

# CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

England & Wales · Charity number 1187208

## Details

---

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2020-01-06

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

## Contact

---

**Address** 25 Duvant Road  
Swindon  
SN25 2AW

**Phone** 07588526479

**Email** [connect\\_swindon@yahoo.com](mailto:connect_swindon@yahoo.com)

## Activities

---

**Objects:** 1. COMMUNITY CENTRE TO FURTHER OR BENEFIT IN PARTICULAR (BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY) MUSLIM WOMEN AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD, WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, RACE OR OF POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS OR OTHER OPINIONS BY ASSOCIATING TOGETHER THE SAID RESIDENTS AND THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES, VOLUNTARY AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS IN A COMMON EFFORT TO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND TO PROVIDE FACILITIES IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR RECREATION AND LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR THE RESIDENTS. IN FURTHERANCE OF THESE OBJECTS BUT NOT OTHERWISE, THE TRUSTEES SHALL HAVE POWER: TO ESTABLISH OR SECURE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMUNITY CENTRE AND TO MAINTAIN OR MANAGE OR CO-OPERATE WITH ANY STATUTORY AUTHORITY IN THE MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF SUCH A CENTRE FOR ACTIVITIES PROMOTED BY THE CHARITY IN FURTHERANCE OF THE ABOVE OBJECTS. SOCIAL INCLUSION 2. FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC, TO PROMOTE GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN PERSONS OF DIFFERENT RACIAL GROUPS AND RELIGIONS, IN PARTICULAR, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY THROUGH A) COMMUNITY EVENTS CELEBRATING CULTURE, FOOD AND LANGUAGE AND B) INTERFAITH EVENTS INCLUDING OPEN IFTARs AND INFORMATION SESSIONS DURING RAMADAN. SOCIAL RELIEF 3. FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE LOCAL SWINDON COMMUNITY, TO PROVIDE SOCIAL RELIEF AND SUPPORT TO REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS BY PROVIDING FURNITURE, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND WHERE NECESSARY, FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR EDUCATIONAL PURSUITS TO HELP THEM INTEGRATE INTO SOCIETY. A. FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS CLAUSE, "REFUGEES" REFER TO THOSE GRANTED INDEFINITE LEAVE TO REMAIN STATUS BY THE UK GOVERNMENT.

**Activities:** Connecting Communities is a non-profit charity which promotes social inclusion and provides social relief to people in the local Swindon Community. We carry out this mission through events that celebrate diversity and fundraisers that engage and mobilise different racial and religious groups. We aim to work with local charities where possible to maximise our impact.

## Classification

- **How:** Provides Other Finance, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Disability, Religious Activities, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

## Geography

- Swindon

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-05-31	£43,170	£35,639	-	-
2024-05-31	£28,987	£23,328	-	-
2023-05-31	£21,009	£19,263	-	-
2022-05-31	£3,339	£3,229	-	-
2021-05-31	£9,466	£5,020	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Tajwar Hassan	Chair	2019-11-03
Gillian Stokes		2019-11-03
NAUSHEEN ALI		2019-11-15

**CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1187208

---

# Accounts

---

2024–2025

# ANNUAL REPORT



**Connecting  
Communities**

# Table of Contents

- Message from Chairperson
- Our Story
- Our Objectives
- Our Values
- International Food Fair
- Our Services
- Our Projects
- Financial Review
- Contact Us



# A Message from the Chair

It gives me great pleasure to share this year's annual report, reflecting on another year of connection, growth, and community spirit. Our charity continues to provide a welcoming space for women to come together and improve their wellbeing through our social and exercise groups, fostering a true sense of belonging.

A highlight of the year was our International Food Fair, which brought the wider community together to celebrate culture, food, and friendship. The event raised vital funds and showcased the diversity and talent within our group. Thank you to everyone who cooked, performed, volunteered, or attended — it was a wonderful reminder of what we can achieve together.

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to our volunteers, supporters, and partners whose dedication makes all of this possible. Your time, generosity, and belief in our mission enables us to continue empowering women and building lasting connections.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to growing our programmes and reaching more women who can benefit from the warmth, encouragement, and opportunities our charity provides. Together, we are building stronger, healthier, and more connected communities.

With gratitude and best wishes,

*Tajwar Hassan*  
Chair of trustees

# Our Story

Connecting Communities began with a simple idea – bringing people together through food. Starting with an International Food Fair in Swindon, sharing dishes sparked conversations, friendships, and a love of diversity.

Since then, we have grown into a grassroots charity connecting women from diverse backgrounds through social, exercise, and wellbeing activities, helping them build confidence, stay active, and find a sense of belonging in a supportive environment.

**From its humble beginnings, Connecting Communities has shown the power of women coming together to share, support, and make a difference both locally and globally.**



# Our Objective

The objective of Connecting Communities is to promote wellbeing, inclusion, and empowerment among women from diverse cultural and social backgrounds.

We aim to:

- Create safe and welcoming spaces where women can connect, build friendships, and share experiences.
- Encourage health and wellbeing through regular social, educational, and exercise activities.
- Support personal growth and confidence by providing opportunities to learn new skills and engage in community projects.
- Foster understanding and unity across different cultures within our local community.
- Extending the feeling of community beyond borders through fundraising initiatives that support humanitarian causes and women's empowerment internationally

*Connecting Communities seeks to build stronger, healthier, and more connected communities where every woman feels valued and supported*

# Our Values

Our values of compassion, inclusion, and respect guide everything we do creating a supportive environment.

**Inclusivity** – We welcome women from all backgrounds, cultures, and faiths, celebrating diversity.

**Empowerment** – We support women to build confidence, develop skills, and take positive steps toward personal and collective growth.

**Safe Space** – We provide a non-judgemental environment where women can connect and support one another.

**People-Centred** – We listen first, shaping our activities around the needs, strengths, and aspirations of the women and communities we serve.

