

BETTER LIVING

England & Wales · Charity number 1181947

Details

Other names	THE "THEA" PROJECT
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2019-02-08
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address 21 Rectory Lane
Ashted
Surrey
KT21 2BA

Phone 07786296163

Email m466ie@aol.com

Website betterlivingcio.org

Activities

Objects: THE RELIEF OF THOSE IN NEED, BY REASON OF DISABILITY OR AGE.

Activities: Our purpose is to enhance the lives of some of society's most vulnerable people - the elderly and adults with severe learning disabilities - by creating unique combined residential opportunities and linking them with extensive leisure facilities which will be shared with the local community - thus eliminating their isolation and demonstrating an entirely new way of providing care.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Disability, Economic/community Development/employment, Recreation, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Surrey

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-11-30		£138	£0	-
2023-11-30		£0	£0	-
2022-11-30		£677	£242	-
2021-11-30		£0	£243	-
2020-11-30		£0	£87	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
GRAHAM HOWAT	Chair	2019-02-04
FREDRICK EDWARD WATSON		2019-02-04
HOWARD GIBSON GILBERT		2019-02-04
NIGEL LAURENCE GILBERT		2019-02-04

BETTER LIVING

England & Wales - Charity number 1181947

Accounts



“BETTER LIVING”

A New Concept in Care for the Vulnerable

TRUSTEES MEETING

6.30pm – Monday 8th September 2025

Venue – 16 Woodfield Avee, Ashtead

AGENDA

1. Welcome & Apologies
2. Chairman’s Report - Graham
3. Coordinator’s Report - Maggie
4. Treasurer’s Report -
5. Date for next meeting
6. Any other business

Charitable Incorporated Organisation Registration Number: 1181947

www.betterlivingcio.org

[email: m466ie.6@gmail.com](mailto:m466ie.6@gmail.com) – [tel: 07786 296163](tel:07786296163)

1. Welcome & Apologies:

There being no apologies, Graham welcomed all Trustees present

2. Chairman's Report

Graham admitted that this has been a disappointing year, as none of the leads which had been followed has resulted in the premises the Charity would need to be successful, and it is important that premises acquired would be sufficiently suitable to ensure that they could adequately provide all that the Charity aims to cover.

Nevertheless, Maggie is currently pursuing meetings with councillors from Mole Valley Council regarding a massive new development on land near the Exxon Mobil site in Ashted. It is to be hoped that this line might prove successful, and I will let Maggie provide more information of this.

It has been good to see everyone again, and extremely useful to have the benefit of video connections with travelling proving so difficult for everyone these days!

3. Coordinator's Report

Maggie agreed with Graham how disappointing it had been during the year that so many connections had proved unsuccessful, and confirmed that many links with other organisations had also failed to develop in the way hoped. Nevertheless, this was understandable, as none had sufficiently large premises to ensure success, and it is important that the national exemplar is excellent.

There has been a fairly recent development mooted just on the outskirts of Ashted where there is an absolutely massive field on which it is intended to build a very large number of houses. Local people have declared that it would be important to build an activity centre within the development as it is so large. If an activity centre is to be custom-built amongst a very large number of new residential properties, then it **may** be possible to persuade the council to attach a residential care building on either side of the centre, which could become our exemplar!

I have endeavoured to contact two councillors who are involved in the development committee, but currently without success. It is to be hoped that this is simply due to holidays etc, and I shall continue to pursue these contacts as I believe this to be our best opportunity to date, and will keep all in touch with any progress.

4. Treasurer's Report

As any expenses incurred throughout the year have been met by the Trustees, there has been no activity in our bank account during the year, Consequently, the balance continues to be £138.74.

5. Date for Next Meeting

Graham suggested that it may be better to wait until there was more to discuss before arranging the next meeting. This was agreed by all, so the next meeting will not be arranged at this time.

6. Any other business

There being no further business at this time, the meeting was closed.



