

**Bengali Cultural Society, Reading**  
Charity Reg. No : 1161671

**Accounts**  
For the period ended 31 March 2023

**Payslip Accountants**  
Accountants & Tax Advisers

**Bengali Cultural Society, Reading**  
**Independent examiner's report on accounts**  
**For the period ended 31 March 2023**

**Independent examiner's report to trustees of Bengali Cultural Society, Reading**

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 matter has come to my attention

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 Act have 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.

Sumon Roy, MAAT (Licensed Accountant)  
Payslip Accountants  
141 Victoria Road  
Swindon  
SN1 3BU

# **BENGALI CULTURAL SOCIETY, READING**

Charity Registration No: 1161671

## **Report of the Trustees for the year ended on 31 March 2023 (Unaudited)**

The Board of Trustees of the Bengali Cultural Society, Reading ('BCS') presents the following report for the year 2022/23 to the members.

### **Activities:**

The principal aim of BCS is to facilitate activities and events appropriate for the community, to raise awareness among the public by providing them with the opportunity to participate and appreciate the nature of Indian and Bengali culture. With this objective in mind, we organised the following events in the year:

- ✓ **Football Tournament**
- ✓ **Mahalaya**
- ✓ **Dandiya**
- ✓ **10<sup>th</sup> Reading Autumn Festival/Durga Puja**
- ✓ **Bijoya Sammeloni**
- ✓ **Pous Parbon**
- ✓ **Saraswati Puja**

As we have crossed turbulent times during covid, we are now back to the natural rhythm of life after almost 2 years. We have started organizing regular event of BCS is full swing where all our members, patrons and well-wishers have started visiting all events in person.

### **Football Tournament**

We organised Football tournament on 10<sup>th</sup> September at Rivermead Leisure Centre where 6 teams across different part of UK participated. It was an all-day fun and both the participants and spectators had thoroughly enjoyed.

### **Mahalaya**

We organised Mahalaya at Coronation Hall, Woodley where 200+ people attended the function. This was the first gathering without covid restriction after a gap of almost 2 years.

### **Dandiya:**

This is the very first time BCS organised Dandiya to engage people from all parts of India. This was a huge success where 700+ people from in and around Reading actively participated at the same venue where we organised Durga Puja.

### **10<sup>th</sup> Reading Autumn Festival/Durga Puja:**

This was a very special event as we celebrated 10<sup>th</sup> year of Durga puja. This also provided BCS Trustee Board an opportunity to assess our ability to conduct further in-person events. 10th edition of Sharad Utsav/Reading Autumn Festival was organised in October at Rivermead Leisure Centre. It was a successful event with circa 10000 visitors gracing the event over 5 days. Durga Puja was special last year as this was our 10th year of Celebration and we had for the first time a "Panch Chala" Pratima. This event worked as catalyst to rebuild the community connection after a difficult lockdown period.

#### **Bijoya Sammeloni:**

We organised Bijoya Sammeloni immediately after Durga Puja to have a get together as per our tradition. This was a day long cultural program by BCS members and renowned local singers which was followed by snacks and late lunch.

#### **Poush Parbon:**

Poush Parbon is one big example of culinary diversity among Bengalis. In this we had the BCS ladies provide us the opportunity to have different varieties of 'Pithe' an essential part of Poush Parbon. The ladies also prepared different street food and snacks from Kolkata.

#### **Saraswati Puja:**

We organised a bigger place this year to accommodate more people to attend Saraswati Puja. The event was attended by almost 400+ visitors. Almost 20 kids were given "Hate Khor" during this year's Saraswati Puja. We have served bhog to all attendees towards the end of event.

#### **Charitable Donations:**

The Trust has a policy of actively identifying and donating appropriate financial aid to charities of worthy causes. This year we donated a total of £900 to Sarada Math.

#### **Website revamp:**

We spent £638.58 during the month of June'22 to revamp our organization's website <https://www.bcsreading.com>. We have consolidated all our websites to a single website and integrated PayPal payment mechanism with our website so that event tickets, donations & Membership fees can be paid through online.

#### **Membership:**

Several new members have joined the Society during the year as well as some previous members moving away from Reading leaving our membership strength at 161.



