional day events addressing specific themes
- Running a daily early morning meditation session online

For those seeking ordination into the Triratna Buddhist Order:

- Running occasional events to support their training for ordination.

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The Centre continues to be run entirely by volunteers: all the teaching, publicity, cleaning, maintenance, gardening etc.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

From April 2021- April 2022 has seen the steady reopening of our activities from online to in-person events. Our main “Sangha Night” has become a regular “hybrid” event, which some people continue to find valuable.

Morning meditations continued online, as did many of our study groups, suiting people who have large distances to travel.

Overall the main thrust of the year has been rebuilding the sense of the community meeting in the Centre, including our festivals.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Our policy is to have reserves of £5,000, to ensure we can make the loan interest payments due at the end of each financial year, and cover the core costs of running the Centre in the event of a sudden decline in income.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

n/a

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

We were very lucky that our main sources of income continued without disruption: regular standing order donations, and rental income from the flat.

The main costs were servicing our loans, maintenance and utilities, insurance, and contributions to a central development fund.

There was a successful fundraising appeal within our community for funds to purchase a glass-covered veranda. This would extend the usable space of the Centre, and create an attractive feature for the garden.

We repaid £17,265 of our loans in this financial period

Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Date



Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

06.04.2021

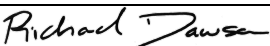
To

05.04.2022

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 from regular activities | 2587.61 | - | - | 2,588 | - |
| Donations from intro courses. | 2207.12 | - | - | 2,207 | - |
| Planned giving | 13239.00 | - | - | 13,239 | - |
| Gift aid reclaim | 3442.77 | - | - | 3,443 | - |
| Bookshop sales | 742.97 | - | - | 743 | - |
| Flat rental | 6360.00 | - | - | 6,360 | - |
| Room hire | 395.00 | - | - | 395 | - |
| Fundraising | 2538.58 | - | - | 2,539 | - |
| One-off gifts | 100.00 | - | - | 100 | - |
| Retreats | 1300.00 | - | - | 1,300 | - |
| Sundry | 31.00 | - | - | 31 | - |
| Sub total (Gross income for AR) | 32,944 | - | - | 32,944 | - |
| A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table). | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total receipts | 32,944 | - | - | 32,944 | - |
| A3 Payments | | | | | |
| Loan interest | 575.59 | - | - | 576 | - |
| Loan payments | 17264.95 | - | - | 17,265 | - |
| Maintenance | 1350.56 | - | - | 1,351 | - |
| Utilities | 1813.79 | - | - | 1,814 | - |
| Insurance | 1189.98 | - | - | 1,190 | - |
| Printing and social media | 169.56 | - | - | 170 | - |
| Bookshop and library | 686.53 | - | - | 687 | - |
| Accountancy fees | 445.20 | - | - | 445 | - |
| Cleaning, kitchen, shrine expenses | 241.59 | - | - | 242 | - |
| CCPAS and DBS | 141.25 | - | - | 141 | - |
| Chair and mitra meetings | 414.00 | - | - | 414 | - |
| Garden | 41.99 | - | - | 42 | - |
| ECA development fund | 1712.00 | - | - | 1,712 | - |
| Retreats - venue hire | 1415.00 | - | - | 1,415 | - |
| Travel | 69.37 | - | - | 69 | - |
| Sundry | 88.29 | - | - | 88 | - |
| Sub total | 27,620 | - | - | 27,620 | - |
| A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table) | | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sub total | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total payments | 27,620 | - | - | 27,620 | - |
| Net of receipts/(payments) | 5,324 | - | - | 5,324 | - |
| A5 Transfers between funds | - | - | - | - | - |
| A6 Cash funds last year end | 10,163 | - | - | 10,163 | - |
| Cash funds this year end | 15,487 | - | - | 15,487 | - |

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 | 15,487 | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | Total cash funds | 15,487 | - | - |
| | (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) | OK | OK | OK |
| B2 Other monetary assets | Details | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| B3 Investment assets | Details | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use | Details | - | - | - |
| | Building | 201355.6 | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| B5 Liabilities | Details | - | - | - |
| | Loans | 40411.08 | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| | | - | - | - |
| Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees | Signature | Print Name | Date of approval | |
| |  | Richard Dawson | 22.11.22 | |

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SHREWSBURY BUDDHIST CENTRE

I report on the accounts of the charity the Shrewsbury Buddhist Centre for the Year Ended 5th April 2022

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts: you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2)e of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply; it is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the charity Commissioners under section 43(7) (b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with records. It includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion given by the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER' STATEMENT

All records that were asked for were provided to me in my examination, and no matters came to light that suggested true and accurate records were not being kept.

