



ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the period 1st January to 31st December, 2020.

1. Reference and Administrative Information

Charity name: Budleigh Syrian Community Sponsorship

Charity registration number: 1179848

Charity Address: 15 Stoneborough Lane, Budleigh Salterton, Devon EX9 6HL

Trustees:

The Trustees during this reporting period and at the time of the signature of this report are the charity's first Trustees:

Joanna Elisabeth Cant – Chair

Robert Nicholas Marshall – Fundraising Co-ordinator (resigned Jan 31st, 2021 prior to this report being prepared)

Rachel Julia Crosby – Secretary

Sean Philip Crosby – Treasurer

2. Structure Governance and Management

The Charity is established as a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) and governed by a Constitution. It has a minimum of three and maximum of seven Trustees. During this period there were four Trustees.

As per the Constitution, apart from the first charity trustees, every new trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

The charity trustees manage the affairs of the CIO and for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO.

3. Objectives and Activities

Objects

The objects of the Budleigh Syrian Community Sponsorship as set out in our Constitution

are:

- To relieve poverty amongst those seeking asylum and those granted refugee status living in the Budleigh Salterton area by providing interpreting/translating/advocacy/health/housing advice and cultural guidance, and any other assistance required to advance them in life and support them to adapt, settle and live independently within their new community;
- To advance the education of the public in general about the issues relating to refugees and those seeking asylum.

Strategic Objectives

To ensure we fulfil our objects we designed a two-year strategy (2018-2020) with four key objectives:

1. To engage and equip sufficient community members to start and successfully run a Community Sponsorship Project in Budleigh Salterton
2. To raise the funds required to sponsor refugee families under the Community Sponsorship Programme
3. To become officially recognised as a Community Sponsorship Group by the Home Office
4. To welcome and support refugee families to settle in Budleigh Salterton

Activities

During this reporting period we focused on the first two strategic objectives and made good progress towards the third objective. The activities we undertook to achieve the objectives included:

Engaging the community/Equipping community members

- Holding community meetings and recruiting volunteers
- Holding regular meetings of the housing and education working parties
- Advancing awareness of the local public about the situation of refugees and the planned sponsorship through regular newsletters and facebook page
- On 1 Feb 2020 RESET came and did training for 30 volunteers. This is the basic training required by the Home Office.
- On 12th March 2020 we held a meeting with about 15 volunteers to develop agreed ways of working and for volunteers to get to know one another
- With the various lockdowns that came into effect from 24th March 2020 we had to suspend our community engagement and face to face meetings. The resettlement programme was also put on hold.

Raising funds as required as part of the government vulnerable people's resettlement

scheme

- As a result of all the fundraising activities conducted in 2019 and other on-going donations, we had already fully achieved the minimum target of £9000 needed to qualify to be a sponsorship group.

Recognition as a Community Sponsorship Group by the Home Office

- We submitted our application for approval in principle on 28th January, 2020
- We were interviewed, as part of the pre-approval process, by the Home Office on 4th March, 2020. Unfortunately, lockdown and the suspension of the resettlement scheme means that it was not until 6th December, 2020 that we were able to submit our application for full approval.

Public Benefit

As we planned, implemented and reviewed the activities for the year, the Trustees considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The Trustees feel that we have ensured that the activities undertaken have engaged well with the local community (within the limits imposed by the COVID-19 lockdowns and restrictions) and provided ample opportunities for them to be involved and to learn from the activities in line with our charitable objects.

Volunteers

There continues to be enthusiasm for supporting the project and the charity has a list of volunteers who will be involved with the preparations to welcome and supporting the family once they arrive. Two of the volunteers have also agreed to share the role of volunteer co-ordinator. This has ensured that we structure the volunteering carefully, and that volunteer references are checked, and we track the training each person has had. This means that we will be better able to find the best fit for each of the volunteers with the roles available.

4. Achievements and Performance

In reviewing the year, the Trustees are pleased to report that despite the lockdown restrictions that were in place for many months, we have managed to keep the level of interest and engagement in the project. We have started the process of equipping the volunteers by holding the required training with RESET (just prior to the first lockdown). We kept people informed of the situation with the resettlement programme. We also met (virtually) with our newly elected MP to explain the programme and to request his support in encouraging the Home Office to re-open the resettlement programme. He was very positive and followed up with a letter to the Home Office. It has been a big achievement to maintain the interest and commitment of sufficient people to ensure that we can welcome a family in 2021.

In terms of the second objective of raising the funds required to sponsor refugee families under the Community Sponsorship Programme, we had already reported in 2019 that we have reached the target required by the Home Office of £4,500/adult (total of £9,000). We were unable to carry out significant fundraising during the year due to Covid restrictions.

In terms of our third objective which is to become officially recognised as a Community Sponsorship Group by the Home Office, we also made progress in 2020. Our application has been approved in principle. We have now obtained commitment from the Salvation Army in Exmouth that they will make a house available for a resettled family in 2021. We should be able to achieve our fourth objective of welcoming a family by the end of 2021.

By the end of the reporting period we had also identified a potential house for the family and are working on securing it so that we can submit our community sponsorship application to the Home Office in early 2020.

5. Financial Review

The charity has been successful to date in its fundraising efforts and has exceeded the minimum threshold required in order to proceed with lodging an application with the UK Home Office to bring a Syrian refugee family to the UK. Although the minimum is exceeded, the trustees believe that additional funds will be required and therefore fundraising efforts will resume in 2021 to ensure there are sufficient funds available.

A copy of the FRS SORP 102 accounts required to be submitted to Charities Commission is included in Annex 1 for further information.

Policy on reserves

The policy of the charity is to retain £2,000.00 as a reserve against unforeseen financial circumstances. The trustees consider this provides an adequate protection against potential issues which might arise. These reserves may only be released with the written agreement of a simple majority of the trustees (i.e. a minimum of three trustees).

The charity holds these reserves as part of the main bank account. No separate account is maintained for this purpose.

This policy is subject to review every six months and may be amended to reflect the evolving circumstances of the charity.

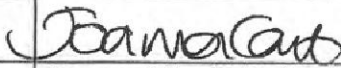

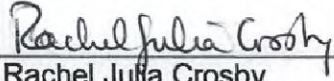
No funds are in deficit.

6. Funds held as Custodian Trustee

The charity does not hold any funds as a Custodian Trustee.

7. Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signature				
Full Name	Joanna Elizabeth Cant	Sean Philip Crosby	Rachel Julia Crosby	
Position	Chair	Treasurer	Secretary	
Date	2 March 2021	2 March 2021	02/03/2021	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Budleigh-Syrian Community Sponsortship

1179848

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/01/2020

To

31/12/2020

Section A Receipts and payments

	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					
Donations	1,728	-	-	1,728	12,517
Gift Aid	317	-	-	317	438
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	2,045	-	-	2,045	12,955
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	2,045	-	-	2,045	12,955
A3 Payments					
Rental of meeting rooms	69	-	-	69	207
Preparation & Printing of materials	-	-	-	-	185
Insurance	84	-	-	84	84
DBS checks for volunteers/trustees	20	-	-	20	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	173	-	-	173	476
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	173	-	-	173	476
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,873	-	-	1,873	12,478
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	1,873	-	-	1,873	12,478

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	Lloyds Bank Account	13,596	-	-
	Gift Aid to reclaim	755	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	14,351	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			

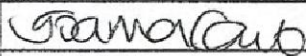
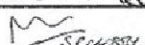
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets			-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	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
	Joanna Cant	24/02/21
	Philip Crosby	13/02/2021