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01-12-23 Period start date To 30-11-24 Period end date

Charity name: BETTER LIVING CIO

Charity registration number: 1181947

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The relief of those in need by reason of disability or age
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The primary consideration before any activities can be carried out is for the Charity to acquire premises in which to operate. Regrettably, we have been unable to secure any appropriate vacant premises to date, nor have any negotiations with government departments and other charities proved successful as yet, although it is hoped that some may prove successful in the future.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	We can confirm that the trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit at all times. This will, of course, become more appropriate when the Charity is in a position to begin to operate.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	All work is carried out on a voluntary basis, and donations have been made voluntarily by concerned individuals.
Other		None

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	When fully operational the Charity will provide very considerable benefits to both beneficiary groups and also the community at large – through ad hoc social interaction, petting animals, opportunities for volunteering; entertainments, free health and beauty opportunities and opportunities to use their skills such as gardening ; maintenance etc. There will also be potential reduction in care costs. We are, therefore, greatly looking forward to becoming operational.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	As mentioned, it has not yet been possible to acquire appropriate premises, but we continue to cultivate existing contacts, and to make relevant new ones,
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	Not applicable at this time
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Not applicable at this time
Other		None

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Balance at start of period £138.74 Expenditure during the period nil Balance at the end of the period £138.74
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	None
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	At present none required
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Not applicable
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	Not applicable

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	To date, all funds have come from kind individual donations from interested parties, which have been sufficient to cover minimal seed funding requirements.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	Not applicable at this time
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The Charity cannot operate without appropriate premises, so if no premises can be secured, or partners with premises secured, then the Charity can only spread its concept to those working with the disabled and the elderly.
Other		None

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		Not applicable
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<p>The Charity commenced with 5 Trustees, but have sadly lost one through illness (Richard Rapazzini). However, we have been most fortunate to attract a new Trustee (Jonell Rowe), and are back to 5.</p> <p>All 5 Trustees have been Enhanced DBS checked, as has the voluntary Coordinator.</p> <p>No individual has specific entitlement to appoint new Trustees/ If interest is shown by an individual, it would be a joint decision of all the Trustees to agree a new appointment.</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	Some of the Trustees have served as Trustees for other Charities in the past, so already have experience. All are mature business people and are fully aware of their responsibilities. All have had enhanced DBS checks, and all are well-known to the others.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	<p>The Charity meets more frequently via the internet due to business commitments and travelling requirements.</p> <p>The Charity is a member of several national organisations, and networks with many others, but continues to be independent.</p>
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Whilst the Charity has membership of national organisations such as National Voices, the Kings Fund etc., and a close relationship with Housing LIN, the memberships are not intrusive or demanding on the Charity.
Other		None

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
NONE Not Applicable		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
NONE Not applicable		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None Not Applicable
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	Not Applicable
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	Not Applicable

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
General – Voluntary Coordinator	Maggie Gilbert	21 Rectory Lane, Ashtead, Surrey KT21 2BA

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Maggie Gilbert – Voluntary Coordinator
--

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Not applicable – Key personnel details provided

Other optional information

None

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

--	--

Full name(s)

Howard Gibson Gilbert

Howard Gibson Gilbert	
-----------------------	--

Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)

Secretary

Secretary	
-----------	--

Date

10th September 1925

10 th September 1925

BETTER LIVING

England & Wales - Charity number 1181947

Accounts

Trustees' annual report

CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Period start date 01-12-2022

Period end date 30-11-2023

Charity name: BETTER LIVING CIO

Charity No: 1181947

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the Charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The relief of those in need by reason of disability or age
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The primary consideration before any activities can be carried out is for the Charity to acquire premises in which to operate. Unfortunately, the pandemic has made it impossible to acquire unused statutory premises, and also impossible to bring people together socially, and although we have explored alternative premises, none have been appropriate to date. We are therefore continuing to explore the possibility of sharing premises with relevant Care providers.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit		We can confirm that the trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit at all times. This will, of course, become more appropriate when the Charity is in a position to begin to operate

Additional Information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:.....

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	All work is carried out on a voluntary basis and donations have been made voluntarily by concerned individuals
Other		None

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the Charity, identifying the difference the Charity's work has and any wider benefits to society as a whole made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries	Para 1.20	When operational, the Charity will provide very considerable benefits to both beneficiary groups and also the community at large, including ad hoc social interaction; entertainments; petting animals; opportunities to use their skills such as gardening etc; free health treatments etc. There will also be innumerable opportunities for volunteering, and potential reduction in care costs. We are therefore greatly looking forward to becoming operational

Additional Information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:.....

