

Chifundo UK

(a Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Trustees Report and Financial Statements

for the period

1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

Registered charity: 1160791

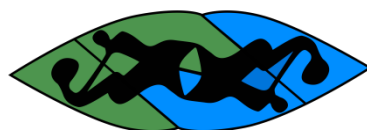


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Report of the Trustees

The trustees of Chifundo UK present their annual report and accounts for the period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024 and confirm that they comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, Chifundo UK's constitution as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, and the charities SORP 2005. The trustees also confirm that section 4 (the public benefit requirement) of the Charities Act 2011 has been complied with.

Legal and administrative information

Name	Chifundo UK
Charity number	1160791
Charity address	Hayes Farm Stonham Road Cotton Stowmarket IP14 4RQ

Trustees

Trustees serving during this period and their positions held were as follows:

Lynn Walton, Treasurer
Jean Gorman, Secretary
Susan Flynn
Gloria Morrison
Derrie Lizi
Princy Johnson
Gill Phillips (from November 2024)

Independent Examiner

David Lewis F.C.A.

Structure, governance and management

Governing Documents

Chifundo UK is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with a Constitution, founded on 20 November 2014. Chifundo UK was entered on the Register of Charities of England and Wales on 9 March 2015. The financial statements comply with the current statutory requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Trustee Recruitment, Induction and Training

Trustees are encouraged to attend external training events and to read the relevant literature provided by the Charity Commission.

Organisation

The charity trustees shall manage the affairs of the CIO and may, for that purpose, exercise all the powers of the CIO. The membership of the CIO is its trustees.

During 2024 the trustees met six times virtually via ZOOM.

Aims and Activities

The aims of the CIO are:

- Chifundo and Chanasa both mean Compassion which is the basis and motivation for what we do as a charity, both here in the UK and in Malawi. Chanasa is the sister charity in Malawi with which Chifundo UK works. Together we reach out to women who need support and empowerment through education and income generation so that they can fulfil their potential and make a difference for their families, communities and country. It is women mutually helping each other.

To further these aims, the activities for the year 2024 were:

1. Funding the employment of a part time coordinator and a part time support worker in Malawi to support and organise the six sewing groups.
2. Funding the rent of premises for each group in which to work.
3. Buying and maintaining sewing equipment e.g. sewing machines.
4. Funding women to attend tailoring training courses in Malawi.
5. Supporting the making of Lotus Packs of reusable sanitary pads and bags for girls in government funded schools in Malawi alongside training in Menstrual Health to enable the girls to attend school regularly. Mothers' groups at the schools are also trained to make pads to start small businesses.
6. Raising awareness of the situation in Malawi and raising money through sales of products, appeals and by providing information on the work of Chanasa in Malawi.
7. Selling ethical products made by Chanasa in Malawi through events in the UK and online.
8. Selling ethical goods made by sewing group volunteers in the UK through events and online.

Achievements and Performance

HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights from 2024 include:

- Two fashion shows were held during Fairtrade Fortnight in September 2024, one at St Columbas' in Chester and the other at Parkgate and Neston URC. They were both well attended and takings, including the sale of products, totally nearly £1,200.
- A Craft Fair in November 2024 at Hoole URC Chester went well although not as many people attended as in previous years. Almost £800 was taken.
- A visit to Malawi by our Founder Susan Flynn to meet with Chanasa Trustees and Staff, to help organise a celebration for Chanasa's 10th Anniversary and to run 6 workshops on making brooches. Susan visited Chizombezi School (one of the original Lotus Project Schools) and ran workshops with boys and girls, staff and mothers on the Lotus Project. She managed to get the Education department to provide some buckets and bowls for the girls' toilets plus meeting with parents. Susan also visited retail outlets in Blantyre for orders and brought back Chanasa products for sale in the UK.
- A meeting of Women Making a Difference in Chester in June 2024 to hear about Susan's visit to Malawi and to see the new products was an enjoyable afternoon.

- Other events: a Coffee Morning at St David's in Mold in March 2024. Stalls at events run at Wesley in Chester by Chester Fair-Trading and at the Chester Green Fair.
- Supporting, in Malawi, the sewing of pads and bags plus collation of and distribution of Lotus Packs with menstrual health training for girls, boys, staff and mothers. The total now reached is 4,670 girls helped at 18 schools.

