



Trustees' annual report 2023-2024

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document.

To work with local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social, welfare, and recreation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents by the way of relief of poverty.

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.

British Pakistan Association Leicestershire (Bpal) was able to provide following activities for the membership and other community members who requested help and support.

- Organised Eid function and Pakistan Independence Day. These functions are attended by over 200 people which includes Youths and young children. These functions often starts with welcoming the guests, speeches regarding local issues, question and answer session, Asian food is served, and the functions ends with live music. The children are provided with inflatables to entertain them and pack of sweets are given to them to take home.
- Work with other charities and groups in the area to promote and protect interest of the community. This work includes establishing a community Centre and organising joint events.
- Helping with applying universal and pension benefits.
- Arabic classes at weekends.
- Assisting parents in arrange marriage issues.
- Running a youth group on Friday evening and providing weekly badminton session.
- Continued to provide Immigration related work which included online passport, Nadara card and visa applications.
- Helping members to retain and find accommodation.

- Offering advice in person and over the phone to families in crisis.
- Provided space and hospitality for a group of young people to have fortnightly meeting.
- Facilitating fortnightly coffee morning activities for Lady's Group.
- Referral to other agencies where appropriate.
- Attending Voluntary sector's meeting to represent the community's interest.

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

As previously reported, the trustees are conscious of Charity Commission guidance on public benefit. The trustees realise that we have limited volunteers and financial resources. As a result, the trustees have decided to focus on those service users who are in urgent need of help. The trustees have decided to keep the Bpal's office open so that those in need of services could contact and request services. We believe that these decisions are admirable, practical, adhering to guidance provided by the charity commission and are according to our charity's purpose. The trustees made decision to keep membership free and our activities take place where access is easy for all including elderly and people with disabilities.

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.

Bpal was able to achieve many of its objectives during this financial year. For example, we were able to provide social functions, sport activities and education classes and other advice and welfare work through our office as listed above. We were able to work along with other charities, the police and other organisation to ensure that relationship is strengthened between different communities and issues are resolved through community organisations coming together to find solution to our common problems. Bpal believes that services provided are vital for the community to come together and built network to deal with issues facing the community internally and externally. These efforts by Bpal are highly appreciated by our community. Furthermore, our volunteers are happy to be contacted (out of hours) by phone by those who needs urgent help. This approach and flexibility is highly appreciated by the community. One of the important issues we concentrated this year was to open a community centre. Bpal has made some progress in this area by working with other voluntary organisation and Charities. Bpal hopes that these efforts will materialise soon and that we will have a good news for the community.

Structure, Governance and Management:

The Trustees drive their authority from the constitution and are accountable to membership via annual general meetings. The governing body consist of ten trustees

which includes seven males and three females. The governing body consisting of a Chairman, Treasurer, General Secretary. These officers are elected internally by the Trustees and serve until the next election. The Trustees are responsible for Planning & delivering services, attracting funds, providing annual report and accounts and accountable to the members who had elected them. Bpal also have a team of active volunteers who provide their time and energy to deliver important services.

Type of governing document

Bpal's Constitution is based on Association' Model which is Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with voting members other than its charity trustees. The Constitution was downloaded from Charity Commission's website, was briefly modified to meet the needs of Bpal and is proved by the Charity Commission.

How is the charity constituted?

Bpal's is organised around its constitution and consists of 10 trustees. There are three female and twelve male trustees. The chairman is the head of the trustees while general secretary takes responsibilities of all the administration and calling meetings and proposing future programmes. While the treasure's role is to keep control of finance and to ensure there are sufficient funds for any future planned activities. The trustees are elected at Annual General meetings, nominated, and voted in by the members. Any vacant position is filled by the Trustees until the next election. There are no options at present for any external body to nominate any trustees to the Board of Trustees.

Report on public benefit:

As reported above in the summary section, the services offered are open to all and public members who can walk into our office and benefit from our services. Our annual functions and trips are also open to any member of the local community. Bpal also works with other charities, voluntary and statutory sector to improve conditions in the local area. This work includes working with the police and youth organisations to reduce crime rate in the area and working with local Councillors to address the local needs. Bpal closely work with and support the activities of the Federation of the Muslim Organisations in the area to bring about harmony between the various communities. Bpal ensures through its reviews of services that the main beneficiaries are the members or public at large and that any benefit to trustees is only incidental and not by design.

Make decisions about who benefits in ways that are consistent with the purpose:

We are a small charity with a limited funds and goals. At present there is no danger for Bpal to drift away from its purpose. However, we are conscious that as we grow, we need to adhere to our main goals and not carried away by the huge demand which we may not be able to meet. We are also conscientious that spreading our services too thinly may results in our services not being effective. Bpal is accountable to the community through its Annual General Meetings and any deviation from the core services will be noticed and addressed. Bpal's activities also depend on financial resources, number of volunteers available and urgency of services required. All these conditions are likely to influence our services delivery systems, and we are determined to do our best as a charity to address the needs of our members and community. Since Bpal is very grassroot based charity, we are very conscious and responsive about

physical access to our facilities, days and opening ours. We make every effort to ensure where it is possible that maximum number of participations take place in our activities. We use local churches, mosques and community centres for our functions/activities which are in the centre of our community and thus very accessible.