	SORP reference	
Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	As mentioned, the pandemic has made our primary objective of obtaining premises impossible to achieve at present, so we have therefore used the opportunity to make contacts in relevant organisations and spread our concept to others working in the field of Care for the disabled and the elderly
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	Not applicable
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Not applicable
Other		None

Financial Review

	SORP reference																					
Review of the Charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<table> <tr> <td><u>Balance at start of period</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;">434.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Expenditure during period</u></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant/trust directory</td> <td style="text-align: right;">150.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Printing</td> <td style="text-align: right;">58.65</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Printing</td> <td style="text-align: right;">60.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reimbursed expenses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">72.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Total expenditure</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;">340.65</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">93.74</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Income during period</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;">45.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Balance at end of period</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;">138.74</td> </tr> </table>	<u>Balance at start of period</u>	434.39	<u>Expenditure during period</u>		Grant/trust directory	150.00	Printing	58.65	Printing	60.00	Reimbursed expenses	72.00	<u>Total expenditure</u>	340.65		93.74	<u>Income during period</u>	45.00	<u>Balance at end of period</u>	138.74
<u>Balance at start of period</u>	434.39																					
<u>Expenditure during period</u>																						
Grant/trust directory	150.00																					
Printing	58.65																					
Printing	60.00																					
Reimbursed expenses	72.00																					
<u>Total expenditure</u>	340.65																					
	93.74																					
<u>Income during period</u>	45.00																					
<u>Balance at end of period</u>	138.74																					
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Not applicable																				
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	None																				
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	At present, only minimal seed funds are required and there are no paid staff																				
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Not applicable																				
Explanation of any uncertainties about the Charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	Not applicable																				

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:.....

	SORP reference	
The Charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	To date, all funds have come from kind donations by interested parties, which has been sufficient to cover minimal seed funding requirements
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	Not applicable at this time
A description of the principal risks facing the Charity	Para 1.46	The Charity cannot operate without premises, so if premises cannot be secured, or partners with premises located, then the Charity can only spread its concept to those working with the disabled and the elderly
Other		None

Structure, Governance and Management

	SORP reference	
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the Charity constituted? (eg unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated organisation CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustee	Para 1/25	<p>We commenced with five founding trustees, but have sadly lost one through illness. (Richard Rappazzini) However, we have been most fortunate to have attracted a new trustee (Jonell Rowe), and are back to five.</p> <p>All five trustees have been enhanced DBS checked, as has the voluntary coordinator</p> <p>No individual has specific entitlement to appoint new trustees. If interest is shown by an individual, it would be a joint decision of all trustees to agree a new appointment</p>

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:.....

	SORP reference	
Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	Some of the trustees have served as trustees for other charities in the past, so have experience. All are mature business people and are fully aware of their responsibilities. All have had enhanced DBS checks, and all are well-known to the others.
The Charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the Charity works	Para 1.51	The Charity met regularly before the pandemic, but subsequently have been obliged to communicate via the internet. The Charity is a member of several national organisations and networks with many others, but continues to be independent.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Whilst we have membership of national organisations such as National Voices, the Kings Fund etc, the memberships are not intrusive or demanding on the Charity. We also have close connections with Housing LIN, and it was through this connection that we received an invitation for two to a tea party at the House of Lords on 17 th May 2023
Other		None

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	BETTER LIVING CIO
Other name the Charity uses	None
Registered Charity Number	1181947
Charity's principal address	21 Rectory Lane, Ashtead, Surrey, KT21 2BA

Names of the Charity Trustees who manage the Charity

<u>Trustee name</u>	<u>Office (if any)</u>	<u>Dates acted if not for whole year</u>	<u>Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)</u>
GRAHAM HOWAT	CHAIRMAN	N/A	N/A
HOWARD GILBERT	SECRETARY	N/A	N/A
FRED WATSON	TREASURER	N/A	N/A
NIGEL GILBERT		N/A	N/A
JONELL ROWE		N/A	N/A

Reference and Administrative details

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
None – Not applicable		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
None – Not applicable	Not applicable	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None = Not applicable
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	Not applicable
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	Not applicable

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of advisor	Name	Address
General - Coordinator	Maggie Gilbert	21 Rectory Lane, Ashtead, Surrey, KT21 2BA

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Maggie Gilbert – Voluntary Coordinator

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Not applicable. Key personnel details provided

Other optional information

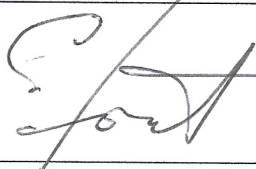
None

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

	
---	--

Full name(s)