Signed:



W. McGinley
Upper Demesne,
The Turning,
Garway,
HR2 8RJ

11th September 2022

TRIRATNA BUDDHIST COMMUNITY (SHREWSBURY)

England & Wales - Charity number 1157987

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Period start date | | Period end date | |
| From | 6 April 2020 | To | 5 April 2021 |

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

Charity's principal address

| | |
|----------------|--|
| 86 Canon St | |
| Shrewsbury | |
| | |
| SY2 5HF | |

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 | Zoe Stephenson (Saravantu) | Chair | | Council of Trustees |
| 2 | Harvey Mason (Jayaratna) | Treasurer | | Council of Trustees |
| 3 | Jonathan Bruton (Akasharaja) | | 6 th October 2020 - present | Council of Trustees |
| 4 | Tim Crosskey (Abhayanara) | | | Council of Trustees |
| 5 | Simon Moss (Vajrapriya) | Secretary | | Council of Trustees |
| 6 | Karen Lambert (Vajradevi) | | | Council of Trustees |
| 7 | Sioned Wynn (Prabhakari) | | 7 th October 2019 – 31 October 2020 | Council of Trustees |

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Type of governing document <small>(eg. trust deed, constitution)</small> | Constitution |
| How the charity is constituted <small>(eg. trust, association, company)</small> | Charitable Incorporated Institution |
| Trustee selection methods <small>(eg. appointed by, elected by)</small> | Appointed by the Council of Trustees |

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Our Council of Trustees met for a formal meeting every two months in the reporting period, and informally most weeks to cope with the adaptations needed for the Covid-19 situation.

We maintain close communication with other members of the Triratna Buddhist Order and work in harmony with other Triratna Centres and Institutions.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To support the Buddhist religion, in particular by:

- 1) Encouraging people to live ethical lives in accordance with the teachings of the Buddha;
- 2) Using applications of the Buddha's teachings to promote the health and well-being of all;
- 3) Maintaining close communication with and working under the guidance of the Triratna Buddhist Order and in co-operation with other groups with the same objects;
- 4) Supporting ordained members of the Triratna Buddhist Order, and other duly ordained Buddhist, at the discretion of the Council of Trustees.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

At introductory level:

- Running meditation courses and drop-in classes for people who want to learn to meditate.
- Running introductory courses for people who want to learn about Buddhism
- Running courses especially for younger people (18-30) who want to learn about meditation and Buddhism

For regulars:

- Running a weekly class of meditation and discussion (“Sangha Night”)
- Running regular study groups for people to deepen their understanding and practice of ethics, meditation and wisdom.
- Running occasional day events addressing specific themes
- Running a daily early morning meditation session online

For those seeking ordination into the Triratna Buddhist Order:

- Running occasional events to support their training for ordination.

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

There were fewer opportunities for volunteers to work together contribute practically to the Centre’s activities.

- The garden was maintained by an enthusiastic team.
- The fabric of the building was maintained and cleaned, with Covid necessitating more intensive cleaning regime from the volunteers.
- As always, all the teaching is conducted and supported by enthusiastic volunteer teams.
- And of course, it is the donations from members of our community that underpin the activities of the Centre.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The period April 2020 – April 2021 has of course been dominated by the Covid-19 pandemic. Upon the first lockdown, all activities migrated online to the Zoom platform, and mostly stayed there during this reporting period.

The trustees immediately started meeting weekly online to plan our response and support our community. The first response was to canvas for emergency gifts and loans for anyone in need; a large number of our community offered these resources, which were happily not needed.

We quadrupled the number of “drop-in” meditation sessions from once fortnightly to twice weekly, with a beginner’s class every Saturday, and a class for regulars every Sunday.

We also added an extra early morning meditation session every day for regulars.

We started two extra social events, to provide additional contact for people feeling isolated: a Sunday night “Sangha Social”, and a Thursday afternoon “Silver Sangha” especially for those in later life. The former dwindled away after the first lockdown, but the latter continues and is greatly valued.

The online nature of the Centre has had some unexpected bonuses: some more geographically remote members of our community found it much easier to engage with activities; and we have formed an informal twinning arrangement with a small group in Denmark, who had little active teaching in their area. They now feel like treasured members of our own community.

Most of our 5 regular festivals were also held online. This again had some benefits, as for two of them we could join in with an internationally organised online event, thereby giving our local community members a feeling of connection with something much larger.

We did manage one in-person festival in the period: a “Padmasambhava Day”, which included a ritual for 6 people to become Mitras (friends) in our community.

There was one fundraising event: an online meditation retreat led by Tejananda.

During this period, two people in the Shrewsbury Sangha requested ordination into the Triratna Buddhist Order.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Our policy is to have reserves of £5,000, to ensure we can make the loan interest payments due at the end of each financial year, and cover the core costs of running the Centre in the event of a sudden decline in income.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

n/a

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

We were very lucky that our main sources of income continued without disruption: regular standing order donations, and rental income from the flat. Most other income sources dwindled: we continued to receive some income from online newcomers' courses, but most fundraising events were cancelled and our hire-out income was eliminated.

The main costs were servicing our loans, maintenance and utilities, insurance, and contributions to a central development fund.

There was a successful fundraising appeal within our community for funds to purchase IT equipment to enable us to run "hybrid" zoom events, mixing in-person and online attendance. This raised £1,830, and covered the full cost of the equipment.

We repaid £16581 of our loans in this financial period

Section F

Other optional information

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

Full name(s)

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

Date

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF SHREWSBURY BUDDHIST CENTRE

I report on the accounts of the charity the Shrewsbury Buddhist Centre for the Year Ended 5th April 2021

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts: you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2)e of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply; it is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the charity Commissioners under section 43(7) (b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with records. It includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion given by the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

All records that were asked for were provided to me in my examination, and no matters came to light that suggested true and accurate records were not being kept.

Signed:



W. McGinley

Upper Demesne,
The Turning,
Garway,
HR2 8RJ

20th October 2021