SUPPORT FOR CHANASA MALAWI

- Six Chanasa women's groups meet in four different locations in Blantyre's poor suburbs. All groups have good rented premises to use. A total of 52 women are involved together with a part time Coordinator and a part time Support Worker. The number of women has stayed the same as last year although some have left and others joined.
- Six women were funded to attend tailoring training courses in Malawi in 2024.
- Chanasa, in Malawi, celebrated its 10 Year Anniversary in April 2024. While Susan was in Malawi, Chifundo UK funded a celebration in Blantyre for all the women, trustees and invited guests. Refreshments were served, a cake cut as well as speeches and singing. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon and the women's groups appreciated the event.

LOTUS PROJECT

This has continued this year and in total 4,670 girls at 18 schools have received Lotus Packs and menstrual health management training together with training for boys, mothers and staff which is a great achievement. There are six schools in an Action Plan for 2025, two in each term. Thank you to all supporters, both trusts and individuals, who make this important work possible. The Lotus Bags which include the purchase of a Lotus pack for a girl in Malawi and the Gift Certificates continue to sell well.

ASF School in Lilongwe requested that Chanasa return to train 58 schoolgirls in their final year how to make reusable sanitary pads. This was completed and in addition Chifundo UK funded two of the group leaders to travel to Lilongwe (a 4 hour coach journey away) for 3 days to train another group of 13 women to make Lotus pads, tote bags and children's aprons.

SEWING GROUP

The UK sewing group members continue to make products for sale in the UK and worked particularly hard on embellished clothing for the fashion shows.

WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Women Making a Difference have been updated via email, a Whatsapp group and meeting up while running stalls and events together with a meeting with illustrated talk by Susan Flynn following her visit to Malawi in Spring 2024.

FUNDRAISING AND SALES IN THE UK

Chifundo UK continues to be a member of BAFTS (The British Association of Fair Trade Shops and Suppliers). Internet sales were very low but sales at the events listed above were good.

Financial review

Overview

Total income for this period was £16,458 (£14,640 in 2023). £5,659 (£5,695 in 2023) was raised for

the Lotus Project including a grant of £5,000 from the Farthing Trust. £3,775 was received from Oak Vale URC Church in Liverpool to purchase industrial sewing machines for the women's groups.

Total expenditure for the period was £11,503 (£15,249 in 2023). £2,228 of this was for the Lotus Project. There remains in the UK £5,845 of restricted funding for the Lotus Project.

The 52 women working for Chanasa in Malawi were each given a 45,000 Malawi Kwacha bonus at Christmas. The amount was raised considerably from 2023 due to high inflation in Malawi and devaluation of the Malawi currency.

Reserves Policy

Chifundo UK will hold reserves of at least £1,000 to act as a cushion against any shortfall in revenue and in order to continue to fulfil its charitable purposes.

Restricted Funds

Charities have an obligation to account to donors of funds and the public in general that they are using monies entrusted to them for the purpose for which they are given. Chifundo UK received in 2024 new restricted funds as detailed in Note 1 on page 10 below where the donor required that the money is spent on a particular purpose.

Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

I report on the accounts of the company for the period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 8 to 10.

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 period 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 matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below)

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:  Date: 18.3.25

Name: David Lewis

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): F.C.A.

Address: 39 Earlsway, Chester, CH4 8AY, United Kingdom.

