



## PANTRY FOR BLACON CIO (Known as Blacon Beacon)

### Annual Report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

Pantry for Blacon is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registration number 1183763

#### Governance and management

There were 4 trustees of the charity in 2020:

- Rev Christina Upton (Chair)
- Ms Sheila Little
- Mr Edwin Green
- Mrs Jenine de Leie

Additionally, from 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020 we employed a part-time Manager, Ms Kerry Cook, who very ably oversaw the work of the charity, and supervised the volunteers.

#### Objectives

The charity exists to relieve food poverty in Blacon, Chester, and also to promote health, through the provision of good quality food at an affordable price, and encouraging healthy diet through education on food preparation.



## Activities

2020 was an unusual year due to Covid-19 lockdown which began in March. That coincided with the beginning of our activities as a charity. After making alterations to Holy Trinity Church Hall to accommodate a storage room for us, we were on the verge of launching properly, when Covid-19 lockdown happened. This resulted in us collaborating with Holy Trinity Church and Blacon Community Store, among other organisations, forming Blacon Action Team (BAT). Through BAT, food parcels and cooked meals were distributed to those in need in the community, for 24 weeks.

The total number of people fed in those weeks (through food bags) of any age, was 10,832, of 3910 households altogether. 52% of those were households included children or teenagers. 27% were adults living alone, and 13% were homes where only elderly people lived. Some of those households received food several times, so that represents altogether 453 different homes. In addition, we also delivered 2,175 cooked meals through those months. Producing this amount of food (we estimate that 7820 bags were packed) took a great deal of people-power – about 26 volunteers gave us 1882 hours across the weeks.

This level of work was not sustainable long-term, so during September the food parcel service was handed entirely over from BAT to Blacon Beacon (as well as the Community Store continuing their service which had started before lockdown). Anyone who is resident and going through a hard time financially is eligible to benefit from Blacon Beacon. Those who sign up are asked to pay a weekly subscription, and each week to collect food bags (one bag of ambient food, and one of fruit and veg) at a designated time. We also made further alterations within the church hall, to create a second room for Blacon Beacon to use for food storage.



We also collaborated with Holy Trinity Church Blacon in providing meals and activities to dozens of families during the school holidays, at Easter, then from May half term through to the end of the summer holidays, and also the October half term. These were delivered to their doors, as Covid restrictions prevented us being able to have them gathering at the hall and church. This culminated in December, when we delivered Christmas dinners to 61 families (118 adults and 154 children) and also to 200 older Blacon residents. This was all made possible by generous grants from Westminster Foundation, Chester Bluecoat Charity, and Avenue Service Surplus fund. Additionally, the families and members of Blacon Beacon were also given Christmas hampers (containing sweets, mince pies, pickle/jam, crackers, sausages and bacon to name a few); some of these items were kindly donated from our local Spar, Tesco and Morrisons.



## FINANCIAL REPORTS

**INCOME** for the charity comes from generous donors, either by one-off gifts or by monthly standing orders. Also, we receive monthly contributions from our beneficiaries. The majority of our funding, however, comes in the form of grants. See table below for a summary of grants received in 2020.