**Community** – We bring people together to foster friendship, understanding, and mutual support.

**Collaboration** – We believe in the power of working together with our members, volunteers, and partners to create lasting positive change.



**Together, these values inspire us to build stronger, safer, and more connected communities where every woman can thrive.**

# The International Food Fair

Our annual International Food Fair was once again a vibrant celebration of culture, community, and connection. This year, we were delighted to welcome participants from 14 different countries, each showcasing their traditional dishes and culture. The event truly reflected the diversity and unity that lie at the heart of Connecting Communities.

Alongside the delicious food stalls, the day featured children's activities, and charity and community stalls. Families and friends came together to enjoy a joyful atmosphere filled with laughter, learning, and shared experiences.

The Food Fair not only celebrated our rich multicultural community but also served as an important fundraising event to support our ongoing programmes and outreach activities.

The poster for the International Food Fair is vibrant and colorful. At the top, a row of 14 national flags represents the participating countries. Below the flags, a green circle with white text says "FREE ENTRY". To the right is the "Connecting Communities" logo, which is a colorful geometric pattern. The main title "International FOOD Fair" is prominently displayed in the center, with "International" in yellow, "FOOD" in white on a red background, and "Fair" in yellow. Below the title, the date "29 JUNE 2024" is written in large black numbers. Underneath the date, a green banner indicates the time "11.30am - 4pm". The location "Steam Museum Swindon" is written in red, with "Great Western Hall" in smaller black text below it. A black circle with white text says "FAMILY EVENT". The bottom section of the poster features the text "Enjoy... Home cooked traditional food, desserts, henna, face painting & much more!". At the very bottom, contact information is provided: "For more information contact Gill: 07498214370" and "A not-for-profit event supporting local and international charities". Social media handles "@connectingcommunities" and "#swindonworldfood" are also listed. The bottom edge of the poster features another row of 14 national flags, mirroring the top.

FREE ENTRY

Connecting Communities

International  
**FOOD**  
Fair

29 JUNE 2024

11.30am - 4pm

Steam Museum  
Swindon  
Great Western Hall

FAMILY EVENT

Enjoy... Home cooked traditional food, desserts, henna, face painting & much more!

For more information contact Gill: 07498214370  
A not-for-profit event supporting local and international charities

@connectingcommunities  
#swindonworldfood

# 2024 Beneficiaries

Each year the International Food Fair donates its proceeds to charitable causes chosen by participating countries through a random draw. This ensures fairness and celebrates the spirit of shared giving that defines our event.

For 2024, the winning countries were Egypt and England.. Our heartfelt thanks go to everyone who took part, contributed, and helped make a difference through this year's event.

*Egypt - Egypt selected a charity supporting orphans, helping provide essential care, education, and hope for children in need.*



*England- England chose to support a children's hospice, Julia House, contributing towards compassionate care for children with life-limiting conditions and their families.*

# Our Work

## (Well being & Spirituality)

### Qur'an Reflections sessions

- Our classes explore Qur'anic teachings and applying Islamic values like compassion, honesty, patience, and kindness in daily life.
- They offer spiritual learning, community, and a space for women to share reflections, support one another, and discuss practical ways to live their faith.

### Tajweed Lessons

- Our Tajweed Class helps women improve their Qur'an recitation with proper pronunciation and understanding.
- Sessions focus on the rules of Tajweed, enabling accurate, beautiful recitation while deepening connection to its meaning.

### Chit Chat & Chai

- Our Chit Chat & Chai sessions have become a much-loved part of Connecting Communities, offering women a space to bond over tea and good conversation.
- Chit Chat & Chai truly embodies what Connecting Communities is all about — bringing people together, breaking isolation, and building belonging one conversation at a time.



# Our Work

## (Well being & Fitness)

### Over 60's Ladies social & Exercise

- Our Over 60s Ladies Social & Exercise Group brings energy, laughter and friendship to women in our community. Each session combines gentle exercise to improve mobility and balance, followed by time to relax over tea.
- The group supports physical and emotional wellbeing, showing that age is no barrier to staying active and connected.

### Ladies Strength & Resistance Exercise

- Our Women's Strength and Resistance Exercise sessions build strength, flexibility, and confidence through guided workouts.
- Participants progress at their own pace in a supportive, fun environment, connecting with others and uplifting both body and mind.

### Ladies and Children Swimming

- For many participants, this is their first chance to swim in a culturally appropriate setting. Guided by qualified instructors, women and children gain water safety skills while enjoying fun, fitness, and friendship.

# Our Work

## (Sports)

### Ladies and Girls Badminton

- Our sessions offer a fun, active way for women and girls to stay fit, socialise and build confidence. The welcoming environment supports players of all skill levels and helps reduce isolation by creating a regular space to connect and unwind.
- Many participants have shared how the sessions have boosted their wellbeing and encouraged them to stay active.

### Boys Badminton

- Our club offers a fun, supportive space for boys aged 10 to 20 to learn new skills and stay active.
- Weekly sessions focus on fitness, teamwork and sportsmanship, helping participants build confidence and make friends in a safe, inclusive setting.
- Through sport, the club promotes a healthy lifestyle, mutual respect and a sense of community.

# Our Work

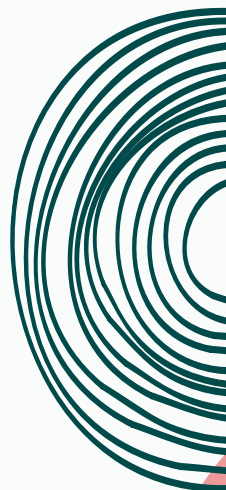
## (Mothers and Children)

### Meet & Play

- Each session includes songs, stories, creative play and sensory activities. The environment helps children build social skills and confidence, while mothers gain friendship, conversation and mutual support.
- For many new mums, the group has been a vital source of connection, reducing isolation and supporting the wellbeing of both mother and child.