Chifundo UK

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2024

		Notes	2024		2024	2023		2023		
Incoming Resources			Unrestricted	Restricted		Unrestricted	Restricted			
Voluntary Income										
	Donations with Gift Aid		£	2,105		£	1,730			
	Donations without Gift Aid		£	2,254		£	1,649			
	Lotus Project Donations with Gift Aid	1		£	-		£	-		
	Lotus Project Donations without Gift Aid	1			5,310		£	5,264		
	Cyclone Appeal with Gift Aid			£	-		£	513		
	Cylone Appeal without Gift Aid			£	-		£	1,914		
	Industrial Sewing Machines			£	3,775		£	-		
	Small Donations with Gift Aid		£	145	£	74	£	18		
	Income Tax recovered	2				£	469	£	132	
					£	13,663		£	11,729	
Activities for Generating Funds										
	Sales of Chanasa Products at Events		£	775		£	878			
	Sales of Lotus Flower Bags/Certificates		£	271	£	275	£	262	£	410
	Sales of Chanasa Products to Shops					£	73			
	Sales of Chifundo Products		£	296		£	348			
	Internet Sales		£	30		£	103			
	Craft Fair not including Product Sales		£	334		£	468			
	Postage charged					£	3			
	Other Fundraising		£	600		£	340			
					£	2,581		£	2,885	
Other Income										
	Interest		£	214			£	26		
					£	214		£	26	
Total Income					£	16,458		£	14,640	
Resources Expended										
Cost of Generating Funds										
	Chanasa Products		£	300		£	930			
	Raw materials		£	50		£	38			
	Table Fees		£	20						
	Postage		£	7		£	11			
	Equipment to send to Malawi									
					£	377		£	979	
Course Fees in Malawi										
	Beehive Tailoring School					£	200			
					£	-		£	200	
Grants to Chanasa										
	Equipment Grants					£	2,168			
	Staff Salaries, Rent and Administration		£	2,610		£	1,754			
	Other grants		£	2,111						
					£	4,721		£	3,922	
Cyclone Appeal										
	Grants to Cyclone Appeal					£	34	£	2,554	
					£	-		£	2,588	
Equipment										
	Industrial Sewing Machines			£	3,775					
Lotus Project Costs										
	Lotus Project	1		£	2,228		£	7,213		
					£	6,003		£	7,213	
Administration										
	Website		£	139		£	139			
	Monthly bank account fees		£	60		£	60			
	Other Admin costs		£	153		£	48			
	Cost of overseas payments		£	50		£	75	£	25	
					£	402		£	347	
Total Resources Expended					£	11,503		£	15,249	
Net incoming / (outgoing) resources					£	4,955		-£	609	
Reconciliation of Funds										
	Opening balance CAF account at 1 January 2024				£	12,055		£	12,595	
	Opening balance CAF Gold Savings Account at 1 January 2024	3			£	-				
	Opening balance PayPal account at 1 January 2024				£	46		£	115	
	Net incoming / (outgoing) resources				£	4,955		-£	609	
					£	17,056		£	12,101	
	Closing balance CAF Bank account at 31 December 2024				£	1,860		£	12,055	
	Closing balance CAF Gold Savings Account at 31 December 2024				£	15,196				
	Closing balance PayPal Account at 31 December 2024				£	-		£	46	
					£	17,056		£	12,101	

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash at CAF Bank		£ 1,860	£ 12,055
Cash in CAF Gold Savings Account		£ 15,196	
Cash at PayPal		£ -	£ 46
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within a year		£ -	£ -
		<u>£ 17,056</u>	<u>£ 12,101</u>
Liabilities			
All liabilities			
		<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>
			£ -
Net Assets			
		<u>£ 17,056</u>	<u>£ 12,101</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted Funds		£ 11,211	£ 9,687
Restricted Funds - Lotus Project		£ 5,845	£ 2,414
Total Funds			
		<u>£ 17,056</u>	<u>£ 12,101</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

Note 1

These Restricted Funds are for the Lotus Project

Lotus Project

Balance from 2023	£	2,414	
		£	2,414
Incoming Resources			
Donations with Gift Aid	£	-	
Donations without Gift Aid excluding Farthing Trust	£	384	
Farthing Trust	£	5,000	
Money from Lotus Flower Bags & Certificates	£	275	
Income tax recovered	£	-	
		£	5,659
Outgoing Resources			
Grants to Lotus Project in Malawi	£	192	
Items purchased in UK for Lotus Project	£	2,036	
Shipping Costs	£	-	
Cost of overseas payments	£	-	
		£	2,228
Net incoming / (outgoing) resources		£	3,431
Balance carried forward		£	5,845

Note 2

Gift Aid claims for 2024 will be in the 2025 accounts

Note 3

CAF Gold savings account was opened in July 2024

These accounts have been prepared using the Receipts and Payments method. As the gross income is below £25,000 there is no requirement from the Charity Commission to have the accounts independently examined or audited. However, the trustees have chosen to have the accounts independently examined.

Lynn Walton
Treasurer
Chifundo UK