

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Number: 1178771

Buddhist Healthcare Chaplaincy Trust
Report and financial statements
for the year ended 31st December 2023

Contents:

- Reference and administrative information for the year ended 31st December 2023
- Trustees annual report for the year ended 31st December 2023
- Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure account) for the year ended 31st December 2023

Reference and administrative information for the year ended 31st December 2023

Charity number 1178771

Registered office and operational address

Buddhist Healthcare Chaplaincy Trust,
5 Ainslie Street
Ulverston
LA12 7JE

Trustees

Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

Satyamegha Kate Hunt, Chair
Steve Johnson, Secretary
Satyin Taylor
Amitasuri Yule

Bankers

Triodos Bank UK,
Deanery Road,
Bristol BS1 5AS

Trustees annual report for the year ended 31st December 2023

Trustees of the Buddhist Healthcare Chaplaincy Trust (BHCT) present their report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Reference and administrative information set out on page 2 forms part of this report. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies complying with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102(effective March 2018)).

Objectives and activities

Objects of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation

To advance Buddhism for the public benefit by promoting the role of Buddhist Healthcare Chaplaincy by:

1. Training and education of Healthcare Staff, including Chaplains of all faiths and those of secular beliefs, regarding the role and contribution of Buddhism, Meditation and Mindfulness, in Health and Social Care.
2. The provision of Buddhist Healthcare Chaplaincy Services to hospitals, hospices, community and other healthcare services throughout the United Kingdom, working with opportunities to enhance healthcare outcomes.
3. The provision of Buddhist and Interfaith education, dialogue and discourse through workshops, seminars, public lectures and through electronic and print media and contributing towards healthcare chaplaincy policy and best practice.
4. Networking and development of a supportive community for those interested in Buddhist Healthcare Chaplaincy, including but not limited to offering membership services, conferences, endorsement, mediation and dispute resolution, supervision and mentoring.

Achievements and performance

The charity's main activities are described below. All of its charitable activities are undertaken to further the Buddhist Healthcare Chaplaincy Trusts' charitable purposes for the public benefit.

Objective 1 - Training and Education

- We continue to support the 'Starting Out in Healthcare Chaplaincy' taster courses run by the Network for Pastoral, Spiritual and Religious Care in Health (NPSRCH) of which the BHCT is an active member. Having agreed to focus on specialist post introductory training we have identified a number of activities which can be offered face to face and in the post covid environment, as online using platforms such as Zoom, Meet and Teams. Our plan is to make these more accessible and affordable. Our aim is to eventually offer a range of short courses suitable for Continuous Professional

Development (CPD) purposes. These will be open to chaplains of all faiths and none. Work on identification, design and delivery of courses is ongoing, however delivery is on hold while the new NHS Chaplaincy guidelines are adopted and their implications reviewed alongside the introduction of a portfolio route for chaplains seeking membership of the United Kingdom Board of Healthcare Chaplaincy (UKBHC). Our aim being to ensure that whatever programmes are offered they contribute to and are acceptable for inclusion in achievement of UKBHC registration via the portfolio route

- The original plan to build on the 'Tools for Chaplaincy' course was abandoned as the European Buddhist Union have used this to offer a free programme linked to a university and funded by a grant.

Objective 2 - Provision of services

- The provision of services continues to be affected by the impact of the SARS-COVID-19 virus. While NHS Trusts are removing restrictions on chaplaincy volunteers other healthcare providers such as hospices have restricted and even removed chaplaincy posts. This, alongside the removal of the requirement for endorsement by NHS Scotland, has influenced the demand for endorsement, with fewer applications, including for renewal. It also means that budgets for training and development have been restricted.
- We have though continued the endorsement of prospective and existing Buddhist chaplains. Our endorsement process has been designed at two levels and links to a redesigned membership structure introduced this year. The key categories of membership are:
 - Associate, for those new to chaplaincy or those Buddhists involved in healthcare but not actively involved in delivery of chaplaincy services.
 - Full, for those who have gained skills and experience in Buddhist chaplaincy and endorsed by their tradition and workplace referees.

Objective 3 - Education and Dialogue

- Our main avenue of communication is via our website (www.buddhisthealthcare.org.uk) and social media, including our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/buddhisthealthcare). In addition we have contributed to and supported a number of publications raising awareness of Buddhist perspectives in healthcare. All publications are available in pdf form on our website.