### Holiday Activity for Mothers & children

- During the school holidays, Connecting Communities organised a range of family activities to bring mothers and children together for fun, learning and relaxation.
- Highlights included visits to a soft play area, a family picnic and a trip to a local farm, each filled with laughter and the joyful energy of children exploring together.
- For many families, these outings offered a welcome break and a chance to build friendships and confidence in a supportive, inclusive environment.



# Our Work

## (Mothers & Children)

### Parenting Workshops – From Birth to Teenage Years

This year, Connecting Communities delivered a series of six parenting workshops designed to support parents at every stage, providing research-based guidance and practical tools to nurture happy, resilient children. Led by experienced facilitators, the sessions covered topics such as child development, communication, emotional wellbeing and positive discipline, with space for open discussion and peer support.

Through this initiative, Connecting Communities continues to invest in families – helping parents build the skills and self-belief to raise a confident new generation.



**17 MARCH, 2024** **FREE EVENT**  
4:30pm – 8pm  
The Faith Centre, York House, Hindle way, SN3 3RB

**“Raising the next generation”**  
“Engagement in education/Home schooling”

**With:**  
?????

**Panel:**  
????

**Program:**  
4.30pm – 6pm – workshop begins  
6.30 pm – 8pm – Iftar & Magrib Salah, followed by dinner

**BOOK NOW**  
<https://Engagementworkshop.eventbrite.co.uk>

1 ticket/Family

Scan ME

Crèche available for 1-12yr olds

Tajwar: 07462891834

Scan ME

Wiltshire Community Foundation

Connecting Communities

# Our Services

**17 MARCH, 2024**  
4:30pm - 8pm  
The Faith Centre, York House, Hindle way, SN3 3RB

**"Raising the next generation"**  
"Engagement in education/Home schooling"

**With:**  
?????

**Panel:**  
????

**Program:**  
4.30pm - 4pm - workshop begins  
6.30 pm - 8pm - Iftar & Magrib Salah, followed by dinner

**BOOK NOW**  
<https://Engagementworkshop.eventbrite.co.uk>

1 ticket/Family

Crèche available for 1-12yr olds

Tajwar: 07462891834




**3 MONTHS FREE TRIAL**

**SISTERS ONLY FITNESS CLASSES**

Introducing strength & conditioning classes. Sessions will run fortnightly

**6<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER | 11:15AM - 12:15PM**

STUDIO 2, LINK CENTRE  
SN5 7DL

Noshi: 07521250525

**BOOKING IS REQUIRED**



**BOYS BADMINTON**  
10 - 20 YEARS


**17<sup>th</sup> October**

**7:30PM - 8:30PM**

- Bring your own rackets
- NO studded shoes allowed
- No refunds or transfers can be given after booking

**Sports Hall at GWA**  
William Morris Way  
Tadpole Garden Village  
SN25 2PP

For more info contact Shafaq on 07760668341



**LADIES & Girls 10+ BADMINTON**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June**

**10am - 11am**

Haydon Centre  
SN25 1QQ

**£5/person**

No refunds or transfers can be given after booking



**Tafsir Classes & Chit Chat on Chai!**

Join us for one or both sessions

The Faith Centre  
York House Hindle way SN3 3RB

**20/5/2024**  
Every fortnight

**TAFSIR CLASSES**  
11am - 12pm  
The sessions will be conducted by sister Tajwar. Any queries contact on: 07462891834

**CHIT CHAT ON CHAI**  
12pm - 2pm  
A ladies social group led by sister Farrukh. Tea/coffee & refreshments will be available. Packed food will be available to buy from £5. Any queries contact on: 07886948736





**23rd June**  
11:00am-12:30pm

**Over 60's Ladies social**

Now offering a safe space for over 60's to enjoy company of like minded people, a short session of exercise, have a meal and learn about a healthy lifestyle

Link Centre  
Studio 2  
SN5 7DL

CONTACT NAUSHEEN TO BOOK A SPACE:  
07825 415 844



**MEET & PLAY @ THE PARK!**

**MONDAY 4<sup>th</sup> AUGUST**  
12PM ONWARDS  
TOWN GARDENS, OLD TOWN

~ GAMES & ACTIVITIES ~  
~ BRING & SHARE PICNIC ~  
~ NATURE WALK ~  
~ PLAYPARK ~



Mothers & Children's

**MEET & PLAY + CRECHE!**

PLEASE NOTE THE CRECHE SESSION IS FOR WOMEN ATTENDING THE EXERCISE CLASS

JOIN OUR WHATSAPP GROUP

ENGAGE WITH YOUR CHILD IN AN ISLAMIC ENVIRONMENT  
MEET OTHER MUMS & MAKE NEW FRIENDS  
REFRESHMENTS, TEA & COFFEE PROVIDED

Thursday's 10.30am - 12.15pm  
\*Bi-weekly, Term Time only

Studio 1, Link Centre, SN5 7DL



# Other Projects

## Gaza Appeal for Soup Kitchen

During the ongoing crisis in Palestine, Connecting Communities organised a fundraising event in Swindon. All funds raised were sent to Soup Kitchen, an organisation providing essential meals to affected families.

Thanks to the kindness and generosity of everyone who donated, volunteered or helped spread the word, we were able to help feed 400 people for 14 consecutive days.

.This initiative was a powerful reminder of the strength of our community when we unite for a common cause, and we are deeply grateful to everyone who supported it.



# Other Projects

## Fundraiser for Sewing Machines – West Bank

This year, Connecting Communities launched an appeal to support women in the West Bank by providing sewing machines and essential materials. The initiative helps women gain economic independence, develop practical skills, and support their families during a particularly challenging time.

Thanks to the generosity of our Swindon community through donations, events and word of mouth, we raised enough to supply sewing machines to several women's groups. These resources are now enabling women to earn an income, rebuild livelihoods and strengthen their communities.

