



Registered Charity Number 1174004

Malvern Welcomes Management Team report to Trustees & AGM

Sept 2024

Management Team

Tony Vere_ – Fund-raising lead

Richard King – Treasurer

Sharon Baker – ESOL Coordinator and Disability Advisor

Karen Argent -Volunteer Coordinator

Simon Kilvington – Membership Secretary

Fiona White - website and newsletter link

Jane Stockley - Family Lead, Transport Coordinator

Penny Bijl - Employment Group, link with WCC

Grateful thanks to Ruth Forecast, long standing Chair of MT and Volunteer Coordinator, who stood down from the MT in August 2024

Volunteer Coordinators

Hilary MacMillan, Karen Argent, Annette de la Cour and Ruth Forecast (until August 2024)

Safeguarding Leads Jean Bryant and Kate Gant

Update from Malvern Welcomes Management Team as regards activities and progress over the past year

Over the past year, we have seen a growth in the number of individuals we support, with 3 new families joining the existing 9, some of whom have been in Malvern since 2018. We have seen more individuals taking driving lessons, passing driving tests, applying for higher education and other courses, securing paid employment, taking on voluntary jobs, achieving their Life in the UK tests, and starting to apply for British citizenship.

4th Community Sponsorship Family

Things continue to progress well for this family, and we are now approaching the end of their first year in Malvern.

The two older daughters applied to university, and both have now started degree courses. They submitted their applications independently, despite their level of English being basic when they first arrived in the UK. The oldest daughter, who wishes to work with children, has been volunteering at a primary school. She has started driving lessons, and is making good progress.

The Disability Living Allowance (DLA) application for the youngest daughter was accepted. Various medical, dentist and optician appointments are going ahead. An Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) was completed for her, and it is hoped that a suitable educational placement will be offered soon.

The father continues to attend ESOL and other supportive measures with Maximus. He has recently passed his driving theory test, and hopes to obtain his full licence before his international licence expires. He is volunteering in two settings.

Financial report *see separate report*

Fund-Raising

A separate group has been set up, led by Tony Vere. Ideas for fundraising activities, or other possible funding routes, are always welcome.

Employment Support Group

This group, led by Harry Lofthouse, continues to meet, as it is recognised that employment is a major hurdle to be faced by the resettled families. This has been found to be the case nationally. A facebook page has been set up for volunteers to share information regarding available job opportunities. Access to the page adheres to our safeguarding and data protection procedures.

Two MW volunteers had an extremely helpful meeting with the recruitment officer from a local company. Individuals were not mentioned, but advice was sought as to ways in which Malvern Welcomes might support people into employment. It was interesting to hear that, when writing a CV, experiences such as being in a refugee camp and any type of employment can be included by framing them in a positive way. Subsequently some of the men have been employed by that company at various times.

Schools and education

Volunteers have continued to give regular support in one of the primary schools, although the children they have been supporting are now confident fluent English speakers, and now require little direct support.

ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Programme

Malvern Welcomes' ESOL tutors are all qualified in teaching English and their hard work, skills and flexibility are key to the ongoing success of our programme.

Through the Community Sponsorship Scheme, Malvern Welcomes is under an obligation to provide 8 hours of ESOL support for each adult family member for the first year. Whilst this must be the priority of the ESOL programme, our team of nine active volunteer tutors continue to support other learners who are unable to access external classes.

As the most recent family welcomed through the Community Sponsorship Scheme last October comprises four adults who had three different levels of English, there were significant challenges in creating a cohesive and full timetable of lessons for each learner. The family arrived after the start of the new academic year and, consequently, it wasn't possible for adult family members to join accredited classroom based lessons. However, the young women were able to join classes in Worcester delivered by trainee EFL teachers.

The Eden Centre in Malvern, run by Jan Watts, has continued to play an important role in the English language progress of many families, by providing once weekly community based classroom learning, with all the benefits that that offers - including opportunity to forge bonds with other members of our shared community.

