

## **Co-Chairs Report**

**2022-23**

Over the year our work has expanded to include:

- Working alongside other organisations in supporting the large number of pre-dispersed asylum seekers at J24, including running a session once a week for general support, moving the Bridgwater C&C to North Petherton plus, in the last few weeks, offering English classes on site once a week
- on-line training for individuals appointed to J24 and, more latterly, for anyone working with asylum seekers across Somerset
- more personalised support for the increased number of asylum seekers attending EC&C

We currently have 63 volunteers (48 active, 3 waiting appointment + 12 'on hold') with another 5 waiting for DBS clearance. During the year 20 volunteers have been fully trained or upgraded. We have supported 5 resettled and 3 HfU families, and at least 80 individuals via the C&C sessions. Over 30 Ukrainian students have attended English courses, and an unknown number of asylum seekers have been attended TWR activities at J24. We estimate that our total team of about 75 have had contact with at least 300 people.

Also, in the last year we have:

1. seen the real difference our work makes to peoples' lives; they tell us they are feeling valued and cared for, adults and children are thriving and contributing much to their neighbourhoods and to TWR.
2. continued to offer 'preparation' (not 'training') for volunteers. They are encouraged to pool insights, skills and experience, and this manifests itself in the range of imaginative responses to the needs of those we support (see mini-reports)
3. continued to deliver our brief, which is not only to help people 'integrate', but to help people feel welcome and safe.
4. continued to prioritise those in most need (where we could) and to respond proportionately across the different groups.
5. started to develop a more robust volunteer support system (Volunteer Management Team) appropriate to the numbers we now have.

A more detailed account of our work is contained in the portfolio holders' reports presented to the Annual Meeting (September 23)

## Future Strategy

The past year has been one of considerable change for TWR both in terms of the increasing demand on our services and in our organisational structures. A year ago we were in the early stages of adjusting to the needs of people arriving from the Ukraine and had had no warning of the change in government policy that has led to the large numbers of pre dispersed asylum seekers now accommodated in our area. As a Board of Trustees we were adjusting to a new system with two Co Chairs and portfolio holders taking responsibility for specific areas of our work.

We cannot anticipate the world events and government policy changes that will arise in the future though we will of course endeavour to respond to them, and we will be better placed to do this effectively if we take steps to consolidate our current position.

- We must continue to share the workload by further refining and developing our portfolio system.
- We must make more use of the wide ranging skills and experience of our volunteers by increasing the ways in which they can become involved in the management of the organisation.
- We must endeavour to secure core funding to increase the hours that we employ our administrator.

Looking back over the past year TWR has every reason to be pleased with what has been achieved and confident that we will be able to continue to offer valuable support to the refugees and asylum seekers in our area. Our achievements are a testament to the commitment and hard work of all our Board of Trustees who are the driving force behind TWR and to the dedication and flexibility of our pool of volunteers. Our thanks also go to our administrator for her patience and hard work.

Lynne Mayers and Eddie East



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Taunton Welcomes Refugees

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 March 2023

Charity no  
(if any)

1183921

Set out on pages

1 - 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 March 2023.

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 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.

Signed:

Date: 16/05/2023

Name:

Christopher Cherry

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

FCCA

Address:

Brunel House, Cook Way, Taunton, Somerset, TA2 6BJ



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Taunton Welcomes Refugees

1183921

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

01-Apr-22

To

31-Mar-23

### 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 £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Individual Donations	1,927	-	-	1,927	5,217
Institutional Donations	8,283	-	-	8,283	2,952
Grants	-	13,147	-	13,147	5,000
Gift Aid Claim	-	-	-	-	804
Cards & Calendars	1,281	-	-	1,281	1,122
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>11,491</b>	<b>13,147</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,638</b>	<b>15,095</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>11,491</b>	<b>13,147</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,638</b>	<b>15,095</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Items for Clients	1,016	-	-	1,016	964
Admin	1,283	-	-	1,283	1,147
Support Meetings	167	-	-	167	238
Translation	203	-	-	203	634
Training	193	-	-	193	467
Convesation Taunton	1,360	2,869	-	4,229	733
Conversation Bridgwater	1,008	-	-	1,008	-
Adminsitrator	6,583	-	-	6,583	5,665
Ukraine Support	896	-	-	896	-
English for Ukrainians	841	6,035	-	6,876	-
Enterprise Loan	-	-	-	-	1,000
Employment Workshop	-	310	-	310	802
W. Somerset Support	-	-	-	-	200
Asylum Support	50	-	-	50	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>13,600</b>	<b>9,214</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,814</b>	<b>11,850</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
Display Boards	144	-	-	144	152
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>152</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>13,744</b>	<b>9,214</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,958</b>	<b>12,002</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 2,253</b>	<b>3,933</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,680</b>	<b>3,093</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>17,285</b>	<b>802</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,483</b>	<b>13,390</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>15,032</b>	<b>3,131</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>18,163</b>	<b>16,483</b>

## 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>	Main account	15,009	3,131	-
	Public account	23	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>15,032</b>	<b>3,131</b>	<b>-</b>

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK

OK

OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Display Boards		144	-
				-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	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


Robin Peeler