This project reflects our belief in the power of women supporting women across borders. We are deeply grateful to everyone who contributed, your kindness and solidarity are making a real and lasting difference.





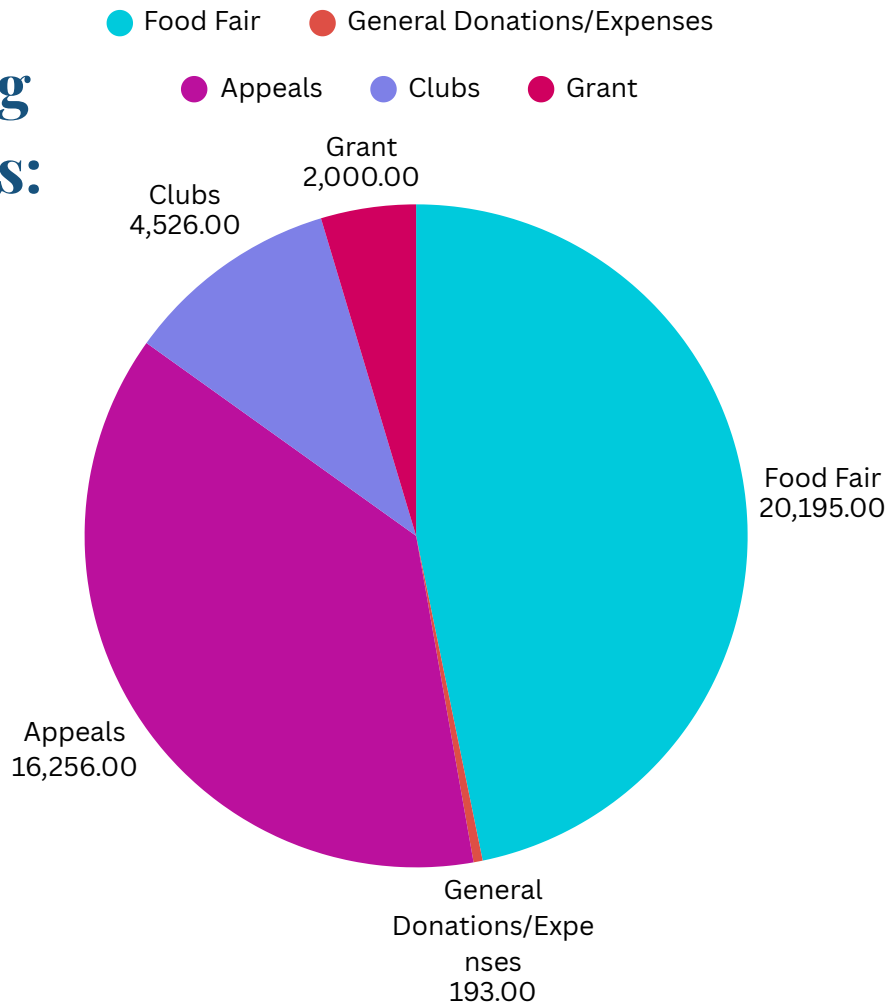
# Financial Statement

	<b>Tax Year June 24' - May 25'</b>
Revenue	£43,170
Donations and Expenses	£35,639

# Financial Breakdown



## Incoming resources:



## Ingoing:



## Outgoing:



# Contact Us



**07498 214370**



**[nali@connecting-communities.co.uk](mailto:nali@connecting-communities.co.uk)**



**[connectingcommunities.swindon](https://www.instagram.com/connectingcommunities.swindon)**



**[connecting-communities.co.uk](http://connecting-communities.co.uk)**

**Charity number: 1187208**

**Connecting Communities**  
**Trustees' report and financial statements**  
**for the year ended 31 May 2025**

# Connecting Communities

## Contents

	<b>Page</b>
Legal and administrative information	<b>1</b>
Trustees report	<b>2</b>
Independent examiners' report	<b>3</b>
Statement of financial activities	<b>4</b>
Balance sheet	<b>5</b>
Notes to the financial statements	<b>6 - 10</b>

## Connecting Communities

### Legal and administrative information

<b>Charity number</b>	1187208
<b>Business address</b>	25 Dunvant Road Swindon SW25 2AW
<b>Registered office</b>	25 Dunvant Road Swindon SW25 2AW
<b>Trustees</b>	Tajwar Hassan Nausheen Ali Gillian Stokes
<b>Chief executive</b>	Tajwar Hussain
<b>Accountants</b>	SF Chartered Certified Accountants Fairgate House 205 Kings Road Tyseley Birmingham B11 2AA

## **Connecting Communities**

### **Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 May 2025**

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 May 2025. The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 1.

#### **Structure, governance and management**

#### **Objectives and activities**

#### **Achievements and performance**

#### **Financial review**

#### **Statement of trustees' responsibilities**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the board

**Tajwar Hassan**  
**Trustee**

## **Connecting Communities**

### **Independent examiner's report to the trustees on the unaudited financial statements of Connecting Communities.**

I report on the accounts of Connecting Communities for the year ended 31 May 2025 set out on pages 2 to 11.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner**

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.

.....  
**Farah Saddique**  
**FCCA**  
**Independent examiner**  
**Fairgate House**  
**205 Kings Road**  
**Tyseley**  
**Birmingham**  
**B11 2AA**

## Connecting Communities

### Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 May 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
<b>Incoming resources</b>				
Incoming resources from generating funds:				
Voluntary income	2	43,170	43,170	28,987
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>43,170</u>	<u>43,170</u>	<u>28,987</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>				
Charitable activities	3	34,974	34,974	22,086
Governance costs		665	665	1,242
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>35,639</u>	<u>35,639</u>	<u>23,328</u>
Total funds brought forward		12,271	12,271	6,612
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>19,802</u>	<u>19,802</u>	<u>12,271</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 8 to 11 form an integral part of these financial statements.

