

# BEGINNING AGAIN

England & Wales · Charity number 1185334

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2019-09-16

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 1 Lanty Close  
Brigham  
Cockermouth  
Cumbria  
CA13 0UZ

**Phone** 07551689301

**Email** [beginagain@btinternet.com](mailto:beginagain@btinternet.com)

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO PROMOTE THE RESETTLEMENT AND REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS, EX-OFFENDERS AND THOSE AT RISK OF OFFENDING IN ORDER TO REDUCE RATES OF RE-OFFENDING AND TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE CREATION OF SAFER COMMUNITIES, THROUGH, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, THE PROVISION OF MENTORING, ADVICE, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORK EXPERIENCE.

**Activities:** The charity exists to promote the resettlement and rehabilitation of ex-offenders in North and West Cumbria in order to reduce the risk of them re-offending, thereby contributing to the creation of safer communities. Working in cooperation with the Probation Service, it aims to do this by providing mentoring, advice and opportunities for work experience.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Economic/community Development/employment, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

## Geography

- Cumbria

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£11,638	£11,626	-	-
2024-03-31	£11,711	£10,426	-	-
2023-03-31	£17,130	£15,030	-	-
2022-03-31	£8,939	£11,750	-	-
2021-03-31	£3,812	£266	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Rev Ian William Lewis Parker</b>	Chair	2019-03-25
REV HILARY JAMES CLARKE		2019-03-25
REV PATRICIA ANNE ROGERS BD MSC		2019-03-25
Sharon Elizabeth WOOLLARD		2023-02-07
Timothy John SHELDON		2023-02-07

**BEGINNING AGAIN**

England & Wales - Charity number 1185334

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# Accounts

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# BEGINNING AGAIN

**Accounts and Annual Report**

**For the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

**Registered charity Number: 1185334**



## **CONTENTS**

- Trustees Annual Report
- Independent Examiners Report
- Receipts and Payments Accounts
- Statement of Assets and Liabilities

# ANNUAL REPORT OF BEGINNING AGAIN

**For the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

## 1. THE CHARITY

- Beginning Again (BA) was registered on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019 by the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered number 1185334.
- Administration has been carried out by one of the Trustees (Sharon Woollard from her home address, which has been registered with the Charity Commission as the Charity's base.

## 2. THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY

The charitable objectives of Beginning Again are:

To promote the resettlement and rehabilitation of offenders, ex-offenders and those at risk of offending in order to reduce rates of re-offending and to contribute to the creation of safer communities through, but not exclusively, the provision of mentoring, advice and opportunities for work experience.

**The Trustees believe that the activities of the Charity during the report period have supported these objectives.**

## 3. THE TRUSTEES

During the report period, the Trustees of Beginning Again were:

- Ian William Lewis Parker
- Hilary James Clarke (Reappointed from April 2024)
- Patricia Anne Rogers
- Sharon Elizabeth Woollard (Appointed February 2023)

The Charity's governing document provides that new Trustees are appointed by the existing Trustees. To promote continuity, it has been agreed that each Trustee would serve for a limited period of time prior to seeking re-appointment. No Trustee may serve for a period exceeding 3 years without re-appointment. A Trustee who has served for three consecutive terms may not be re-appointed for a fourth consecutive term but may be re-appointed after an interval of at least one year.

Efforts to increase the number of trustees, and in particular to recruit new trustees with finance, human resources and business skills, are ongoing.

The Trustees have met, mainly via video conferencing, on 9 occasions during the reporting year to discuss progress and make decisions.

## 4. THE CHARITY'S ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

### 4.1 The Background

On 25 March 2019, a group of people met to consider the setting up of a new charity aimed at providing support for offenders and ex-offenders in Cumbria. From knowledge of the County, it had been identified that there was a gap in the provision of community help towards rehabilitation for those within the target group. It was decided to form a new charity and Beginning Again was subsequently registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Those present at that first meeting agreed to be the first Trustees.

### 4.2 Underpinning Beliefs

It was agreed that the charity would be underpinned by the following statement of Beliefs:

“ Inspired by the Christian values of social concern, our beliefs are:

- Every individual is of value,
- Change in attitudes and values can be brought about,
- Local community involvement has the potential to make a positive contribution to resettlement and rehabilitative processes,
- Social diversity is a positive.”

### 4.3 Service Focus

The focus for the Charity is to give service users the opportunity to prepare for work and for reintegration into their community, with support provided by mentoring and certificated work experience. A project maintaining a local churchyard remained as a legacy of a defunct charity and it was agreed that taking over this project, with the agreement and enthusiastic support of the Church authorities, would be a good starting point for the new charity's operations. That project remains the cornerstone of the Charity's activities. This year the charity has negotiated more paid groundwork in local church yards and vicarage gardens.

### 4.4 Activities

The year under review, 2024-2025, has been the fifth full year of planned operation. Recognising the fragility of existence in the Third Sector, with the need to develop contacts, establish a firm base and the inevitable reliance on the generosity of donors and other voluntary funders, the Trustees continue to adopt a “softly softly” approach.

Thanks to both financial and moral support from Torpenhow District Church Council and the Team Rector, we were able to continue to employ a part-time Operations Manager to oversee the regular maintenance of a large churchyard. By common consent, the service users – ex-offenders – who have carried out the work have done so enthusiastically and to a high standard. Paid groundwork has also been negotiated

and completed in vicarages which have become unoccupied. Following a campaign of Direct mail as a strategy for fundraising and gaining work-placements paid work was secured in West Cumbria in the Seaton and Camerton areas. The contracted work was satisfactorily completed but we decided not to bid for the work in 25/26 as this activity provided little therapeutic benefit to our service users

Besides the regular work at Torpenhow, the project has carried out work at other sites and talks are in progress to secure regular contracts at other locations, Naturally, this will require addressing issues of transport, supervision and manpower. More equipment has been purchased to meet the increase in variety of groundwork.

