



TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT



FUTURE PILLARS (ZAMBIA)

For the year ending 30 June 2024

UK Reg. Charity Number 1173534

Registered address: Grovetown Barn, Yeolmbridge, Launceston, Cornwall,
PL15 8NH

Trustees

Trustee Name	Office	Dates acted	Notes
Barry Gransden	Chair	Whole Year	Appointed until April 2027
Peter McAughey	Treasurer	Whole Year	Appointed until June 2026
Anneli Meeder	Trustee	Whole Year	Appointed until November 2026
Emma Berry	Trustee	Whole Year	Resigned March 2024
Rosemary Stanbury	Trustee	Whole Year	Resigned June 2024

Emma Berry resigned her trusteeship effective March 2024; we thank Emma for her valued contribution to the charity and wish her all the best for the future.

Rosemary Stanbury resigned her trusteeship effective 10th June 2024. Rosemary was a founding trustee, and has been instrumental in the success of FPZ. Her many visits to Kabwe over the years, and her commitment to the school have made a lasting impact to the vulnerable children in Kabwe. We thank her for her engagement and contribution and wish her all the best for the future.

We are pleased to welcome Anneli Meeder as a trustee, joining us on 7th November 2023.

About Future Pillars (Zambia)

Future Pillars (Zambia) ('FPZ') is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), whose only voting members are its trustees. FPZ was registered with the Charity Commission on 22nd June 2017.

Its objectives are to advance education, relieve poverty and to promote and protect good health for the public benefit of children in Zambia who are economically and socially disadvantaged.

Background to FPZ

Our mission statement: *To empower the vulnerable children in Zambia.*

The Charity was formed on 22nd June 2017 to support life-changing work going on in one school in Kabwe, Central Province, Zambia. Completing our 7th year of operation, we are encouraged by the continuing progress we have made in relation to the 4 essential elements of our programme in Zambia:

Feeding – ensuring 900+ children get a nutritious meal 5 days a week.

Education – The Family Futures Community School from Reception to Grade 12.

Skills training – Future Pillars Vocational Skills Training Centre offering courses in 8 trade skills accredited through TEVETA (national accrediting body).

Shelter – 2 boarding houses for children without any family support.

The trustees of FPZ are fully committed to ensuring that all the vulnerable children who attend Family Futures Community School (FFCS) are properly provided for – feeding their stomachs as well as their minds. To this end, 100% of all money donated to FPZ goes to the projects in Kabwe. All UK expenses, including administrative costs, are met by individual trustees. We ensure that donors' gifts are appropriately used, with regular visits being made to monitor the school's progress and provide training and development opportunities for the staff. All costs for these visits are met by individual trustees.

Throughout all our activity, the FPZ trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Who are these vulnerable children?

The school's programmes take place on the campus of the Church Family Mission (affiliated to the Evangelical Fellowship of Zambia) which was deliberately situated between two of the poorest compounds (shanty towns) in Kabwe in 2004. Whilst it is a pleasant town, Kabwe went into economic decline in the 1980's when both the mines and the railway industry collapsed. The AIDS pandemic in the 1990's decimated the wage-earning sector of the population and many orphaned children had to be cared for by grandparents or other family members without the resources to provide adequate food or pay for education in the government schools.

In 2023/24, the level of deprivation remains obstinately high with the consequence that thousands of children and families remain in severe and lasting poverty. Employing a carefully constructed Admissions Policy, our children are chosen from among the most disadvantaged from the neighbouring compounds to be fed and educated as the best way to break the cycle.

Reflections on the Year

Internal challenges, developments and opportunities

All trustees were able to **visit Kabwe** during the reporting period, in two separate visits in July/August 2023, and May/June 2024. These self-funded trips are an important measure to engage directly with the school staff and the learners, to see the success of the UK funding provided, to ensure that the funds are spent appropriately, and to provide opportunities for teaching and learning in both directions.

A local governing body **FCOB (Family Care & Orphans Board)** is struggling to make progress towards greater independence from FPZ. FPZ and especially the FPZ Chair expended a significant amount of time towards the development of the governors, it is hoped that there will be more progress in 2025.

The **Skills Centre** provides critical workplace training for in excess of 100 learners; we are very happy to report that there has been significant progress towards financial independence from FPZ in this area. The courses are accredited, and will move towards fully local funding after the reporting period. Plans are underway to expand the training courses further, and once some residual payments from FPZ are completed in 2025, it is anticipated that the Skills Centre will have achieved complete independence. We are extremely proud of the team in Kabwe for this success, and very happy to have provided initial assistance to achieve this milestone.