### Grants received by Pantry for Blacon in 2020

| Date received  | Grant funder                               | Notes   | Amount: £ | Amount at 31.12.20 |
|----------------|--|---|-----------|--------------------|
|                | <b>RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>                    |   |           |                    |
| January 2020   | Anne Duchess of Westminster Charity        | Driver & van costs – use delayed due to Covid-19; in Nov 2020 agreed to change to cost of Administrator   | 5,000.00  | 5,000.00           |
| February 2020  | Westminster Foundation                     | Manager post plus cooking sessions; not started until 28 Sept 2020 due to recruitment issues and then Covid-19 (cooking classes not held due to lockdown) | 10,000.00 | 8078.83            |
| February 2020  | West Cheshire Foodbank                     | Reimbursement decorating costs  | 120.00    | 0                  |
| April 2020     | Cheshire Community Foundation              | Purchase specific items (start-up costs)  | 1754.88   | 0                  |
| May 2020       | TNL Covid Fund                             | Food & volunteers & premises costs  | 10,000.00 | 0                  |
| May 2020       | Tesco Bags for Life                        | (received from Groundworks) food costs  | 500.00    | 0                  |
| September 2020 | National Education Union                   | Cost of school uniforms   | 250.00    | 250.00             |
| October 2020   | Transforming Lives Together                | Food costs  | 500.00    | 500.00             |
| October 2020   | DEFRA (via Cheshire West Voluntary Action) | Food costs  | 5,000.00  | 2,663.66           |
| November 2020  | Avenue Services                            | Client support including IT   | 5,500.00  | 5,500.00           |
| December 2020  | Avenue Services                            | Christmas meals   | 1,500.00  | 0                  |
| December 2020  | Cheshire Community Foundation              | Food & other costs  | 5,000.00  | 5,000.00           |
| December 2020  | Chester Bluecoat Charity                   | Cost meat with Christmas treats   | 500.00    | 0                  |
| December 2020  | Sport England (via Sanctuary)              | Client physical exercise  | 1,720.00  | 1,720.00           |
| December 2020  | Cheshire West and Chester Council          | Food costs  | 2,000.00  | 2,000.00           |
|                |  | <b>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</b>   |           |                    |

|                     |  |                                 |          |  |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------------|----------|--|
| January 2020        | Chester used Furniture Enterprise (via CWVA) | From winding up of CUFE charity | 3,000.00 |  |
| May 2020            | Chester University (Santander)               |                                 | 217.50   |  |
| May & November 2020 | St Vincent de Paul Charity                   |                                 | 400.00   |  |
| August 2020         | Cheshire Freemasons                          |                                 | 950.00   |  |

## SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS TO 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2020

|   |                  | £                |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| <b>OPENING BALANCE</b>                          | <b>11,260.79</b> | <b>11,260.79</b> |
| INCOME  |                  |                  |
| Donations                                       | 2,230.00         |                  |
| Grant income - restricted                       | 49,224.88        |                  |
| Grant income - unrestricted                     | 4,367.50         |                  |
| Reimbursement from Holy Trinity Church          | 4,446.01         |                  |
| HMRC  | 367.50           |                  |
| Members' contributions                          | 2,432.00         |                  |
| Miscellaneous income                            | 482.40           |                  |
| <b>Total income</b>                             |                  | <b>63,550.29</b> |
| EXPENDITURE                                     |                  |                  |
| <b>Worker costs</b>                             |                  |                  |
| Employee: wages+pension+HMRC                    | 1921.17          |                  |
| Volunteer costs                                 | 157.47           |                  |
|   | 2078.64          | <b>2078.64</b>   |
| <b>Premises costs</b>                           |                  |                  |
| Building costs                                  | <b>11,814.81</b> | <b>11,814.81</b> |
| <b>Supplies</b>                                 |                  |                  |
| Food purchases                                  | 9,095.68         |                  |
| Cooked meals                                    | 7,577.09         |                  |
| Non-food purchases                              | 565.58           |                  |
|   | <b>17,238.35</b> | <b>17,238.35</b> |
| <b>Running costs</b>                            |                  |                  |
| Equipment purchases                             | 6,557.43         |                  |
| Insurance                                       | 229.60           |                  |
| Stationery and printing costs                   | 179.98           |                  |
| Miscellaneous expenses                          | 134.50           |                  |
|   | <b>7,101.51</b>  | <b>7,101.51</b>  |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>                        |                  | <b>38,233.31</b> |
| <b>BALANCE AT 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2020</b> |                  | <b>36,577.77</b> |



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

### Section A

### Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name:  
Pantry for Blacon CIO

On accounts for the year  
ended

31<sup>st</sup> December 2020

Charity no  
(if any)

1183763

Set out on pages

3-4

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

*A. Dobson*

Date:

20/8/2021

Name:

HARRY DOBSON

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

A C M A. (RETIRED)

Address:

12, ROSEWOOD GROVE, SAUGHALL  
CHESTER. CH1 6AN.