## Connecting Communities

### Balance sheet as at 31 May 2025

	Notes	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	5		1,354		1,693
<b>Current assets</b>					
Cash at bank and in hand		18,747		11,538	
		<u>18,747</u>		<u>11,538</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	6	(300)		(960)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			18,447		10,578
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>19,801</u>		<u>12,271</u>
<b>Funds</b>	7				
Unrestricted income funds			19,801		12,271
<b>Total funds</b>			<u>19,801</u>		<u>12,271</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 16 February 2026 and signed on its behalf by

**Tajwar Hassan**  
Trustee

The notes on pages 8 to 11 form an integral part of these financial statements.

## Connecting Communities

### Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 May 2025

#### 1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and the preceding year.

##### 1.1. Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in January 2019 (SORP FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

##### 1.2. Cashflow

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS1 from the requirement to produce a cashflow statement because it is a small charity.

##### 1.3. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable. Grants where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant. Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included. Gifts donated for resale are included as incoming resources within activities for generating funds when they are sold.

##### 1.4. Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes including the charity's shop. Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

##### 1.5. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment - 20% reducing balance

##### 1.6. Leasing

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight line basis over the lease term.

## Connecting Communities

### Notes to financial statements for the year ended 31 May 2025

#### 2. Voluntary income

funds Total Total	Unrestricted	2025	2024
	£	£	£
Income from Food Fair	20,195	20,195	17,406
Connect café, clubs and donations	4,526	4,526	6,221
Grants received	2,000	2,000	5,360
Donations - appeals, rents and others	16,256	16,256	-
Donations - Sadaqat	193	193	-
	<u>43,170</u>	<u>43,170</u>	<u>28,987</u>
			<u>3.</u>

#### 3. Employees

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 (2024 : None).

#### 4. Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>		
At 1 June 2024 and At 31 May 2025	2,116	2,116
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1 June 2024	423	423
Charge for the year	339	339
At 31 May 2025	<u>762</u>	<u>762</u>
<b>Net book values</b>		
At 31 May 2025	<u>1,354</u>	<u>1,354</u>
At 31 May 2024	<u>1,693</u>	<u>1,693</u>

#### 5. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	<u>300</u>	<u>960</u>

## **Connecting Communities**

**The following pages do not form part of the statutory accounts.**

## Connecting Communities

### Detailed statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 May 2025

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Incoming resources</b>				
<b>Incoming resources from generating funds:</b>				
<i>Voluntary income</i>				
Income from Food Fair		20,195		17,406
Connect café, clubs and donations		4,526		6,221
Grants received		2,000		5,360
Donations - appeals, rents and others		16,256		-
Donations - Sadaqat		193		-
		<u>43,170</u>		<u>28,987</u>
<b>Total incoming resources from generating funds</b>		<u>43,170</u>		<u>28,987</u>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>43,170</u>		<u>28,987</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>				
<b>Costs of generating funds:</b>				
<b>Cost of generating voluntary income</b>				
Catering and supplies	2,519		3,255	
Charitable donations paid	17,225		10,804	
Workshop courses fees	1,743		1,100	
Rent of halls and premises	7,196		4,196	
Insurance	228		206	
Light and heat	2,069		-	
Management fees	499		-	
Repairs and maintenance	452		-	
Rates	116		-	
Equipment hire and expensed	2,596		1,098	
Repairs and cleaning	-		110	
Staff training and welfare	11		-	
Stationery printing and advertising	320		331	
Sundry expenses	-		563	
<b>Governance costs</b>				
Accountancy fee	300		960	
Bank and card charges	26		282	
Depreciation of fixed assets	339		423	
Office expenses - Other	1		-	
		<u>35,639</u>		<u>23,328</u>
<b>Total cost of generating voluntary income</b>		<u>35,639</u>		<u>23,328</u>
<b>Total costs of generating funds</b>		<u>35,639</u>		<u>23,328</u>

**Connecting Communities**

**Detailed statement of financial activities**

**For the year ended 31 May 2025**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year</b>	<u>7,530</u>	<u>5,659</u>

**CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1187208

---

# Accounts

---

# 2023/24 ANNUAL REPORT



## Connecting Communities





# Table of Contents

About Us

Our Vision and Mission

The Food Fair

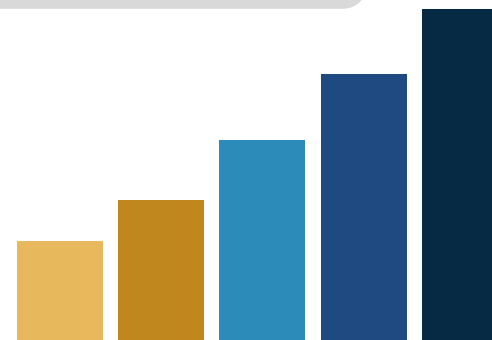
Beneficiaries of 2023

Faith Centre

Other Projects

Financial Review

Contact Us



# About Us

It started with a Food Fair!

More than 20 years ago, The International Food Fair was started by the members of the Muslim Community of Swindon with a desire to bring the communities together whilst raising money for charities. The much-loved event ran annually until key organisers moved away and for several years the event was abandoned.

With a keen desire to see the International Food Fair up and running again Tajwar Hassan, Gillian Stokes, Shafaq Mushtaq, Nausheen Ali and Noshi joined forces to revive this important community event.

From this revival, Connecting Communities was born.





# Vision And Mission

## Vision

With the birth of Connecting Communities, a desire to unite the wider community and identify areas of need emerged.

At Connecting Communities, we believe in the strength of unity, and recognise that diversity can be the colour of life.

We aim to create a close-knit and diverse community where the needs of individuals are supported and met.