The underlying purpose of the project included the provision of appropriate training for service users, with the aim of improving their employment prospects. Under guidance of the Operations Manager service users who demonstrate capability in the use of and maintenance of horticultural equipment, health and safety at work, will have their achievements recorded in certificates which can support their search for employment. Service users' motivation, reliability and commitment to the project are also key factors for accreditation. Their individual success was celebrated in a gathering of parents, relatives and trustees in November when certificates of achievements were awarded. The social event was well received and successful.

However, helping attendees reach competence in the use of machinery is only part of the role of the Operations Manager who, with active support from Trustees, takes a personal interest in each participant, offering advice and support for them as they deal with the everyday issues that can arise in life. He is also responsible for liaison with the Probation Service to recruit appropriate service users.

In the last year, the project has benefitted 5 service users, of whom one has received an offer of employment. Another service user has been able to secure interviews for employment. The progress of each individual's behaviour is monitored. They have ongoing training in the safe use of horticultural equipment with an understanding of the potential hazards. e.g. Ride on mower, pedestrian mowers and strimmers. The service users also complete maintenance and the servicing of equipment.

Close liaison with the Probation Service continues to be crucial to Beginning Again and those referred to the project. That liaison had been carried out at management level by two trustees, the operations manager, and in March a meeting was held at Workington Probation office to try and strengthen those links with the continuing trustees. The Probation Service was initially interested in referring offenders sentenced to unpaid work in the community to Beginning Again, but unfortunately on follow up it was discovered that the churchyard where the main work takes place was unsuitable on the sole grounds of there being no toilet facilities. It was also agreed at that meeting that the memorandum of agreement needed to be revised in the light of Probation Service reorganisation, but as yet that has not happened, no doubt because of the pressures of reorganisation on senior management. Good links were however maintained between Beginning Again's Operations Manager and local supervisors at Achieve Northwest or its successor.

The Trustees have maintained the website, containing contact details, and have produced higher quality printed fliers to introduce the Charity to funders and to the wider public and to record its progress.

**Having considered the Charity Commission guidance, the Trustees believe that their activities are contributing to the public benefit and that they have complied with that guidance.**

## **5. THE CHARITY'S FINANCES AND RESERVES**

The agreement with Torpenhow Church Council for the upkeep of the churchyard has secured a regular donation, enabling the employment of a member of staff to supervise service users. The Trustees are grateful to all of our funders for their generous support and continue to seek other funding streams to further strengthen the Charity.

**In view of the fact that the Charity is still very small, the Trustees have decided that it currently has sufficient funds to cover unavoidable costs if necessary but that it is too early to have a more formal Reserves Policy. However this matter will be kept under regular review.**

Signed on behalf of Beginning Again

*Wahr*  
*Harriet Woodland*

Trustee

Trustee

Date: *3<sup>rd</sup> August 2025.*

**BEGINNING AGAIN RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

**Period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>			
Grants	750.00		750.00
Re-charged expenses	92.83		92.83
Gift Aid	300.00		300.00
Bank Interest	20.69		20.69
Contracted work	10,475.00		10,475.00
Donations	0.00	1.00	1.00
<b><u>TOTAL INCOME</u></b>	<b><u>11,638.52</u></b>	<b><u>1.00</u></b>	<b><u>11,639.52</u></b>
<b><u>PAYMENTS</u></b>			
Accountancy	74.75		74.75
Bank Charges	60.00		60.00
Equipment Hire	0.00		0.00
Staff expenses	1654.85		1654.85
Staff expenses - trustees	615.95		615.95
Misc overheads	600.59		600.59
Service user expenses	570.15		570.15
Insurance	1162.93	1.00	1163.93
Purchase of equipment	288.00		288.00
Staff salaries	6500.04		6500.04
Training	0.00		0.00
Website	99.00		99.00
<b><u>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</u></b>	<b><u>11626.26</u></b>	<b><u>1.00</u></b>	<b><u>11627.26</u></b>
<b><u>NET RECEIPTS (PAYMENTS)</u></b>			
Cash Funds brought forward	<u>7006.08</u>	<u>3000.00</u>	<u>10006.08</u>
<b>Cash Funds at 31 March 2025</b>	<u>7018.34</u>	<u>3000.00</u>	<u>10018.34</u>

Approved by the Trustees on

and signed on their behalf by

S E Woollard, Trustee

Examined by Joyce Keetley 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025.  
J.A. Keetley

**Independent Examiner's Report to  
The Trustees of Beginning Again**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out below.

**Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



**Name in Full: Mrs Joyce Keetley**

**Address: Stonehaven, Tower Court, Warcop, Appleby CA16 6NL**

**Date: 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

**BEGINNING AGAIN**

England & Wales - Charity number 1185334

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# Accounts

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# BEGINNING AGAIN

**Accounts and Annual Report**

**For the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

**Registered charity Number: 1185334**



## **CONTENTS**

- Trustees Annual Report
- Independent Examiners Report
- Receipts and Payments Accounts
- Statement of Assets and Liabilities

# ANNUAL REPORT OF BEGINNING AGAIN

**For the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024**

## 1. THE CHARITY

- Beginning Again (BA) was registered on 16 September 2019 by the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered number 1185334.
- Administration has been carried out by one of the Trustees (Sharon Woollard from her home address, which has been registered with the Charity Commission as the Charity's base.

## 2. THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY

The charitable objectives of Beginning Again are:

To promote the resettlement and rehabilitation of offenders, ex-offenders and those at risk of offending in order to reduce rates of re-offending and to contribute to the creation of safer communities through, but not exclusively, the provision of mentoring, advice and opportunities for work experience.

