

# ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

## 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 & 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 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**Marion Ley – appointed 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

## 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. The 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, 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

Training volunteers and meeting the CHARIS safeguarding requirements which meant all the volunteers had to do extra safeguarding training.

We have continued with regular sessions & support with CHARIS

## **Support for the family during this period has included:**

Informing and implementing benefits. Chasing child benefits

Many hospital appointments and health checks. Both parents have significant health issues so these are ongoing. Arranging dental checkups and treatments for each member of the family.

Visits to the job centre

Informal English classes for both parents to supplement formal lessons

We supported Mohamad as he started a part time job in a local mobile phone shop and then supporting him when the job finished

Supporting Mohamad to take his Theory driving Test and supporting him as he worked towards his practical test. He has now passed his practical driving test.

Swimming lessons for the children & transporting them to the lessons

We had a one year celebration party that a number of the volunteers and two other Syrian families attended

Julia undertook safeguarding training to take over from Rachel when she left the Trustees.

The family have gradually become more independent. They are now able to contact the landlord directly themselves about any issues & manage their own finances. Walaa has passed her theory test. She has started volunteering in a Charity shop which she enjoys.

We have suggested various volunteering opportunities for Mohamad, but none have suited him to date. Mohamad has registered for a GCSE in Maths course

## **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**

The main support for the family has come from the core Trustees plus Brian Harris who has given excellent advice on benefits and liaised with the Job centre. David Wright, a friend, has given Mohamad driving practise. A local Syrian family, who settled in Exmouth five years ago, under another scheme have also given excellent support.



#### **4. Achievements and Performance**

In reviewing the year, the Trustees are pleased that the family are making good progress to settle in Exmouth and to life in the UK. The children particularly are thriving at school and flourishing. It has been harder for the parents to learn English and to become part of the community. 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 has been to continue to stand alongside the family and support them while also gradually reducing our support so they have become more independent. This is being achieved. As our formal relationship comes to an end we will continue to support the family as friends. When they have to move from their current address, they will need help and support to find another property. The Salvation Army only promised the accommodation for two years after which they will eventually need the property back for the leader of their church in Exmouth.

#### **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 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.

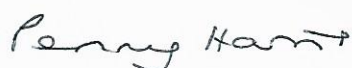
No funds are in deficit.

#### **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**

29.9.24

**Date**

Julia Robb

Julia Robb.

Date

07/10/24.

Siobhan Canham

Siobhan Canham

Date

29/9/24.

Phil Crosby

Phil Crosby

Date

29/9/24

Marion Ley

Marion Ley

Date

29/9/24

Joanna Cant

Joanna Cant

Date

29/9/24



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Budleigh-Syrian Community Sponsortship

1179848

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

01/01/2023

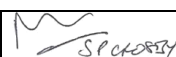
To

31/12/2023

### 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 £	Previous Years to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations	40	-	-	40	16.326
Gift Aid		-	-	-	847
Home Office via Charis for Family Training	-	-	-	-	1.700
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	40	-	-	40	18.873
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	40	-	-	40	18.873
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Rental of meeting rooms		-	-	-	276
Preparation & Printing of materials		-	-	-	185
Insurance	84	-	-	84	336
DBS checks for volunteers/trustees	10	-	-	10	238
Purchase of laptop for project/family use		-	-	-	279
Removals of furniture		-	-	-	100
Training for volunteers		-	-	-	270
Preparation of House & Garden		-	-	-	482
CHARIS Administration Fee		-	-	-	750
Translation Services	96	-	-	96	1.825
Transport from Airport on Arrival		-	-	-	977
Cash Support to Family		-	-	-	2.000
Housing Rent & Deposit	250	-	-	250	840
Essential family medical and dental aid	338	-	-	338	615
Swimming lessons for children		-	-	-	100
Driving lessons	2.216			2.216	
Documentation for Citizenship Application	2.000			2.000	
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	4.994	-	-	4.994	9.272
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total payments</b>	4.994	-	-	4.994	9.272
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	- 4.954	-	-	- 4.954	9.601
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	- 4.954	-	-	- 4.954	9.601

## 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 £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Lloyds Bank Account	3.800	-	-
	Gift Aid to reclaim	847	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>4.647</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>			-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Philip Crosby	22/08/2024	