## Mission

- We aim to run the International Food Fair annually to promote community cohesion, and diversity, as well as a safe place to share culture and food.
- With the proceeds of the International Food Fair, we aim to support charitable causes locally and internationally.
- We aim to identify areas of need within our community and work together to meet those needs.
- We aim to raise funds to acquire a property that will help to fulfil the needs of women and children, in particular within our community.

# The International Food Fair

---

The International Food Fair is the Queen of our charity, we have so much love for her and spend around eight months of the year planning the event.

The event is unique. Between 13-15 countries work together to bring a spectacular display of not just delicious food but harmony, friendship, and a love of raising funds for others.

All of the food is donated and cooked authentically by members of our diverse community to be sold with every penny going to charity.

This is a beautiful example of what can be achieved when diversity is celebrated and a community comes together.



# Beneficiaries of 2023

For the beneficiaries of The International Food Fair 2023, participating countries were selected at random from an online spinner. The winning countries were Palestine and Nigeria. Locally we chose the charities Harbour Project and SEND families.



## Palestine

With the help of our Palestinian stall leader, we located a small business in a village near Jenin that employs local women in a sewing business. Our donation of £3706.22 enabled her to buy two more industrial sewing machines to increase the capacity of the factory and increase employability.



## Nigeria

Our wonderful stall leader introduced us to the charity F.R.E.E which operates in Nigeria providing relief and assistance to many. Our chosen project enabled them to build a plantation to have a sustainable income used for supporting orphans and widows. We donated £3348 to this project.



## Harbour Project

Harbour Project is a local Swindon charity that works with asylum seekers and refugees. We donated a total of £2400 to fund an internet cafe and football kits.



## SEND Families

We donated £500 to SEND Families, a local Swindon charity that advocates for the needs of families with children with special needs, to buy a sensory toy library.

# Faith Centre



2023/4 was an important year for Connecting Communities. In February 2024 we were given the lease for new premises for our charity. The whole team worked extremely hard changing the space from an open plan office to a warm and welcoming headquarters for Connecting Communities, 'The Faith Centre'. We plan to use the space to hold many activities and events for the benefit of our local community.

---

**From this:**



**To this:**



# Other Projects

## Parenting workshop and Family engagement project.

- A need was identified within the Muslim communities to engage with families struggling with the educational, emotional and social needs of their children.
- A grant of £4860 was secured through the Wilshire Community Foundation to run a series of Parenting workshops led by local leading professionals in the field. The workshops proved very successful and the parents reported improved relationships with their children.

## Tafsir class

- A group for women to get together and look at the deeper meanings of the Qur'an.

## Chai Cafe

- A social cafe for ladies

## Exercise for women

- Opportunities for Muslim women to exercise whilst still adhering to the requirements of their faith and not feeling left out can be difficult in Swindon.
- We wanted to provide these opportunities and hence started badminton and swimming clubs for women. Both clubs are gaining popularity and running regularly.



**CASUAL SWIM FOR Ladies & Children**

Adult - Swimmer - £5  
Adult - Non Swimmer - £3  
An instructor will be present

**Date & Time**  
Next Session  
Friday 7th June  
7.30pm - 8.30pm

**Venue**  
Halo Highworth Rec  
The Elms  
Highworth  
Swindon  
SN6 7DD

**BOOK NOW**

CONTACT GILL ON 03588526439 TO BOOK A TICKET.  
NO REFUNDS OR TRANSFERS CAN BE OFFERED AFTER PURCHASE.

**Further Info**

Connecting Communities is working hard to provide opportunities for women to exercise and socialise while meeting the requirements of our faith. Hats are worn with us to meet these requirements which include covering windows and ensuring female staff are present at the centre. However should a medical emergency arise during the session it may be necessary for male medical staff to enter the pool therefore hijab is at your own discretion.

Connecting Communities



**LADIES BADMINTON**

Come & Join us on  
Wednesdays & Mondays

£5/PERSON

LIMITED SPACES  
BOOK YOUR SPACE NOW

**DATES FOR JUNE 2024...**

WEDNESDAY:	5TH JUNE	1PM - 2 PM
MONDAY:	10TH JUNE	11AM - 12PM

HAYDON CENTRE SN25 1QQ

TO REGISTER CONTACT SHAFQA ON: 07760668341

Connecting Communities



**Tafsir Classes & Chit Chat on Chai!**

Join us for one or both sessions  
The Faith Centre  
York House Hindle way SN3 3BB

20/5/2024  
Every fortnight

**TAFSIR CLASSES**  
11am - 12pm  
The sessions will be conducted by sister Tajwar.  
Any queries contact on: 07462891834