**The Trustees believe that the activities of the Charity during the report period have supported these objectives.**

## 3. THE TRUSTEES

During the report period, the Trustees of Beginning Again were:

- Ian William Lewis Parker
- Hilary James Clarke (Reappointed from April 2023)
- Patricia Anne Rogers
- Alison Newcome – (Stepped down July 2023)
- Timothy John Sheldon (from 7 February 2023- 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023)
- Sharon Elizabeth Woollard (from 7 February 2023)

The Charity's governing document provides that new Trustees are appointed by the existing Trustees. To promote continuity, it has been agreed that each Trustee would serve for a limited period of time prior to seeking re-appointment. No Trustee may serve for a period exceeding 3 years without re-appointment. A Trustee who has served for three consecutive terms may not be re-appointed for a fourth consecutive term but may be re-appointed after an interval of at least one year.

Efforts to increase the number of trustees, and in particular to recruit new trustees with finance, human resources and business skills, are ongoing.

The Trustees have met, mainly via video conferencing, on 9 occasions during the reporting year to discuss progress and make decisions.

#### **4. THE CHARITY'S ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

##### **4.1 The Background**

On 25 March 2019, a group of people met to consider the setting up of a new charity aimed at providing support for offenders and ex-offenders in Cumbria. From knowledge of the County, it had been identified that there was a gap in the provision of community help towards rehabilitation for those within the target group. It was decided to form a new charity and Beginning Again was subsequently registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Those present at that first meeting agreed to be the first Trustees.

##### **4.2 Underpinning Beliefs**

It was agreed that the charity would be underpinned by the following statement of Beliefs:

“ Inspired by the Christian values of social concern, our beliefs are:

- Every individual is of value,
- Change in attitudes and values can be brought about,
- Local community involvement has the potential to make a positive contribution to resettlement and rehabilitative processes,
- Social diversity is a positive.”

##### **4.3 Service Focus**

The focus for the Charity is to give service users the opportunity to prepare for work and for reintegration into their community, with support provided by mentoring and certificated work experience. A project maintaining a local churchyard remained as a legacy of a defunct charity and it was agreed that taking over this project, with the agreement and enthusiastic support of the Church authorities, would be a good starting point for the new charity's operations. That project remains the cornerstone of the Charity's activities. This year the charity has negotiated more paid groundwork in local church yards and vicarage gardens.

##### **4.4 Activities**

The year under review, 2023-2024, has been the fourth full year of planned operation. Recognising the fragility of existence in the Third Sector, with the need to develop contacts, establish a firm base and the inevitable reliance on the generosity of donors and other voluntary funders, the Trustees continue to adopt a “softly softly” approach.

In July 2023 Beginning Again became a member of Cumbria CVS and have been able to register opportunities for volunteers and trustees.

Thanks to both financial and moral support from Torpenhow District Church Council and the Team Rector, we were able to continue to employ a part-time Operations Manager to oversee the regular maintenance of a large churchyard. By common consent, the service users – ex-offenders – who have carried out the work have done so enthusiastically and to a high standard. Paid groundwork has also been negotiated and completed in vicarages which have become unoccupied. Further paid work has also been negotiated in West Cumbria following campaign of Direct mail as a strategy for fundraising and gaining work-placements.

Besides the regular work at Torpenhow, the project has carried out work at other sites and talks are in progress to secure regular contracts at other locations, Naturally, this will require addressing issues of transport, supervision and manpower. More equipment has been purchased to meet the increase in variety of groundwork.

The underlying purpose of the project included the provision of appropriate training for service users, with the aim of improving their employment prospects. Under guidance of the Operations Manager service users who demonstrate capability in the use of and maintenance of horticultural equipment, health and safety at work, will have their achievements recorded in certificates which can support their search for employment. Service users' motivation, reliability and commitment to the project are also key factors for accreditation.

However, helping attendees reach competence in the use of machinery is only part of the role of the Operations Manager who, with active support from Trustees, takes a personal interest in each participant, offering advice and support for them as they deal with the everyday issues that can arise in life. He is also responsible for liaison with the Probation Service to recruit appropriate service users.

To date, the project has benefitted 6 service users, of whom 1 has received offers of employment and the others are seeking interviews for employment. Only one has re-entered the criminal justice system, for an historic offence committed well before involvement with the project. The progress of each individual is measured by use of a widely recognised tool called CrimePics. Participants, who are risk-assessed before being referred to Beginning Again by the Probation Service or their agent Achieve Northwest Connect, are assessed on entry and then regularly thereafter. Even though the sample size remains small, it is possible to detect progress in the attitudes and thinking processes of individuals.

Trustees recognise the importance of relationships with key stakeholders, especially the Probation Service. Early meetings with the Probation Service and their agent Achieve North West Connect (ANW), established the bona fides of the new Charity and began the discussion into how the Charity could work with those bodies to support their work on rehabilitation. A Memorandum of Understanding on how the organisations would work together was agreed with Probation. That close liaison continues to be crucial to both Beginning Again and those referred to the project. It is of key importance that confidence in what Beginning Again can offer remains high,

because the project is nothing without referral of suitable candidates for participation.

In the past Probation has accepted accrediting hours spent by a service user against unpaid work hours mandated under a court order. It is hoped that this practice will be extended to other service users. In a further development, it was identified that service users very often required assistance with handling money. Beginning Again has therefore developed a modular programme of training tailored to service users and others who find difficulty in budgeting on a limited income.

As part of on-going work to make the Charity efficient, effective and viable, the Trustees have drafted a Development Plan to underpin their efforts, and have developed a website, containing contact details, along with a printed flier to introduce the Charity to funders and to the wider public and to record its progress.

**Having considered the Charity Commission guidance, the Trustees believe that their activities are contributing to the public benefit and that they have complied with that guidance.**


## 5. THE CHARITY'S FINANCES AND RESERVES

The agreement with Torpenhow Church Council for the upkeep of the churchyard has secured a regular donation, enabling the employment of a member of staff to supervise service users. A generous grant has been received from the Charity Aspatria & District Community Charity Association. Donations have been received from churches in the Western Fells Methodist Circuit, personal donations and work completed in other locations has generated an addition income. The Trustees are grateful to all of our funders for their generous support and continue to seek other funding streams to further strengthen the Charity.