GRAHAM	HOWAT.
--------	--------

Position (eg Secretary, Chair etc)

CHAIR.	
--------	--

Date

25/7/2024

BETTER LIVING

England & Wales - Charity number 1181947

Accounts



“BETTER LIVING”

A New Concept in Care for the Vulnerable

COORDINATOR’S REPORT – AUG - 2023

1: GENERAL:

1.1: Address:

Please note your records that from the 1st August 2022 my home address (and therefore also Better Living address) has changed from 1 Sir Abraham’s Cottages, Putney Bridge Road, London, SW15 2PR to the following: 21 Rectory Lane, Ashted, Surrey, KT21 2BA. There is no landline telephone number here, so all telephone contact must be by mobile (07786-296163). My previous email has also changed – from m466ie@aol.com to m466ie.6@gmail.com If necessary, please amend your contact details accordingly. Changes have been made on the website.

1.2: Trustees:

As you should all be aware, Richard Rappazzini had to resign as Trustee and also as Treasurer when he moved into residential care in Wandsworth, as he was no longer able to cope with either position.

Jonell Rowe kindly stepped into the breach as a Trustee, but then had to resign due to pressure of work and also the fact that he was having great difficulty organising his Enhanced DBS check on-line. He has, however, kindly stepped back up as a Trustee, and I have offered to assist him with the DBS checking system.

It has still been important to arrange to elect another Trustee as Honorary Treasurer, and Fred Watson has kindly agreed to step into this role. It is still important for him to arrange to visit the Metro Bank with Howard and Maggie to arrange for him to become a signatory. This has not been important to date as money has not been spent from the Charity account, but we like to hope it will become important in the not-too-distant future!

2. OTHER ORGANISATIONS:

2.1: Government:

My MP in Putney had changed to Fleur Anderson (Labour), and I had requested that she might put me in touch with Gillian Keegan – who was Minister of State for Health & Social Care at that time. However – nothing has happened from the request – possibly because the MP was Labour and the Government Conservative!

Consequently, on my move to Ashted where the MP is Mr Grayling (Conservative), it was hoped that contact might have been more successful.....but no! One has to wonder what these people are paid for!

2.2: National Voices

This over-arching charity encourages membership from voluntary and registered charities with the “strength in numbers” concept. Better Living continues to be a member even though I have stepped back considerably after the dreadful incident with one of their trustees last year. Nevertheless, if they are organising an on-line event which is of interest, I continue to attend.

2.3 Kings Fund

The Kings Fund organise many on-line events of interest – usually for considerable charges – but I generally manage to get free participation. It has, however, proved impossible to gain contact with any named individuals, but I will continue to try!

2.4 Golden Lane Housing

Based in Manchester, but with very similar aims to BL. CEO – John Verge. Another organisation with history of close contact with government organisations distributing grants for social housing – the kind of contacts we need!

2.5: Housing LIN - (Learning & Improvement Network)

I have continued our membership of Housing LIN as they organise so many really interesting on-line events which I have attended. In fact – attendance at one of these events entitled me to attend an afternoon tea-party at the House of Lords, and also to invite a guest to accompany me!!! Yes – I invited our Chairman to accompany me and Graham and I had a great time! It was at that event that we met representatives from Hallmark Care, and their CEO – Stephen Burke – has provided me with many contacts ever since!

Yes – I provided the 400 word blog that they requested. I do not think it was promoted as well as it could have been though as Better Living is not on either Twitter or Facebook.

I also asked Jeremy Porteus (their CEO) if I might be invited as a speaker at one of their on-line events, as numerous other members were also saying that the community is the answer. I was subsequently invited to do so, but then it transpired to be to discuss the success of the event to be held, and the event to be held was promoting independent living for adults with severe learning disabilities – something I totally disapprove of!!!! – and in addition it was to be held – live – in Sheffield!!!! Needless to say – I politely declined the offer!

Nevertheless, Jeremy contacted me by email recently, and invited to be a speaker at one of their webinars in the afternoon of Wednesday 25th October! Yes - I have accepted the offer and I will let you have details when I receive them.