Committee meeting: The meetings are schedule monthly and take place at our office. The committee takes reports discuss them and endorse them if happy with proposed events and refuse to accept if the proposals are not viable. The Trustees also receive financial reports from the treasurer and take appropriate actions if required. The trustees have been very active, have connections with businesses and do receive donations from them to pay for the services. In addition, there is Core Group which meets fortnightly, discuss issues and make recommendations to full Trustees board.

Young People's Group.

This group comes together fortnightly. The group was established over four years ago and is viewed as a vital support for Bpal to have link with the community at a grass root level. The main activity of the group is to come together to have a chat, socialise, make friends, discuss local issues, and share food together. The group meets on Saturday evening, cook food, teach new members how to prepare Asian food. The group members decide week in advance what issue to discuss and who is responsible for shopping and cooking. The highlights are having and sharing food together, have good laugh and sharing information about what is happening in the community. This activity lasts about 3 hours and ends with Asian Masala Chai. The group activity is open to all, and new members are always welcomed.

Tuesday Coffee Morning Group: This is lady's only group which consists of 15 Ladies. The group comes together on fortnightly on Tuesday to support each other, have chat, discussion make friends and learn from each other regarding what is happening in the community. The groups goals also include building a sense a personal and social identity, developed communication skills and problem-solving abilities. The group have tea or coffee, biscuits, cakes, and samosas together. The group is open to all and welcomes new members with great enthusiasm.

Future Plans: Due to legal issues and lack of financial resources, we have not been successful in establishing a Community Centre in the area yet. However, this is ongoing work, and we will continue to struggle until we achieve this noble goal. As reported previously, Bpal acknowledge that without a community centre we will find it difficult to deliver much needed services, unite our community, empower our members, improving conditions and reducing a level of poverty in the area. However, we are delivering service that we can with the limited resources and are determined to achieve remaining goals of our charity by working with the community and other authorities to realise our dream of establishing a Community Centre in this area. Hopefully, this will begin to address many needs of our community including giving them a platform to express their views and opinions.

Mohammed Arif, General Secretary.

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	British Pakistani Association Leicestershire Annual Accounts for 01.05.23---30.04.24				
Date/Receipt Number	Details		Income	Expenditure	Ballance
May 2023	B/F		£4, 792.21		£4792.21
02.05.23 1	Pak Catering LTD Food for Eid Function			940.00	3852.21
02.05.23 2	Gaffar Packaging LTD Plastic cups and plate etc.			52.00	3800.21
02.05.23 3	Home Bargains. Black bags and cleaning materials.			4.74	3795.47
02.05.23 4	Petty Cash			250.00	3545.47
04.05.23	Donation by Mushtaq Babar		150.00		3695.47
04.05.23 5	Virgin media payments			55.25	3640.22
26.05.23 6	Electric cards top up			5.00	3635.22
26.05.23 7	Gas cards top up			5.00	3630.22
05.06.23 8	Direct debit Virgin Medea payments			62.25	3567.97
09.06.23 9	Card Transaction			2.67	3565.30
05.07.23 10	Direct debit Virgin Medea payments			62.25	3303.05
01.08.23 11	Electric Card top up.			5.00	3498.05
07.08.23 12	Hall Charges. St Philips church Leicester.			240.00	3258.05
07.08.23 13	Direct debit Virgin Medea payments			62.25	3195.80
15.08.23 14	Intasound Music. Equipment hire charges			255.00	2940.80
16.08.23	Intasound Music. Deposit returned		150.00		3090.80
17.08.23	Donation. Pak food store.		500.00		3590.80
21.08.23 15	Pak Foods Leicester.			6.57	3584.23
21.08.23 16	Pak Foods Leicester.			145.38	3438.85
30.08.23	Donation. Paid in by 033		445.00		3883.85
30.08.23 17	Pak Catering Derby. Cooked Food for function.			800.00	3083.85
05.09.23 18	Direct Debit. Virgin media payments			62.25	3021.60
06.09.23	Donation by Pervez. Paid in by 034		100.00		3121.60
05.10.23	Direct Debit. Virgin media payments			62.25	3059.35
13.10.23	Electricity cards top up.			5.00	3054.35

06.11.23	Direct Debit. Virgin media payments		62.25	2992.10
27.11.23	Electricity cards top up		5.00	2987.10
05.12.23	Direct Debit. Virgin media payments		62.25	2924.85
09.01.24	Electricity cards top up.		5.00	2919.85
05.02.24	Direct Debit. Virgin media payments		73.94	2845.91
08.03.24	Electricity cards top up		5.00	2840.91
28.03.24	Donation by M. Arif	520.00		3360.91
03.04.24	Donation by Yasmeen Arif	1000.00		4360.91
05.04.24	Donation to Masjid Fatima Zahra		500.00	3860.91
09.04.24	Donation by M. Arif. Paid in with Payslip 035	50.00		3910.91
09.04.24	Donation to One Nation		500.00	3410.91
10.04.24	Donation to One Nation		550.00	2860.91
16.04.24	Electricity top up.		5.00	2855.91
16.04.24	King Marios Pizza		20.20	2835.71
30.04.23	Total income & expenditure for year 2023-2024	<u>£7707.21</u>	<u>£4871.50</u>	<u>£2835.71</u>