It is inevitable with Third Sector charitable organisations that there is a never-ending need to identify a variety of funding sources. Given that charities such as Beginning Again make a significant contribution to delivery of national priorities, it is important for government – national and local – to accept some responsibility for ensuring that such bodies do not perish through lack of financial support.

**In view of the fact that the Charity is still very small, the Trustees have decided that it currently has sufficient funds to cover unavoidable costs if necessary but that it is too early to have a more formal Reserves Policy. However this matter will be kept under regular review.**

Signed on behalf of Beginning Again



Trustee

Date:

14<sup>th</sup> October '24 J.G. Woodland

Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to  
The Trustees of Beginning Again**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out below.

**Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
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**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



**Name in Full: Mrs Joyce Keetley**

**Address: Stonehaven, Tower Court, Warcop, Appleby CA16 6NL**

**Date: 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**BEGINNING AGAIN RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

For The Period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>			
Donations	7923.66	3000.00	10923.66
Re-charged expenses	184.16		184.16
Gift Aid	181.93		181.93
Bank interest	21.34		21.34
Contracted work	<u>400.00</u>		<u>400.00</u>
<b><u>TOTAL INCOME</u></b>	<b><u>8711.09</u></b>	<b><u>3000.00</u></b>	<b><u>11711.09</u></b>
<b><u>PAYMENTS</u></b>			
Accountancy	71.50		71.50
Bank charges	60.00		60.00
Publicity	63.00		63.00
Trustee expenses	250.94		250.94
Staff expenses	1322.29		1322.29
Service user expenses	610.35		610.35
Insurance	1110.39		1110.39
Purchase of equipment	1417.00		1417.00
Staff salaries	5408.04		5408.04
Website	<u>113.39</u>		<u>113.39</u>
<b><u>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</u></b>	<b><u>10426.90</u></b>		<b><u>10426.90</u></b>
<b><u>NET RECEIPTS (PAYMENTS)</u></b>	<b>(1715.81)</b>	<b>3000.00</b>	<b>1284.19</b>
Cash Funds brought forward	8721.89		8721.89
<b>Cash Funds at 31 March 2024</b>	<b><u>7006.08</u></b>	<b><u>3000.00</u></b>	<b><u>10006.08</u></b>

**BEGINNING AGAIN**

England & Wales - Charity number 1185334

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# Accounts

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# BEGINNING AGAIN

Accounts and Annual Report  
For the period ended 31st March 2023

Registered Charity Number 1185334

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Trustees Annual Report  
Independent Examiners Report  
Receipts and Payments Accounts  
Statement of Assets and Liabilities

## ANNUAL REPORT OF BEGINNING AGAIN

For the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

### 1. THE CHARITY

- Beginning Again (BA) was registered on 16 September 2019 by the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered number 1185334.
- Administration has been carried out by one of the Trustees (Christopher Armstrong) from his home address, which has been registered with the Charity Commission as the Charity's base.

### 2. THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY

The charitable objectives of Beginning Again are:

To promote the resettlement and rehabilitation of offenders, ex-offenders and those at risk of offending in order to reduce rates of re-offending and to contribute to the creation of safer communities through, but not exclusively, the provision of mentoring, advice and opportunities for work experience.

**The Trustees believe that the activities of the Charity during the report period have supported these objectives.**

### 3. THE TRUSTEES

During the report period, the Trustees of Beginning Again were:

Ian William Lewis Parker

Christopher John Armstrong

Hilary James Clarke

Alison Margaret Newcome

Patricia Anne Rogers

Timothy John Sheldon (from 7 February 2023)

Sharon Elizabeth Woollard (from 7 February 2023)

The Charity's governing document provides that new Trustees are appointed by the existing Trustees. To promote continuity, it has been agreed that each Trustee would serve for a limited period of time prior to seeking re-appointment. No Trustee may serve for a period exceeding 3 years without re-appointment. A Trustee who has served for three consecutive terms may not be re-appointed for a fourth consecutive term but may be re-appointed after an interval of at least one year.

Efforts to strengthen the Board by the addition of specific finance, human resources and business skills are on-going.

Christopher Armstrong has indicated his intention to resign as a Trustee with effect from 31 March 2023. From 1 April 2023, his administrative roles are to be carried out by Timothy Sheldon (as Treasurer) and Sharon Woollard (as Secretary and Charity Commission contact).

The Trustees have met, mainly via video conferencing, on 9 occasions during the reporting year to discuss progress and make decisions.

## 4. THE CHARITY'S ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

### 4.1 The Background

On 25 March 2019, a group of people met to consider the setting up of a new charity aimed at providing support for offenders and ex-offenders in Cumbria. From knowledge of the County, it had been identified that there was a gap in the provision of community help towards rehabilitation for those within the target group.

It was decided to form a new charity and Beginning Again was subsequently registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Those present at that first meeting agreed to be the first Trustees.

### 4.2 Underpinning Beliefs

It was agreed that the charity would be underpinned by the following statement of Beliefs:

“ Inspired by the Christian values of social concern, our beliefs are:

- Every individual is of value,
- Change in attitudes and values can be brought about,
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- Social diversity is a positive.”

### 4.3 Service Focus

The focus for the Charity is to give service users the opportunity to prepare for work and for reintegration into their community, with support provided by mentoring and certificated work experience. A project maintaining a local churchyard remained as a legacy of a defunct charity and it was agreed that taking over this project, with the agreement and enthusiastic support of the Church authorities, would be a good starting point for the new charity's operations. That project remains the cornerstone of the Charity's activities.