2.6 Archbishop's Commission on Reimagining Care:

We were exciting when this Commission was launched and have contributed to it throughout its development. Our involvement also included meeting with Lead Lord Spiritual at the House of Lords, and the Archbishop of Guildford at his home. It is encouraging that the Church is sufficiently concerned about the poor standard of Care, that it has become involved. Subsequently, I have also spoken with leaders of my local church to see if there may be some help they can give.

3. Progress?

I confess to massive disappointment regarding “progress” for Better Living. Experience had led me to believe that we would be able to acquire unused premises from the NHS quite swiftly and go forward from there. However, with Covid striking almost as soon as we registered, all underused buildings were rapidly filled with people suffering from Covid and needing to remain in isolation! And even a few years down the line, things don't seem to have improved much!

OK – so we can't seem to find empty/under-used buildings – but we can find other organisations which are involved in custom-building homes for the disabled and the elderly, and also organisations which administer grants for these purposes – and are certainly working hard at making such contacts!

In addition, we can (and are!), working hard at making as many contacts as possible who are concerned in the poor standard of care..... so we are making some level of progress – I just wish it could be quicker! If anyone has more ideas or contacts they wish me to contact – please let me know!

I confess that the lack of premises has prevented me from making applications for funding at present, as we will need all the money we can get when we have a building to equip! As we all provide our energy and time for free and have no paid staff, it seemed best to wait for a while before making serious finance applications!

1. General

I just want to take this opportunity to thank you all for so kindly attending our numerous Zoom and Team meetings – you are too kind. It'll be great when we can re-commence face-to-face meetings without worrying! Meanwhile, wishing you and yours all the very best, and greatly looking forward to meeting up again in the near future!

Maggie x

Charitable Incorporated Organisation Registration Number: 1181947

www.betterlivingcio.org

[E-mail: m466ie.6@gmail.com](mailto:m466ie.6@gmail.com) – [Telephone: 020-9785-3922](tel:020-9785-3922)

BETTER LIVING

England & Wales - Charity number 1181947

Accounts

FOR THE CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT

Period start date 01-10-2020

Period end date 30-09-2021

Charity name: BETTER LIVING

Charity Number: 111947

Objectives and Activities

	SORP REF.	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The relief of those in need by reason of disability or age
Summary of the main in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts	Para 1.17 And 1.19	The primary consideration before any activities can be carried out is for the Charity to acquire premises in which to operate. The original intention was to acquire premises via the local PCTN – Surrey Heartlands – but this has been made impossible by the Corona Virus problems, as all premises are now totally in use. We have, therefore, explored alternative premises via the Methodist Church and local councils, but none have been appropriate to date. We are currently exploring the possibility of private premises in the Epsom area, and also council properties via the Chairman of Headley Parish Council.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.	Para1.18	We can confirm that the Trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit at all times. This will, of course, become more appropriate when the Charity is in a position to begin to operate.

Additional Information

	SORP REF.	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Not applicable at this stage
Other		None

Achievements and Performance

	SORP REF.	
Summary of the main achievements of the Charity, identifying the difference the Charity's work has made to the circumstances of the beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole/	Para 1.20	<p>As stated above, the impact of the Corona Virus has made it impossible for us to secure premises to date, and in addition, has made it illegal to draw people together for community involvement at this time. Consequently, research on appropriate premises continues, and in addition, many contacts have been made, creating support for our concepts, and there has been participation in relevant conferences – the majority, virtual – notably with The Kings Fund; National Voices, and the Annual Public Meeting for the Charity Commission.</p> <p>Significant contacts made last year have been maintained and increased, and we have initiated and participated in virtual discussions with Care providing professionals and MP's, as well as visited and made enquiries about potentially suitable sites.</p> <p>We continue to be members of National Voices, participating in their virtual Policy Meetings, and have volunteered to join their Board as a Trustee.</p> <p>If some of our concepts are adopted by the government – as we hope they will be – they will make a significant difference to society as a whole, and to our potential beneficiaries in particular.</p>

Additional Information

	SORP REF.	
Achievements against objects set	Para 1.41	As stated, the pandemic has made it impossible to realise our principal objectives this year, so the opportunity has been taken to spread our concept and create good links with relevant organisations and significant contacts.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	Fundraising activities have not been appropriate at this stage. We have been most fortunate to receive sufficient donations from concerned contacts to cover basic administrative requirements, and all involved to date provide their experience and expertise on a voluntary basis.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Not applicable