A large blue **barrel with supplies** was sent to Kabwe from the UK; it arrived in May 2024, and contained badly needed items such as donated laptops and items of clothing.

New Block Completion – the McDermott building is a school block for secondary teaching, and has been built with FPZ donations since the 2020-21 year. It is now largely completed and in use, and a “Celebration of Progress” commemorating this milestone was held on the 1st of June 2024 in the presence of the FPZ chair. The final completion of this block will be funded from an approved government Zambian grant.

FPZ Trustees have seen several personnel changes in the year 2023-24, and have managed the change well with increased in-person and Zoom meetings.

External challenges, developments and opportunities

In 2023, the Zambian government introduced **free education for all children up to G12**. This change has made a profound impact on the school: some of the teachers who were on FPZ allowances were recruited away from Kabwe into government-funded positions across the country, and government-salaried teachers were made available and transferred into the school, alas not always according to the greatest need. At the same time, some of the learners transferred into other schools, causing a certain amount of disruption and uncertainty for teachers and learners that continued throughout the period.

Furthermore, an outbreak of **cholera** in Zambia closed the school for several weeks in early 2024. There were 2 cases at the school (both recovered well).

Even more concerning, Southern Africa is currently suffering a **severe drought**, beginning with prolonged dry spells in the 2023-24 planting season, and leading to the declaration of a state of emergency in Zambia and neighbouring countries. This directly affects the school in three significant areas:

1. Daily power outages lasting between 17 and 24 hours (power generation in Zambia relies heavily on hydro-electricity) for months
2. Increase in food insecurity: for a short period, the school management was unable to procure the bulk purchases of “mealie meal” which is the staple of the meals provided by FPZ, and food price inflation meant that FPZ needed to increase monthly support for the feeding program by 35% from June 2024.
3. Long delays in government funding: this affects everything from teacher salaries, to receiving approved funds for completion of the new school block, to stationery.

Future Pillars (Zambia) - Financial Report 2023-24

Income

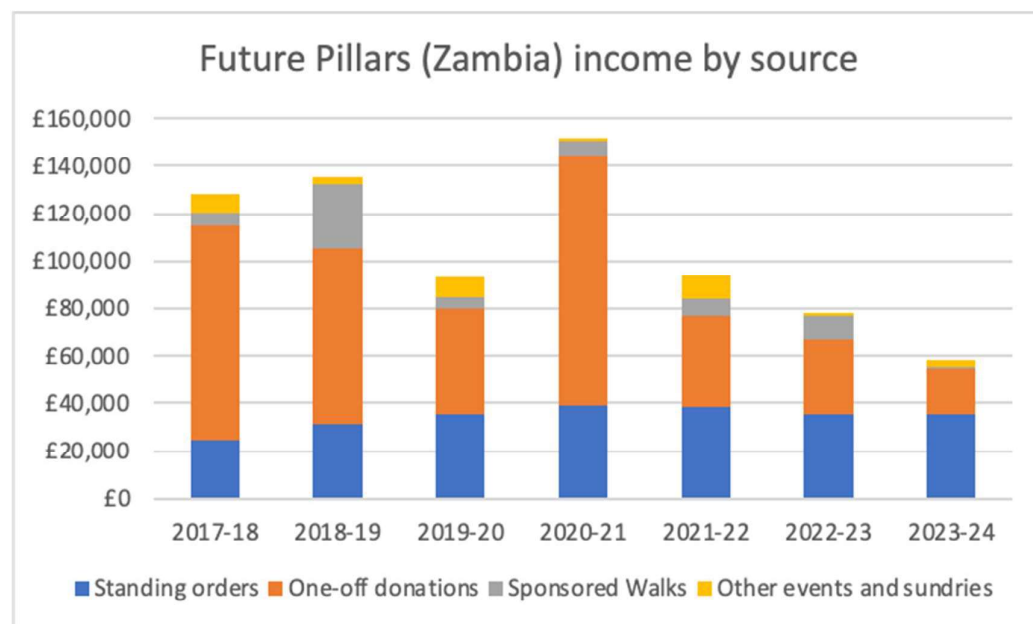
The charity's income is derived entirely from donations by individuals, predominantly living in the UK. The many regular donations form the backbone of the support for the school in Kabwe, and allow for long-term sustainability of the project. In addition, they help ensure that fundraising cost can be kept to a minimum.