### 4.4 Activities

As explained in our Annual Report for 2021-2022, Beginning Again's progress following its formation was effectively suspended by the impact of the Covid pandemic. The year under review, 2022-2023, has therefore been only the second full year of planned operation. Recognising the fragility of existence in the Third Sector, with the need to develop contacts, establish a firm base and the inevitable reliance on the generosity of donors and other voluntary funders, the Trustees adopted a “softly softly” approach.

Thanks to both financial and moral support from Torpenhow District Church Council and the Team Rector, we were able to continue to employ a part-time Operations Manager to oversee the regular maintenance of a large churchyard. By common consent, the service users – ex-offenders – who have carried out the work have done so enthusiastically and to a high standard.

The senior Church Warden of St Michael and All Angels Church, Torpenhow has said:

*On behalf of myself and Torpenhow District Church Council, I would like to express our thanks for the excellent work (the Operations Manager) and his team have done in St Michael's Churchyard this year. Knowing how difficult it is to maintain this large*

*area, not only have they maintained the current and newer parts of the churchyard to a much appreciated standard, but have also worked to clear an additional area in the burial area and cut back a large part of the old churchyard.*

*I personally would like to add my thanks for the flexibility shown in meeting our needs when we have had weddings and funerals or other special requests.*

Besides the regular work at Torpenhow, the project has carried out work at other sites and talks are in progress to secure regular contracts at other locations, including expansion into the south of the County. Naturally this will require addressing issues of supervision, manpower and the purchase of more equipment.

The underlying purpose of the project included the provision of appropriate training for service users, with the aim of improving their employment prospects. Consequently the Operations Manager continued to use the formal LANTRA qualifications in the use and maintenance of horticultural equipment, health and safety, first aid and training techniques, obtained thanks to a grant from the Cumbria Police and Crime Commissioner. Under his tutelage, service users who demonstrate capability in the use of the machinery and also their reliability and commitment, will have their achievements recorded in certificates which can support their search for employment.

However helping attendees reach competence in the use of machinery is only part of the role of the Operations Manager who, with active support from Trustees, takes a personal interest in each participant, offering advice and support for them as they deal with the everyday issues that can arise in life.

Here are some comments received from some of our service users.

- *When I started coming, I was made to feel welcome and never felt judged. Over the time I've been attending, I've learned new skills, people have noticed big difference in my confidence, my work rate has improved and I always look forward to going every week and the scenery is amazing, it gives me pride and sense of reward to see the job we do keeping the church looking tidy and get plenty of compliments from the locals which is great for self-esteem.*
- *Going has literally saved my life. It has given me the confidence to leave the house and mix with other people and showed me that I have a future in society. The project has also encouraged me in my quest to seek employment.*
- *I really enjoy attending every week, it gives me great satisfaction in what I achieve there, in a place where I won't be judged and have fingers pointed at me.*

To date, the project has benefitted 7 service users, of whom 4 have received offers of employment and only one has re-entered the criminal justice system, for an historic offence committed well before involvement with the project. The progress of each individual is measured by use of a widely-recognised tool called CrimePics. Participants, who are risk-assessed before being referred to Beginning Again by the Probation Service or their agent Achieve Northwest Connect, are assessed on entry and then regularly thereafter. Even though the sample size remains small, it is possible to detect progress in the attitudes and thinking processes of individuals.

Trustees recognise the importance of relationships with key stakeholders, especially the Probation Service. Early meetings with the Probation Service and their agent Achieve North West Connect (ANW), established the bona fides of the new Charity and began the discussion into how the Charity could work with those bodies to support their work on rehabilitation. A Memorandum of Understanding on how the organisations would work together was agreed with Probation. That close liaison

continues to be crucial to both Beginning Again and those referred to the project. It is of key importance that confidence in what Beginning Again can offer remains high, because the project is nothing without referral of suitable candidates for participation.

In the past Probation has accepted accrediting hours spent by a service user against unpaid work hours mandated under a court order. It is hoped that this practice will be extended to other service users. In a further development, it was identified that service users very often required assistance with handling money. Beginning Again has therefore developed a modular programme of training tailored to service users and others who find difficulty in budgeting on a limited income.

As part of on-going work to make the Charity efficient, effective and viable, the Trustees have drafted and implemented a Development Plan to underpin their efforts, and have implemented a website, containing contact details, to introduce the Charity to funders and to the wider public and to record its progress.

**Having considered the Charity Commission guidance, the Trustees believe that their activities are contributing to the public benefit and that they have complied with that guidance.**

## **5. THE CHARITY'S FINANCES AND RESERVES**

The agreement with Torpenhow Church Council for the upkeep of the churchyard has secured a regular donation, enabling the employment of a member of staff to supervise service users and grants have been received from the Cumbria Police & Crime Commissioner, the Cumbria Methodist Circuit and the Aspatria & District Community Charity Association. The Charity has also received several other helpful donations and has generated additional funds through work completed in other locations. The Trustees are grateful to all of our funders for their generous support and continue to seek other funding streams to further strengthen the Charity.

It is inevitable with Third Sector charitable organisations that there is a never-ending need to identify a variety of funding sources. Given that charities such as Beginning Again make a significant contribution to delivery of national priorities, it is important for government – national and local – to accept some responsibility for ensuring that such bodies do not perish through lack of financial support.

**In view of the fact that the Charity is still very small, the Trustees have decided that it currently has sufficient funds to cover unavoidable costs if necessary but that it is too early to have a more formal Reserves Policy. However this matter will be kept under regular review.**

Signed on behalf of Beginning Again



Trustee

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2023.



Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to  
The Trustees of Beginning Again**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out below.

**Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name in Full: Mrs Joyce Keetley

Address: Stonehaven, Tower Court, Warcop, Appleby CA16 6NL

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023

**BEGINNING AGAIN RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

**Period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>			
Grants	7250.00		7250.00
Re-charged expenses	254.43		254.43
Gift Aid	271.40		271.40
Bank interest	16.02		16.02
Contracted work	947.25		947.25
Donations	<u>8391.04</u>		<u>8391.04</u>
<b><u>TOTAL INCOME</u></b>	<b><u>17130.14</u></b>		<b><u>17130.14</u></b>
<b><u>PAYMENTS</u></b>			
Accountancy	67.60		67.60
Bank charges	72.00		72.00
Consultancy	2584.95		2584.95
Loan repayment	1000.00		1000.00
Equipment hire	2.00		2.00
Staff expenses	1649.43		1649.43
Service user expenses	670.05		670.05
Insurance	1000.44		1000.44
Purchase of equipment	591.00		591.00
Staff salaries	5996.68		5996.68
Training	1122.86	160.00	1282.86
Website	<u>113.39</u>		<u>113.39</u>
<b><u>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</u></b>	<b><u>14870.40</u></b>	<b><u>160.00</u></b>	<b><u>15030.40</u></b>
<b><u>NET RECEIPTS (PAYMENTS)</u></b>			2099.74
Cash Funds brought forward	6462.15	160.00	6622.15
Cash Funds at 31 March 2023	<u>8721.89</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>8721.89</u>

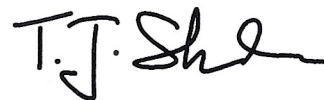
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

Cash at Bank	8721.89
Cash Funds at 31 March 2023	<u>8721.89</u>

Approved by the Trustees on

and signed on their behalf by

T.J.Sheldon, Trustee



3rd August 2023.

**BEGINNING AGAIN**

England & Wales - Charity number 1185334

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# Accounts

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**BEGINNING AGAIN**

**ACCOUNTS AND ANNUAL REPORT**

**For the period ended 31 March 2022**

**Registered Charity Number 1185334**

**CONTENTS**

**Trustees' Annual Report**

**Independent Examiner's Report**

**Receipts and Payments Account**

**Statement of Assets and Liabilities**

# ANNUAL REPORT OF BEGINNING AGAIN

For the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022

## 1. THE CHARITY

- Beginning Again (BA) was registered on 16 September 2019 by the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered number 1185334.
- Administration is carried out by one of the Trustees (Christopher Armstrong) from his home address, which has been registered with the Charity Commission as the Charity's base.

## 2. THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY

The charitable objectives of Beginning Again are:

To promote the resettlement and rehabilitation of offenders, ex-offenders and those at risk of offending in order to reduce rates of re-offending and to contribute to the creation of safer communities through, but not exclusively, the provision of mentoring, advice and opportunities for work experience.

**The Trustees believe that the activities of the Charity during the report period have supported these objectives.**

## 3. THE TRUSTEES

During the report period, the Trustees of Beginning Again were:

Ian William Lewis Parker

Christopher John Armstrong

Hilary James Clarke

Alison Margaret Newcome

Patricia Anne Rogers

The Charity's governing document provides that new Trustees are appointed by the existing Trustees. To promote continuity, it has been agreed that each Trustee would serve for a limited period of time prior to seeking re-appointment. No Trustee may serve for a period exceeding 3 years without re-appointment. A Trustee who has served for three consecutive terms may not be re-appointed for a fourth consecutive term but may be re-appointed after an interval of at least one year.

Efforts to strengthen the Board by the addition of specific finance, human resources and business skills are on-going.

The Trustees have met, mainly via video conferencing, on 8 occasions during the reporting year to discuss progress and make decisions.

## 4. THE CHARITY'S ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

### 4.1 The Background

On 25 March 2019, a group of people met to consider the setting up of a new charity aimed at providing support for offenders and ex-offenders in Cumbria. From knowledge of the County, it had been identified that there was a gap in the provision of community help towards rehabilitation for those within the target group.

It was decided to form a new charity and Beginning Again was subsequently registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Those present at that first meeting agreed to be the first Trustees.

#### **4.2 Underpinning Beliefs**

It was agreed that the charity would be underpinned by the following statement of Beliefs:

“ Inspired by the Christian values of social concern, our beliefs are:

- Every individual is of value,
- Change in attitudes and values can be brought about,
- Local community involvement has the potential to make a positive contribution to resettlement and rehabilitative processes,
- Social diversity is a positive.”

#### **4.3 Service Focus**

From the start, the operational plan was to give service users the opportunity of preparing for work and for reintegration into their community, with support provided by mentoring and certificated work experience. A project maintaining a local churchyard remained as a legacy of a defunct charity and it was agreed that taking over this project, with the agreement and enthusiastic support of the Church authorities, would be a good starting point for the new charity's operations. Unfortunately, the advent of the Covid pandemic and consequent restrictions meant that the project could not be officially taken over until 1 April 2021.

#### **4.4 Activities**

The importance of relationships with key stakeholders, especially the Probation Service and the Cumbria Police and Crime Commissioner, was recognised and early meetings took place with the Probation Service and their agent Achieve North West Connect (ANW), to establish the bona fides of the new charity and to investigate how the charity could work with those bodies to support their work on rehabilitation. A Memorandum of Understanding on how the organisations would work together was agreed with Probation.

Unfortunately, a combination of the inevitable delays caused by Government Covid restrictions, staff changes in ANW and the reorganisation of the Probation Service served to restrict the recruitment of eligible service users, and consequently the anticipated growth in activity since April 2021 has not taken place. Strenuous efforts have been made to re-activate the relationships and discussions are on-going as to how recruitment of more service users can be energised.

With all relevant policies and procedures in place, and having entered into an Agreement with the Torpenhow Church authorities, on 1 April 2021 Beginning Again began to employ as Operations Manager the person who had previously supervised the legacy project. The manager and service users have attended weekly during the report year to cut grass, clear leaves and debris and generally maintain the churchyard to a high standard. The District Church Council at its Annual Meeting has expressed its thanks, support and admiration for the efforts of those involved.