Objective 4 - Networking and Development

- We continued our involvement with the Network of Buddhist Organisations, including presenting a report at the Annual General Meeting.
- We are an active member of the Network for Pastoral, Spiritual and Religious Care in Health (NPSRCH) and Trustees attended online and face to face meetings in London. Our membership provides the opportunity to influence the development of chaplaincy

services including the forthcoming NHS Guidelines. It also allows us to contribute to the supervision of NHS recruitment policies and practices.

Beneficiaries of our services

Ultimately the true beneficiaries of our services are the staff and patients within the healthcare settings who are supported by Buddhist Healthcare Chaplains offering Pastoral, Spiritual and Religious Care and aiming to contribute towards better healthcare outcomes for all. However we believe that encouraging the growth of Buddhist Healthcare Chaplaincy can have a major effect on the whole field of Chaplaincy across the UK and will work with others to promote this.

Financial review

Principal funding sources

Having decided to hold the delivery of training courses pending external developments and review, our income during 2023 was solely based on donations towards the provision of Endorsement services. It is intended that training and endorsement streams will grow in the coming years and the Trustees recognise the importance of promoting these.

How expenditure has supported key objectives

The BHCT subscribed to membership of the national umbrella organisation for Buddhist traditions - the Network of Buddhist Organisations (NBO).

The main administrative expenses occur in:

- Maintaining a register of Endorsed Chaplains, including gathering and reviewing references and written submissions for endorsement.
- Paying travel expenses for those attending networking meetings, committee meetings, training events and conferences.
- Maintaining and developing our online presence as a means of marketing, communication and knowledge sharing

The BHCT have no full-time staff.

Recognising the move to a donation based income, the Trustees committed to reducing expenditure. This has been achieved primarily through the reduction in admin expenses from £6655 to £1048.

Reserves policy

The board recognises the importance of ensuring that sufficient reserves are retained to maintain adequate working capital to fund operational activity, to provide for unseen circumstances and to invest in the development of the charity. We continue to work to establish sustainable funding streams for the future.

The Trustees consider that the bank account reflects a reasonable financial position for the present circumstances.

Public Benefit

The charity has due regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Plans

BHCT plans to continue to train new individuals and promote activities for existing individuals working as volunteers or paid staff in healthcare settings. Future plans include:

- further raising the profile of Healthcare Chaplaincy within the Buddhist community
- increasing the impact on Healthcare Chaplaincy of a greater contribution from those with Buddhist backgrounds.

Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered on 13th May 2018. The Trust was established under a memorandum of association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its articles of association.

The Trustees, their nomination and appointment

The BHCT is a CIO governed by its Constitution. BHCT trustees are responsible for the decisions made in running the BHCT. The board keeps the skills requirements for the trustee body under review. New trustees may be sought by open advertisement or through a dialogue with candidates. The ultimate decision on selection is a matter for the board of trustees. When new trustees are appointed, they are given an introduction to the work of the charity and provided with information they need to fulfil their roles.

There is a simple nomination process for new trustees, to be voted onto the board of Trustees. Trustees may hold specific roles such as Chair, secretary, and treasurer and others as needed. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity. All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity as a Trustee. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in the accounts. Any paid work offered to a Trustee is subject to formal tender and contract approved by the other Trustees.

Risk management

Consistent with the size of the charity, the trustees review any major risks to which the charity might be exposed and establish systems and procedures to mitigate those risks. The Trustees are of the opinion that the reserves and known subsequent income are sufficient for at least short to medium term financial requirements.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provision of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

The trustees' annual report has been approved by the Trustees on 29 July 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Signed



Dr. Stephen Johnson
Secretary

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st December 2023

BUDDHIST HEALTHCARE CHAPLAINCY TRUST - BALANCE SHEET

January 1st 2023-December 31st 2023

BALANCE	TOTAL
Opening Balance	3972.10
Income	50
Expenditure	1048.11
Closing Balance	2973.99

INCOME

Donations
(endorsement) 50

50

EXPENDITURE

Administration costs

Web Domain	227.88
Web maintenance	240

Legal and professional fees

Training Consultancy	0
----------------------	---

Property Costs

Rent and rates	0
Venue hire	50

General administrative expenses

Travel and accommodation	328.93
Bank charges	1.30
Subscriptions (NBO)	200.00

1048.11