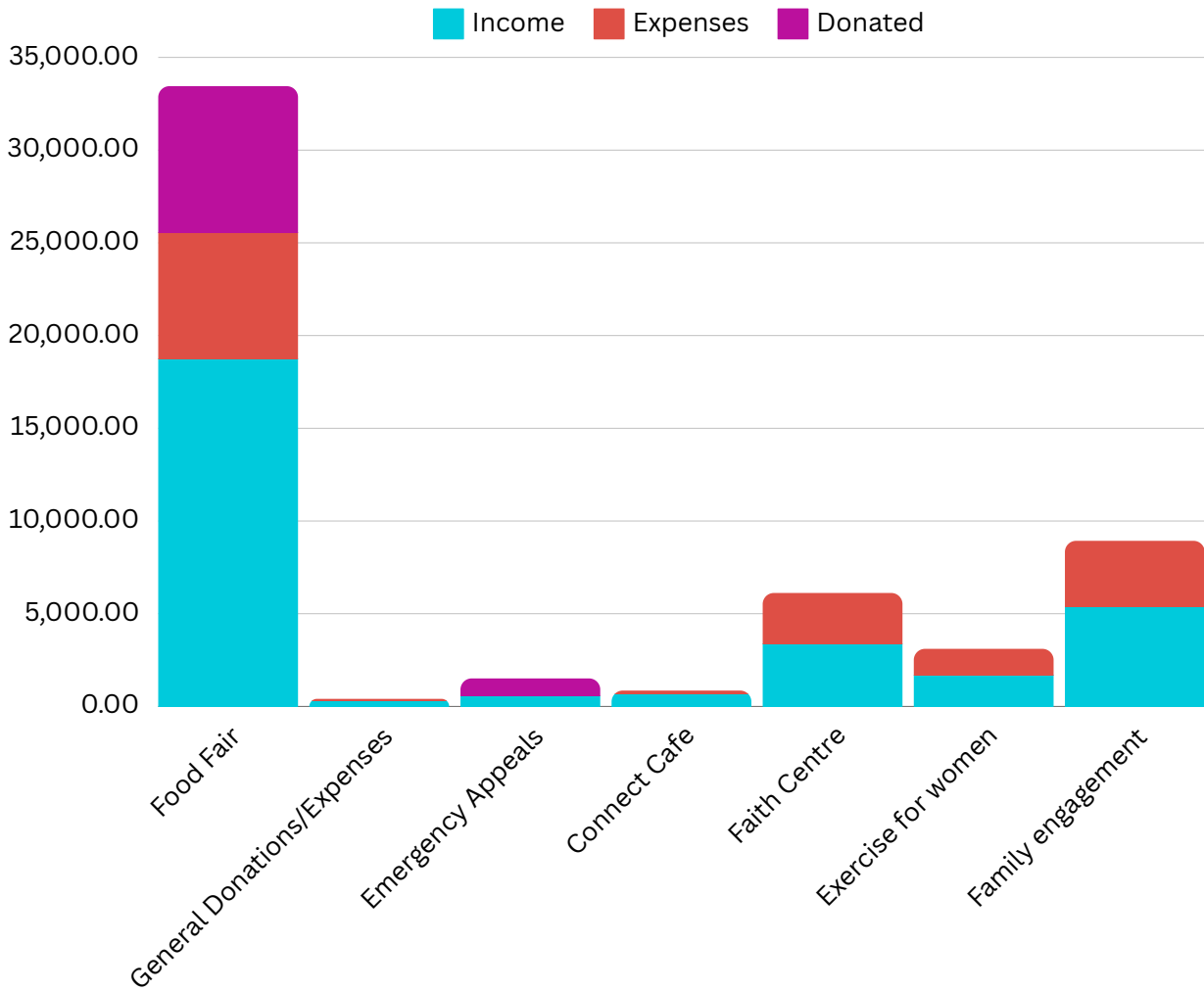
**CHIT CHAT ON CHAI**  
12pm - 2pm  
A ladies social group led by sister Farrukh.  
Tea/coffee & refreshments will be available.  
Packed food will be available to buy from £5.  
Any queries contact on: 07886948736



# Financial Statement

	<b>Tax Year June 23' - May 24'</b>
Revenue	£28,987.
Donations and Expenses	£23,328.
Leftover	5695

# Financial Breakdown



## Ingoing:

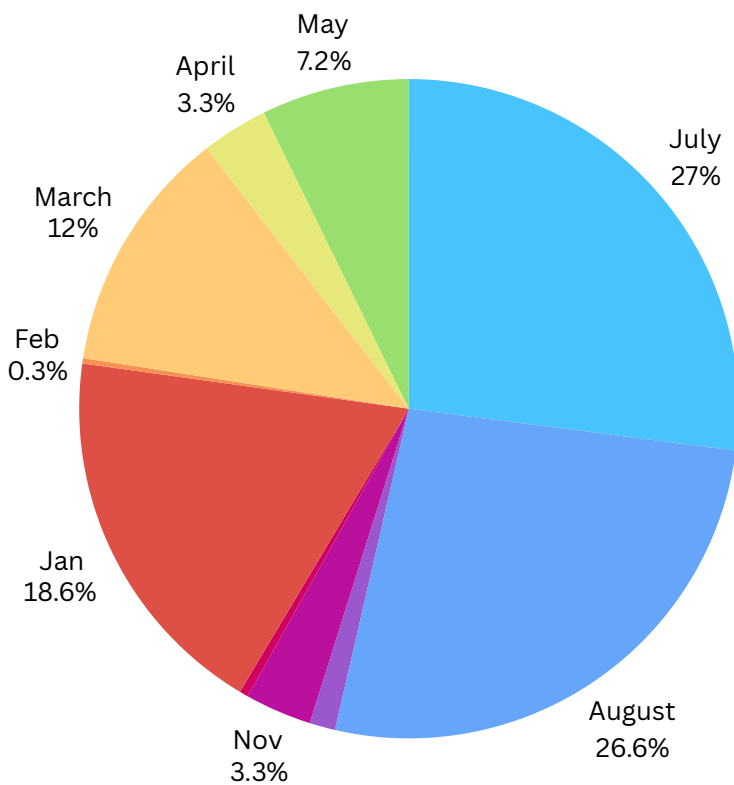
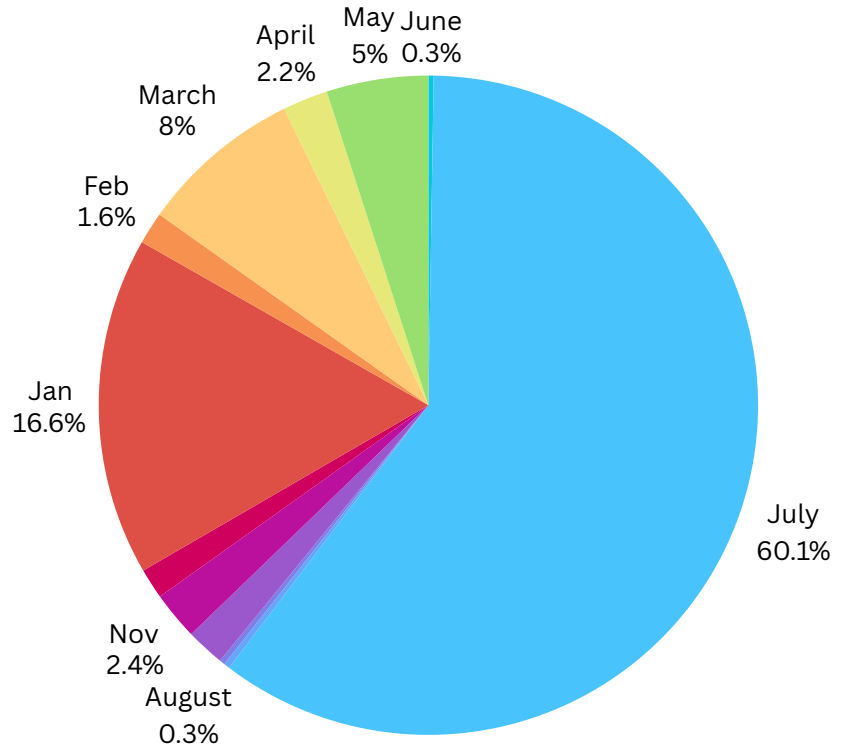