Malvern Welcomes' Conversation Café, meanwhile, has also offered learners opportunity to socialise whilst practising English in a less formal environment. It has also been an essential hub for supporting families to deal with a variety of crucial day-to-day living tasks which can be inaccessible even for those with English as a first language. Whilst this had been run on a weekly basis, now that families are so busy with study, work and volunteering, it will run on a once a month basis.

Forward Planning Day March 23rd

This was a productive and inspiring day attended by 28 Malvern Welcomes volunteers. We were most fortunate that Professor Jenny Phillimore agreed to attend as guest speaker. She reported on the newly-published Commission for the Integration of Refugees, in which Malvern

Welcomes participated. She also advised and shared her perspectives during the discussion sessions.

Various ideas for the future direction and governance of Malvern Welcomes were discussed. Steps have been taken to formalise and strengthen the methods of communication between Management Team and the Family Support Group, with Minute sharing, and a Volunteer Bulletin.

Training for volunteers: Information regarding online Reset training, which is specifically aimed at those working in Community Sponsorship (CS) groups is regularly forwarded to volunteers. The training sessions are always of an excellent standard.

Ruth and Sally recently took part in a very thought-provoking session on racism. It is planned that a MW training session will be arranged with interested individuals at a later date.

Worcestershire Welcomes Refugees (WWR)

Ruth Forecast and Penny Bijl attended the meeting in March. Natasha White reported on the latest developments in Worcestershire.

Worcestershire's application to become a **County of Sanctuary** is proceeding well (see <https://cityofsanctuary.org> for more information about this initiative).

Malvern Welcomes newsletter. Many thanks to Alison Brough and Kate Gant for their hard work in producing the quarterly newsletter. It is always well received, and highlights the many activities that the group undertakes.

Various Events

- 1. Refugee Week - 17 - 23 June 2024**
On June 22, to mark Refugee Week, we had a stall in Church Street, Great Malvern, outside the entrance to Malvern Priory.
- 2. Trip to Barry island August 19th**
Another successful trip was organised, enjoyed by all, despite the weather.
- 3. Picnic on West Malvern Playing Fields July 28th**
A lovely afternoon, attended by the great majority of the families
- 4. Community Inspiration Awards, Birmingham September 20th**

Ruth, as lead for Malvern Welcomes since its inception, had been nominated for an award under the Public services category. She was awarded a very well-deserved '1st Runner Up' in that category. This is a great personal achievement and a credit to the whole Malvern Welcomes Team.

Ruth Forecast, Sharon Baker & Jane Stockley

On behalf of Malvern Welcomes Management Team, September 2024



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Malvern Welcomes

Charity Number
1174004

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
4/1/2023

To

Period end date
3/31/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grants	-	-	-	-	110
Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
Donations and memberships:		-	-	-	
Donations and Fund Raising	5,089			5,089	13,407
Membership	949			949	1,215
Appeals (10K Appeal)	-	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid Tax Recovery	706	-	-	706	2,282
New Family payments (Home Office)	2,617			2,617	-
Reimbursement of various expenses	485	-	-	485	1,795
Rebate from Wealden Leisure	-	-	-	-	
Returnable house deposit returned	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	9,845	-	-	9,845	18,809
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	9,845	-	-	9,845	18,809
A3 Payments					
Language Support and Translation		-	-	-	-
English Language (ESOL)	226			226	2,055
Translation	58			58	20
				-	
Family Support		-	-	-	
IT	34			34	1,012
Equipment	798			798	1,802
Health	-			-	749
Activities	1,027			1,027	4,528
Travel	2,813			2,813	2,986
Volunteer Support	-	-	-	-	-
New CS/ WCC Families Resettlement	14,936			14,936	809
Publications & Administration	2,320	-	-	2,320	1,906
Grants - for special one-off support	1,690	-	-	1,690	3,930
Sub total	23,902	-	-	23,902	19,797
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	23,902	-	-	23,902	19,797
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 14,057	-	-	- 14,057	- 988
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	39,348	-	-	39,348	40,336
Cash funds this year end	25,291	-	-	25,291	39,348

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	General Fund	25,291	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	25,291	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	