### Trustees:

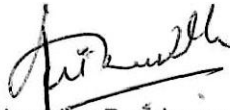
Consequent to the registration of BCS as a Charity, the management and administration of its affairs rest with the Board of Trustees. At the AGM held on 20th May 2022, the following were elected to the Board of Trustees and the Charity Commission had been notified accordingly. They were –

Abhijit Chakrabarti (Chairperson), Sanjoy Paul (Treasurer), Aniruddha Bandyopadhyay (Jt. General Secretary), Archana Das (Jt. General Secretary), Ratna Ghosh, based on her Chandan Kanti Bhowmik, Himangshu Dey, Rana Ray. Gouri Dey had joined the trustee board at a later point in time previous contribution for various BCS cultural activities.

In accordance with the provisions of the constitution, the current Trustees will retire at the end of the AGM to be held on or before the maximum frame of 15 months from the last AGM conducted on 20th May 2022. The retiring Trustees are eligible to seek re-election.



Abhijit Chakrabarti  
Chairperson



Aniruddha Bandyopadhyay  
Jt. General Secretary



Archana Das



Sanjoy Paul  
Treasurers

Dated: 14th February 2024

**Bengali Cultural Society, Reading**  
**Receipts and payments accounts**  
For the period ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Year 2023 Total funds to the nearest £	Year 2022 Total funds to the nearest £
<b>Receipts</b>			
Members' Subscription		1370.00	1089.00
BCS Activities		44209.30	21293.00
Interest received		87.30	3.00
Other			14.00
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>		<b>45666.60</b>	<b>22399.00</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>		<b>45666.60</b>	<b>22399.00</b>
<b>Payments</b>			
<b>BCS Activities</b>			
Summer Fiesta			1315.00
Football Tournament		199.78	
Mahalaya		115.00	
Dandiya		1805.99	
10th Reading Autumn Festival (Durga Puja)		30083.80	17566.00
Bijoya Sammeloni		1135.09	
Pous Parbon		904.24	
Saraswati Puja		1124.33	957.00
Basanta Utsab			627.00
Protima and Transport		3028.00	
Bank Charge		60.00	
<b>Total BCS activities payments</b>		<b>38456.23</b>	<b>20465.00</b>
ICA subscription		250.00	85.00
Charitable donations		900.00	808.00
Expense for Amit Kumar		5624.00	
Accountancy fees		600.00	
Others		2235.73	2330.00
<b>Sub total</b>		<b>9609.73</b>	<b>3223.00</b>
<b>Total payments</b>		<b>48065.96</b>	<b>23688.00</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>		<b>(2399.36)</b>	<b>(1289.00)</b>
<b>Surplus funds from year end 2022</b>		<b>38441.00</b>	<b>39730.00</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit) funds year end 31 Mar 2023</b>		<b>36041.64</b>	<b>38441.00</b>

**Bengali Cultural Society, Reading**  
**Statement of assets and liabilities**  
**As at 31 March 2023**

Categories	Details
Current Assets	Paypal
	Cash in hand and at bank
	Debtors & Prepayments
	<b>Total current assets</b>

2023	2022
Total funds to nearest £	Total funds to nearest £
55.00	0.00
38483.08	42851.66
0.00	225.00
<b>38538.08</b>	<b>43076.66</b>

Current Liabilities	Details
	Payment Due
	<b>Total current liabilities</b>

Total current liabilities to nearest £	Total current liabilities to nearest £
600.00	150.00
600.00	150.00

Provisions	Details
	New Idol (Protima)
	<b>Total provisions</b>

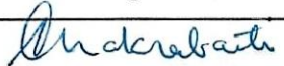

Total provisions to nearest £	Total provisions to nearest £
0.00	4485.00
0.00	4485.00

Net Asstets
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37938.08	38441.66
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Members' Fund	Details
	Members' fund
	<b>Total Members's fund</b>

Total members' fund to nearest £	Total members' fund to nearest £
37938.08	38441.66
37938.08	38441.66

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date Of Approval
a.		Mr. Abhijit Chakrabarti	25/4/2024
b.		Mr. Sanjoy Paul	25/04/2024