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of Charity's trusts	SORP REF.	
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the Charity constituted (eg unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions eg election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees.	Para 1.25	<p>There continues to be the five founding trustees, all of whom have a particular interest in the Aims of the Charity and have a wide range of skills to offer it. All have been (enhanced) DBS checked.</p> <p>We have been most fortunate to have attracted a new trustee – Jonell Rowe – who is a TV Assistant Director, and private film maker – and is currently undergoing the enhanced DBS check, as this was not possible through the Volunteer Bureau a few months ago.</p>

Additional Information

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP REF.	
Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1,51	Some of the trustees have served as trustees for other charities in the past. All are mature business people and are fully aware of their responsibilities. All have had enhanced DBS checks (with the exception of Jonell Rowe – see above), and all have been provided with the DSC Trustee handbook.
The Charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the Charity works	Para 1.51	The Charity is managed by the Trustees, who met regularly before the pandemic, but at present are obliged to communicate via the internet. The Charity is a member of National Voices, and networks with many organisations, but continues to be independent.
Relationship with any relevant parties	Para 1.51	No formal relationship with any other parties
Other		None

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Better Living CIO
Other name the charity uses	None
Registered charity number	1181947
Charity's principal address	1 Sir Abraham Dawes Cottages Putney Bridge Road London SW15 2PR

Names of the Charity Trustees who manage the Charity

Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Graham Howat	Honorary Chair	Not applicable	Not applicable
Richard Rapazzini	Honorary Treasurer	Not applicable	Not applicable
Howard Gilbert	Honorary Secretary	Not applicable	Not applicable
Nigel Gilbert	Founding Trustee	Not applicable	Not applicable
Frederick Watson	Founding Trustee	Not applicable	Not applicable
Jonell Rowe	New Trustee	1 st July 2021	Not applicable

Reference and Administrative details

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
None		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
None	Not applicable	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None. Not applicable
Name and the objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	None. Not applicable
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets.	None. Not applicable

Additional information

Names and addresses of advisors

None. Not applicable

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members

Ms. Maggie Gilbert - Coordinator - Voluntary position

Exemptions from disclosures

Reasons for non-disclosure of key personnel

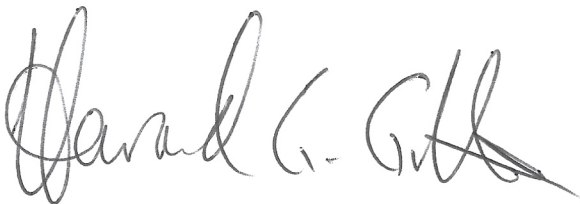
None. Not applicable

Declarations

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustee's report above

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

HOWARD GIBSON GILBERT. Howard Gibson Gilbert

Position (eg – Secretary, Chair, etc)

Honorary Secretary

Date

19th October 2021

Exemptions from disclosure

BETTER LIVING

England & Wales - Charity number 1181947

Accounts

FOR THE CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

TRUSTEE'S ANNUAL REPORT

Period start date 01-10-2021

Period end date 30-09-2022

Charity name: BETTER LIVING

Charity Number: 1181947

Objectives and Activities

	SORP REF.	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The relief of those in need by reason of disability or age
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The primary consideration before any activities can be carried out is for the Charity to acquire premises in which to operate. The original intention was to acquire premises via the local PCTN – Surrey Heartlands – but this has been made impossible by the Corona Virus problems, as all premises are now totally in use. We have, therefore, explored alternative premises via the Methodist Church and local councils, but none have been appropriate to date. We are currently exploring the possibility of private premises in the Epsom area, and also council properties via the Chairman of Headley Parish Council.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	We can confirm that the Trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit at all times. This will, of course, become more appropriate when the Charity is in a position to begin to operate.