Similar work has been carried out at other sites and exploration of other possibilities continues, though that is dependent on receiving further referrals and funding.

Since the project began, a total of 6 ex-offenders have worked under the supervision of the manager who has, thanks to a grant from the Cumbria Police and Crime Commissioner, been fully trained in the use of the various pieces of equipment used, ie mowers and strimmers. Of those 6 service users, 3 have received offers of employment. To assess the impact working on the project is having on the progress of those participating, Beginning Again uses a recognised measuring tool, Crime Pics II, with positive early indications. The next step is to have the Operations Manager qualified to accredit service users in the skills they have obtained.

Discussions with Probation resulted in accrediting hours spent by a service user against unpaid work hours mandated under a court order. It is hoped that this practice will be extended to other service users. In addition, it was identified that service users very often required assistance with handling money. Beginning Again has therefore developed a modular programme of training to be delivered to service users and others who find difficulty in budgeting on a limited income.

As part of work to make the charity efficient, effective and viable, the Trustees have drafted and implemented a Development Plan to underpin their efforts, and have commissioned a website to introduce the charity to funders and to the wider public and to record its progress.

**Having considered the Charity Commission guidance, the Trustees believe that their activities are contributing to the public benefit and that they have complied with that guidance.**

## **5. THE CHARITY'S FINANCES AND RESERVES**

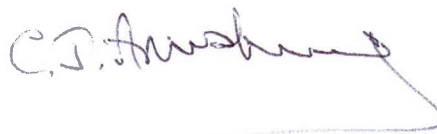
An agreement with Torpenhow Church Council for the upkeep of the churchyard has secured a regular donation, enabling the employment of a member of staff to supervise service users, and grants have been received from the Cumbria Police and Crime Commissioner and the Hedley Foundation. The Trustees are grateful to all of our funders for their generous support. Other funding applications are either drafted and ready for submission, or are awaiting a decision by funders.

**In view of the fact that the charity is still in its infancy, the Trustees have decided that it is still too early to have a realistic Reserves Policy. However this matter will be kept under regular review.**

**Signed on behalf of Beginning Again**



**Trustee**



**Trustee**

**Date:** 15/6/2022

**Independent Examiner's Report to  
The Trustees of Beginning Again**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out below.

**Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Signed:**

*J. A. Keestley*  
MRS JOYCE KEESTLEY

**Name in Full:**

Stenehamen Tower Court, Warcop.

**Address:**

Appleby, CA16 6NL

**Date:**

8<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

**BEGINNING AGAIN**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**  
**Period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021/22 Total
	£	£	£
<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>			
Grant from Hedley Foundation	639.00		639.00
Re-charged expenses	209.03		209.03
Donations	<u>8091.00</u>		<u>8091.00</u>
<b><u>TOTAL INCOME</u></b>	<b><u>8939.03</u></b>		<b><u>8939.03</u></b>
<b><u>PAYMENTS</u></b>			
Accountancy	111.00		111.00
Bank charges	96.00		96.00
Equipment hire	1.00		1.00
Staff expenses	1035.32		1035.32
Service user expenses	356.40		356.40
Insurance	331.15		331.15
Purchase of equipment	571.69		571.69
Staff salaries	5408.04		5408.04
Training		3340.00	3340.00
Website design	<u>499.00</u>	_____	<u>499.00</u>
<b><u>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</u></b>	<b><u>8409.60</u></b>	<b><u>3340.00</u></b>	<b><u>11749.60</u></b>
<b><u>NET RECEIPTS (PAYMENTS)</u></b>			<b>(2810.57)</b>
Cash Funds brought forward	5932.72	3500.00	<u>9432.72</u>
Cash Funds at 31 March 2022	<u>6462.15</u>	<u>160.00</u>	<u>6622.15</u>

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

Cash at Bank	6622.15
Cash Funds at 31 March 2022	<u>6622.15</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 15/6/2022 and signed on their behalf by

 C. J. Armstrong - Trustee

**BEGINNING AGAIN**

England & Wales - Charity number 1185334

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# Accounts

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# **ANNUAL REPORT OF BEGINNING AGAIN**

For the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021

## **1. THE CHARITY**

- **Beginning Again (BA) was registered on 16 September 2019 by the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered number 1185334.**
- **Administration is carried out by one of the Trustees (Christopher Armstrong) from his home address, which has been registered with the Charity Commission as the Charity's base.**

## **2. THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY**

**The charitable objectives of Beginning Again are:**

**To promote the resettlement and rehabilitation of offenders, ex-offenders and those at risk of offending in order to reduce rates of re-offending and to contribute to the creation of safer communities through, but not exclusively, the provision of mentoring, advice and opportunities for work experience.**

**The Trustees believe that the activities of the Charity during the report period have supported these objectives.**

## **3. THE TRUSTEES**

**During the report period, the Trustees of Beginning Again were:**

**Ian William Lewis Parker**

**Christopher John Armstrong**

**Hilary James Clarke**

**Alison Margaret Newcome**

**Patricia Anne Rogers**

**The Charity's governing document provides that new Trustees are to be appointed by the existing Trustees. To promote continuity, it has been agreed that each Trustee would serve for a limited period of time prior to seeking re-appointment. No Trustee may serve for a period exceeding 3 years without re-appointment. A Trustee who has served for three consecutive terms may not be re-appointed for a fourth consecutive term but may be re-appointed after an interval of at least one year.**

**The Trustees have met via video conferencing on 11 occasions during the reporting year to discuss progress and make decisions.**

## **4. THE CHARITY'S ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

### **4.1 The Background**

**On 25 March 2019, a group of people met to consider the setting up of a new charity aimed at providing support for offenders and ex-offenders in Cumbria. The impetus for doing so was the demise of a recently-defunct charity which had been doing valuable work with the target group, leaving a gap in the provision of community help towards rehabilitation.**

It was decided to form a new charity and seek registration with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Those present agreed to be the first Trustees and discussions took place on the formal objectives of the new charity and its name, and on practical issues such as banking, insurance, funding streams and administration.