The funds raised by Future Pillars (Zambia) in 2023-24 totalled £58,429 (2022-23: £78,379).

The 2023-24 year has seen the lowest annual income in the history of the charity, and for the first time, monthly standing orders make up the largest income stream, accounting for more than 60% of the total (2022-23: 45%). The trustees see this as a sign of maturity of the charity, and this goes hand-in-hand with a reduction in total cost towards the funding of programmes, as the school moves towards greater independence from FPZ.

The standing orders are augmented by one-off donations, and fundraising efforts by the trustees. There was no planned fundraising walk in the period, which usually generates in excess of 10% of annual funds.

FPZ Income 2017-2024

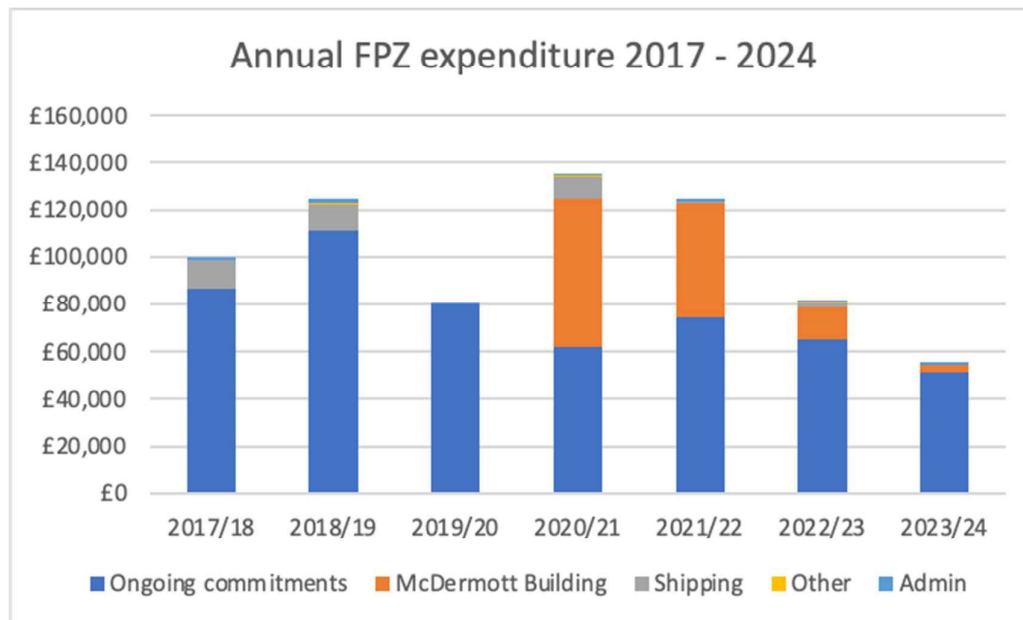


Expenditure

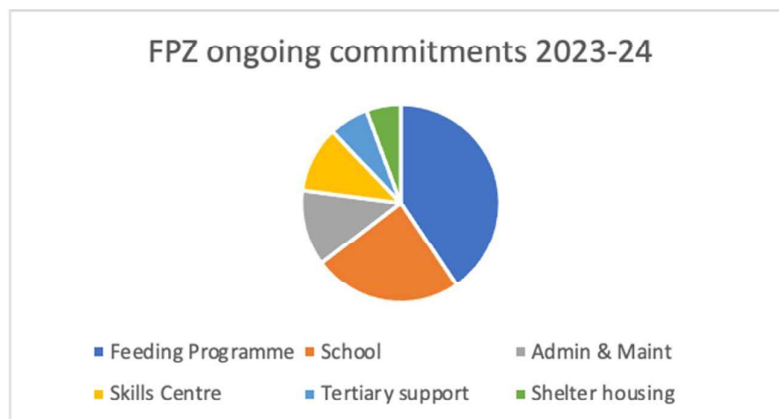
The total expenditure for the period reported is £55,236 (2022-23: £81,802).

The 2023-24 year has seen the lowest annual cost in the history of the charity, mirroring the reduction in income generated. FPZ has been benefiting from favourable exchange rates in this period, as well as cost reductions (esp. reduction in tertiary support for individuals who are now able to support themselves).