Additional Information

	SORP REF.	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Not applicable at this stage
Other		None

Achievements and Performance

	SORP REF.	
Summary of the main achievements of the Charity, identifying the difference the Charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>As stated above, the impact of the Corona Virus has made it impossible for us to secure premises to date, and, in addition, has made it illegal to draw people together for community involvement at this time. Consequently, research on appropriate premises continues, and in addition, many contacts have been made, creating support for our concepts, and there has been participation in relevant conferences – the majority, virtual – notably with The Kings Fund; National Voices, and the Annual Public Meeting for The Charity Commission.</p> <p>Significant contacts made last year have been maintained and increased, and we have initiated and participated in virtual discussions with Care providing professionals, and MP's, as well as visited and made enquiries about potentially suitable sites.</p> <p>We continue to be members of National Voices, participating in their virtual Policy Meetings, and have volunteered to join their Board as a Trustee.</p> <p>If some of our concepts are adopted by the government – as we hope they will be – they will make a significant difference to society as a whole, and our potential beneficiaries in particular.</p>

Additional Information

	SORP REF.	
Achievements against objects set	Para 1.41	As stated, the pandemic has made it impossible to realise our principal objectives this year, so the opportunity has been taken to spread our concept and create good links with relevant organisations and significant contacts.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	Fundraising activities have not been appropriate at this stage. We have been most fortunate to receive sufficient donations from concerned contacts to cover basic administrative requirements, and all involved to date provide their experience and expertise on a voluntary basis
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Not applicable
Other		None

Financial Review

	SORP REF.	
Review of the Charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>As the charity is new and cannot operate at this stage, it has only required a small amount of seed funding to cover administrative costs, which has been provided by those concerned in assisting the charity to become established. There are no paid staff. All work is currently carried out on a voluntary basis.</p> <p><u>Opening Balance:</u> 764.00</p> <p><u>Income for the Period:</u> 0.00</p> <p><u>Balance</u> 764.00</p> <p><u>Expenditure for the Period:</u></p> <p><u>Website costs</u> 87.00</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Balance of funds held</u> 677.00</p>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	As illustrated above, no reserves are currently held – only a small amount of seed funding
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	None
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	None required at present
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Not applicable
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	Not applicable

Additional information

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP REF.	
The charity's principal sources of funding	Para 1.47	To date only limited seed funding has been required and this has been kindly donated by concerned individuals wishing to assist us in achieving our Aims – see above for details
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	None at present
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	None at present
Other		None

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts	SORP REF.	
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted (eg unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions eg election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<p>There continues to be the five founding trustees, all of whom have a particular interest in the aims of the charity and have a wide range of skills to offer it. All have been (enhanced) DBS checked.</p> <p>We have been most fortunate to have attracted a new Trustee – Jonell Rowe – who is a TV Assistant Director, and private film-maker – and is currently undergoing the enhanced DBS check, as this was not possible through the Volunteer Bureau a few months ago.</p>

Additional information

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP REF.	
Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	Some of the trustees have served as trustees for other charities in the past. All are mature business people and are fully aware of their responsibilities. All have had enhanced DBS checks (with the exception of Jonell Rowe – see above), and all have been provided with the DSC trustee handbook
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The charity is managed by the trustees who met regularly before the pandemic, but at present are obliged to communicate via the internet. The charity is a member of National Voices, and networks with many organisations but continues to be independent.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	No formal relationship with any other parties
Other		None

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Better Living
Other name the charity uses	None
Registered charity number	1181947
Charity's principal address	1 Sir Abraham Dawes Cottages Putney Bridge Road London SW15 2PR

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
Graham Howat	Honorary Chair	Not applicable	Not applicable
Richard Rapazzini	Honorary Treasurer	Not applicable	Not applicable
Howard Gilbert	Honorary Secretary	Not applicable	Not applicable
Nigel Gilbert	Founding Trustee	Not applicable	Not applicable
Frederick Watson	Founding Trustee	Not applicable	Not applicable
Jonell Rowe	New Trustee	1 st July 2021	Not applicable

Reference and Administrative details

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
None		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
None	Not applicable	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	None. Not applicable
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	None. Not applicable
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	None. Not applicable

Additional information

Names and addresses of advisors

None. Not applicable

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members

Ms. Maggie Gilbert – Co-ordinator – Voluntary position

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

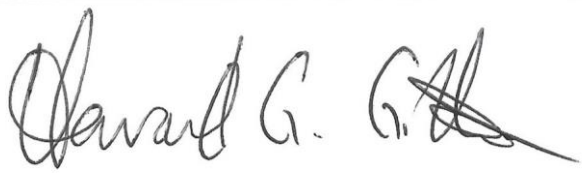
Not applicable

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustee's report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Howard Gibson Gilbert

Position (eg- Secretary Chair, etc)

Honorary Secretary

Date

19th October 2021

Exemptions from disclosure