#### **4.2 Underpinning Beliefs**

Although it was not necessary to include it in the constitution, it was agreed that the charity would be underpinned by the following statement of Beliefs:

“ Inspired by the Christian values of social concern, our beliefs are:

- Every individual is of value,
- Change in attitudes and values can be brought about,
- Local community involvement has the potential to make a positive contribution to resettlement and rehabilitative processes,
- Social diversity is a positive.”

#### **4.3 Stakeholders**

It was considered of vital importance that key stakeholders, especially the Probation Service and the Cumbria Police and Crime Commissioner, should be made aware of the intentions. During its first year, representative Trustees met with the Probation Service in Cumbria and its delivery partners. A Memorandum of Understanding on how the two organisations would work together was agreed with Probation.

#### **4.4 Preparation for action**

Despite frustrating delays, essential requirements such as registration with the Charity Commission, the opening of a bank account with CAF Bank, and public liability insurance were all secured, and Trustees approved various policies and procedures in anticipation of the commencement of operations. This process has continued, to ensure that the charity complies with accepted business norms. In particular, a Development Plan has been produced, with an agreed, timed Action Plan to underpin its delivery.

#### **4.5 Service Focus**

It was agreed from the beginning that giving service users the opportunity of preparing for work and for reintegration into their community, with support provided by mentoring and certificated work experience, was the appropriate way forward. A project maintaining a local churchyard remained as a legacy of the defunct charity and it was agreed that taking over this project, which had been agreed in principle with Church authorities, would be a good starting point for the new charity's operations. This would involve employing the person presently in charge and therefore funding applications were submitted. A grant was obtained from the Police and Crime Commissioner to fund training and certification.

#### **4.6 The COVID-19 Epidemic**

Just as the Trustees were anticipating finally beginning operations, the requirements of social isolation, mandated by the Government as a result of the COVID-19 virus, served to halt any further progress, with involvement on the legacy project halted and the charity unable to recruit new service users or volunteers.

#### 4.7 Year-end Position

Trustees continued to keep in touch electronically but, in terms of the desire to take over the existing project and engage service users in physical activity, during the report year the charity was effectively in a state of suspended animation. However, the time was not totally wasted as planning for training of both prospective staff and service users, and preparations for employment of an Operations Officer, continued.

As the success of the Covid-19 vaccination programme became apparent, and restrictions began to be lifted, the decision was taken to proceed with the plan to employ a member of staff and to take over the legacy project with effect from 1 April 2021. A formal agreement was entered into for upkeep of the churchyard at Torpenhow, one other site is ready to commission and others are being sought. Discussions are on-going with Probation about accrediting hours spent by service users on projects against unpaid work hours mandated under court orders. A basic professional payroll service has been commissioned and the charity has been registered as an employer with HMRC.

**The Trustees have, of necessity, focused their activities on making the charity ready to begin delivery of its objects. Having considered the Charity Commission guidance, the Trustees believe that, in this sense, their activities will contribute to the public benefit and that they have complied with that guidance.**

#### 5. THE CHARITY'S FINANCES AND RESERVES

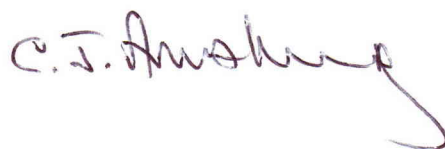
Despite the frustrations of the year brought about by the pandemic restrictions, the focus for Trustees during the year continued to be on making sure that, once restrictions eased, delivery of the charity's objects could begin. An application to the Cumbria Police and Crime Commissioner for a grant towards training of staff and service users was successful, but experience showed that the focus for funders was on supporting recovery from Covid-19 rather than on funding new initiatives. An agreement with Torpenhow Church Council for the upkeep of the churchyard has secured a regular donation, enabling the employment of a member of staff to supervise service users, and other funding applications are either drafted and ready for submission, or are awaiting a decision by funders.

**In view of the fact that the charity is still in its infancy, the Trustees have decided that it is not yet appropriate to have a Reserves Policy. However, now that the charity is an employer and has, from 1 April 2021, begun limited operations, this matter will be kept under regular review.**

Signed on behalf of Beginning Again



Trustee



Trustee

Date: 15/6/21

**Independent Examiner's Report to  
The Trustees of Beginning Again**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set out below.

**Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and the Independent Examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission.

An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Signed:**

*J.A. Keetley*

**Name in Full:** Mrs J.A. Keetley

**Address:** Stonehaven, Tower Court, Warrup, Appleby  
CA16 6NL

**Date:**

29<sup>th</sup> May 2021

## BEGINNING AGAIN

Period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021

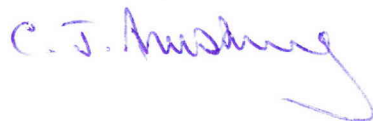
### RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	20/21 Total
	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>			
Grant from PCC		3500.00	3500.00
Donations	<u>311.85</u>		<u>311.85</u>
	<u>311.85</u>	<u>3500.00</u>	<u>3811.85</u>
<b>Payments</b>			
Volunteer expenses	185.11		185.11
Website domain	11.99		11.99
Bank charges	<u>69.00</u>		69.00
	<u>266.10</u>		<u>266.10</u>
Net receipts	45.75	3500.00	3545.75
Cash Funds brought forward	<u>5886.97</u>		<u>5886.97</u>
Cash Funds at 31 March 2021	<u>5932.72</u>	<u>3500.00</u>	<u>9432.72</u>

### STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Cash at Bank	9432.72
Cash Funds at 31 March 2021	<u>9432.72</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 15/6/21 and signed on their behalf by



C. J. Armstrong - Trustee