FPZ Expenditure 2017-2024



The monthly support payments to fund ongoing commitments add up to £50,889 for the year:



Ongoing commitments	2023-24	2023-24 %
Feeding Programme	£20,573	40.43%
School	£12,385	24.34%
Admin & Maint	£6,266	12.31%
Skills Centre	£5,527	10.86%
Tertiary support	£3,281	6.45%
Shelter housing	£2,857	5.61%
TOTAL	£50,889	100%

Major project funding: the Margaret McDermott Building received additional final funding of £3125.

Reserves Policy

The FPZ reserves policy aims to hold between 5 and 9 months of reserves. At the end of the 2023-24 reporting period, cash reserves held equated to 9 months of regular funding (£38,094; 2022-23: £34,901).

We continue to hold reserves as a cushion for major repairs and other unplanned expenditure in our programmes, to respond to fluctuations in the exchange rate, and to manage our fluctuating income streams. We consider that this cautious approach is a prudent response to both the general and specific circumstances in which we are operating. The Trustees regularly monitor the appropriateness of the reserves policy.

FPZ does not have any funds that are materially in deficit.

Challenges and opportunities for 2024 and beyond

The severe and prolonged drought in 2024 brought challenges beyond the financial year, and will exacerbate the effects of poverty on Zambian society for many years. For FPZ, it highlights the need to **improve the school's resilience to climate change effects** (especially floods and droughts), and we will continue to work with our friends in Kabwe to assess and improve the infrastructure where possible.

The long-anticipated **Learning Resource Centre**, a new building to house the school library, a staff room, computer access room and a classroom, will begin construction in 2025, utilising four shipping containers that are already on site.

The trustees are planning a **fundraising walk in June 2025** to collect donations for supporting the building of the Learning Resource Centre.

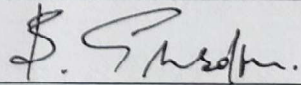
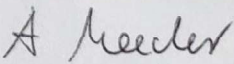
Replacement of the outdoor open-fire cooking area for the feeding programme with an **enclosed cooking area** adjacent to the current kitchen to improve health & safety for the cooks, and reduce the use of firewood.

Recruitment of **further trustees** to ensure the resilience of FPZ is ongoing, as is the planned incorporation of a **youth advocacy programme** to FPZ.

Declaration

The FPZ Board of Trustees declare that they have approved this report.

Signed on behalf of the Board:

Name	Position	Signature
Barry Gransden	Chair of Trustees	
Anneli Meeder	Trustee	

31st January 2025



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Future Pillars (Zambia)

1173534

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/07/2023	To	30/06/2024
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	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					
Voluntary Donations	54,856	0	0	54,856	66,530
Fundraising Events	3,573	0	0	3,573	11,849
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	58,429	0	0	58,429	78,379
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total	0	0	0	0	0
Total receipts	58,429	0	0	58,429	78,379
A3 Payments					
Costs of Charitable Activities	54,327	0	0	54,327	80,860
Costs of Charitable Administration (paid out of Voluntary donations by Trustees)	909	0	0	909	642
Cost of Fundraising Events (paid out of voluntary donations by Trustees)	0	0	0	0	300
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total	55,236	0	0	55,236	81,802
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	0	0	0
Sub total	0	0	0	0	0
Total payments	55,236	0	0	55,236	81,802
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,193	0	0	3,193	(3,423)
A5 Transfers between funds					
A6 Cash funds last year end	34,901	0	0	34,901	38,324
Cash funds this year end	38,094	0	0	38,094	34,901

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Lloyds Bank Treasurers Account	38,094	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	38,094	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

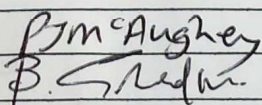
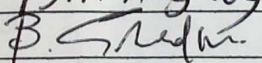
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	PETER MCAUGHEY	31/1/2025
	BARRY GRANDSEN	31/1/2025



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name

FUTURE PILLARS (ZAMBIA)

On accounts for the year
ended

30TH JUNE 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1173534

Set out on pages

CC 16 (pages 1 & 2)

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and
basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/06/2024.

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

~~The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination ~~(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 no concerns and 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:

AO Baker

Date:

18/2/2025

Name:

MR ANDREW DOUGLAS BAKER FCA

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

ICAEW.

Address: VICTORIA HOUSE, ST CATHERINES HILL
LAUNCESTON
CORNWALL PL15 7EJ

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

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

[illegible]