

ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS



The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the period 1st January to 31st December 2022.

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 were:

Joanna Elisabeth Cant – Chair

Rachel Julia Crosby – Secretary

Sean Philip Crosby – Treasurer

Julia Robb – appointed 26 February 2021 for 3 year period

Penny Harris – appointed 26 February 2021 for 3 year period

Siobhan Canham – appointed 15th December 2021 for three year period

Rachel Crosby resigned 31st December 2022

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 a maximum of seven Trustees. During this period there were six 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 the 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 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) which we extended to 2022, 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 the Budleigh Salterton area.

Activities

After we joined CHARIS, (a charity with experience of Community sponsorship based in Taunton), our application was accepted by the Home Office, and we began preparing the house and the garden for the family's arrival in April 2022. To meet the CHARIS safeguarding requirements meant all the volunteers had to do extra safeguarding training. We have continued with regular sessions & support from CHARIS

Support for the family during this period has included:

Meeting at the Airport on 5th April with Arif, an Arabic speaker
Informing and implementing benefits & signing housing contract
Liaising with the schools & settling children into schools
Registering the parents for their English classes in Exeter
Accompanying them to their classes until they felt able to travel on their own
Many hospital appointments, health checks & dental appointments. Both parents have significant health issues so these are ongoing
Visits to the job centre
Social events and trips: to Escot house, the beach, Woodbury castle, shops, to purchase school uniform
Support for Lana at Primary school initially, support for Lien in nursery until she had settled.
Supporting Zohir as he started at secondary school.
Informal English classes for both parents to supplement formal lessons.
Facilitating Lana's transferal to Secondary school Autumn 2022
Lien starting in reception.
Mohamad starting a part time job in a local mobile phone shop.
Supporting Mohamad to take his Theory driving Test
Supporting him as he works towards his practical driving test
Swimming lessons for the children

Public Benefit

As we planned, implemented and reviewed the activities for the year, the Trustees considered the Charity commissions' guidance on public benefit. The Trustees feel that we have ensured that the activities undertaken have engaged well with the local community and provided ample opportunities for them to be involved and to learn from the activities in line with our charitable objects.

Volunteers

We had a group of approximately 25 volunteers actively engaged in the charity's work initially. They participated in the various training to prepare for the arrival of the family plus the extra layer of safeguarding required when we came under the umbrella of CHARIS. They contributed time and energy to preparing the house, the upkeep of the garden, moving furniture, contacting schools, the medical centre and dentists. The work of the volunteers was co-ordinated by two of the Trustees jointly and this has worked very well. We felt we had sufficient volunteers to provide a good initial network of support to the family and to help them to become independent and active in their new community.

For various reasons the number of volunteers has dwindled as the year has progressed. Partly because of the length of time that elapsed between the initial application to the Home Office, the pause due to Covid, then a further delay as we moved under the umbrella of CHARIS. For various personal reasons some volunteers have also dropped out due to ill health or commitments changing. The main support for the family has come from the core Trustees plus about a dozen volunteers.

4. Achievements and Performance

In reviewing the year, the Trustees are pleased that after a very long delay and suspension of the Community Sponsorship programme due to Covid we could finally welcome the family on 5th April 2022. It has been a big achievement to maintain the momentum and to keep most of the initial volunteers on board (as well as expanding the pool to include more who lived in Exmouth). There continues to be a positive rapport amongst the volunteers. We have also been delighted by the support given by the schools and medical personnel to support the family. There have been a lot of medical issues especially for the parents.

In terms of the second objective of raising the funds required to sponsor refugee families under the Community Sponsorship Programme, we consolidated the funds available and had more than the minimum £9,000 required by the Home Office so we did not undertake any major fundraising as we feel we have sufficient funds available to support the family.

In terms of our third objective this was fully achieved when we linked with CHARIS as our principal sponsor, we have built an extra layer of support, information and back stopping if there are any challenges where we need additional support. The Project Manager had regular sessions with CHARIS to share any concerns.

Our focus for 2023 will be to continue to stand alongside the family and support them while also gradually reducing our support so they can become more independent.

5. Financial Review

The charity has been successful to date in its fundraising efforts and now has sufficient funds in place to support the family. A copy of the FRS SORP 102 accounts is required to be submitted to the Charities Commission and will be included in Annex 1 for further information.

Policy on reserves

The policy of the charity is to retain £2,000 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. 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 they have approved the Trustees report above.

Penny Harris

Date

P. F. Harris

4. 10. 23

Julia Robb

Date

Julia Robb

05/10/23

Siobhan Canham

Date

Siobhan Canham

5-10-23

Phil Crosby

Date

Phil Crosby

*4th
October
2023*

Joanna Cant

Date

Joanna Cant

4th Oct 2023



Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/01/2022


To

31/12/2022

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Previous Years
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	620	-	-	620	15.706
Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	847
Homeoffice via Charis for Family training	1.700	-	-	1.700	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	2.320	-	-	2.320	16.553
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	2.320	-	-	2.320	16.553
A3 Payments					
Rental of meeting rooms	-	-	-	-	276
Preparation & Printing of materials	-	-	-	-	185
Insurance	84	-	-	84	252
DBS checks for volunteers/trustees	20	-	-	20	218
Purchase of laptop for project/family use	-	-	-	-	279
Removals of furniture	40	-	-	40	60
Training for volunteers	-	-	-	-	270
Preparation of House & Garden	482	-	-	482	-
CHARIS administration fee	750	-	-	750	-
Translation Services	1.825	-	-	1.825	-
Transport from Airport on Arrival	977	-	-	977	-
Cash Support to family	2.000	-	-	2.000	-
Housing rent & deposit	840	-	-	840	-
Essential family medical & dental aid	615	-	-	615	-
Swimming lessons for children	100	-	-	100	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	7.732	-	-	7.732	1.540
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	7.732	-	-	7.732	1.540
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 5.412	-	-	- 5.412	15.013
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	- 5.412	-	-	- 5.412	15.013

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	8,754	-	-
	Gift Aid to reclaim	847	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	9,601	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets			-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Sean Philip Crosby	11/04/2023	