## Outgoing:

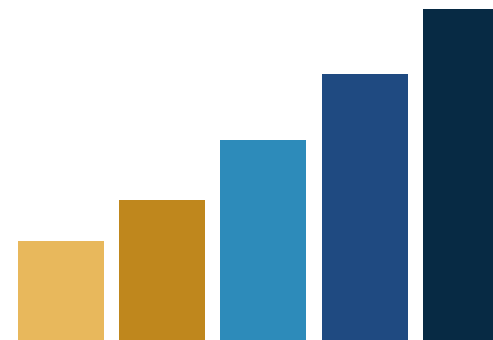


# One Year Review

## Percentage of Monthly Income



## Percentage of Monthly Spenditure



# Contact Us



**07498 214370**



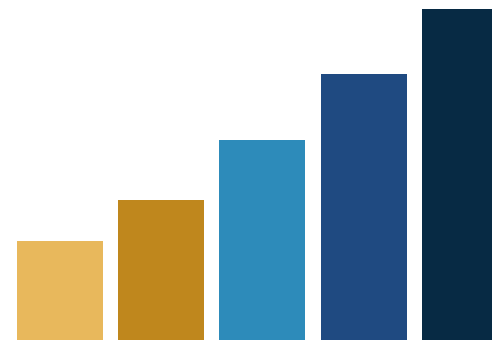
**[nali@connecting-communities.co.uk](mailto:nali@connecting-communities.co.uk)**



**[connectingcommunities.swindon](https://www.instagram.com/connectingcommunities.swindon)**



**[connecting-communities.co.uk](http://connecting-communities.co.uk)**



Registered charity number  
1187208

## CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

Accounts

31 May 2024

Khan Adamson Limited  
Chartered Accountant  
Chelworth Industrial Estate  
Cricklade  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN6 6HE

## **CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**

### **Charity Information**

**Trustees** Tajwar Hassan - Chair of Trustees  
Gillian Stokes  
Shafaq Mushtaq  
Nausheen Ali

**Address** 25 Dunvant Road  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN25 2AW

**Registered charity number** 1187208

**Independent examiner** Hussain A. Khan B.Sc., ACA  
Khan Adamson Limited  
Chartered Accountant  
Chelworth Industrial Estate  
Cricklade  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN6 6HE

## **CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**

### **Abbreviated Report of the Trustees**

The trustees present their abbreviated annual report for the year ended 31 May 2024.

#### **Structure, governance and management**

The charity is set up as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and is registered with the Charity Commissioners under registration number 1187208. The charity was registered on 6 January 2020.

The trustees during the period under review were:

Tajwar Hassan - Chair of trustees  
Gillian Stokes  
Shafaq Mushtaq  
Nausheen Ali

#### **Financial review**

The statement of financial activities is set out on page 4. This shows net incoming resources of £5,659 for the year.

#### **Trustees' responsibilities**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards. They are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity, and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions, and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with regulations made under the Charities Act. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are also responsible for the contents of the trustees' report, and the responsibility of the independent examiner in relation to the trustees' report is limited to examining the report and ensuring that, on the face of the report, there are no inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

On behalf of the trustees

Tajwar Hassan  
Chair of trustees

Dated: 14 November 2024

## **CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**

### **Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Connecting Communities**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the period ended 31 May 2024 which are set out on pages 4 to 8.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

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

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- to 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 the seeking of 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **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 Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities 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.

Hussain A. Khan B.Sc., ACA  
Khan Adamson Limited  
Chartered Accountant  
Chelworth Industrial Estate  
Cricklade  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN6 6HE

14 November 2024

**CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the year ended 31 May 2024**

	<b>Unrestricted total funds</b>
	<b>2024 £</b>
<b>Incoming resources</b>	
Total voluntary income	<u>28,987</u>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<u>28,987</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>	
Costs of generating funds:	
Charitable	22,086
Governance costs	1,242
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<u>23,328</u>
<b>Net incoming resources</b>	5,659
Total funds brought forward	6,612
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<u>12,271</u>

The notes and schedule on pages 6 to 8 form an integral part of these accounts.

**CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**as at 31 May 2024**

	Notes	2024 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
Tangible assets	2	1,693
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash at bank and in hand		11,538
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>		
	3	(960)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>10,578</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>12,271</u>
<b>Reserves</b>		
Unrestricted funds	4	<u>12,271</u>
<b>Charity funds</b>		<u>12,271</u>

These accounts were approved by the Trustees on 14 November 2024

Tajwar Hassan  
Chair

Gillian Stokes  
Trustee

The notes and schedule on pages 6 to 8 form an integral part of these accounts.

# CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

## Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 May 2024

### 1 Accounting policies

#### **Accounting convention**

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities published on 16/07/14, the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRSSE), and the Charities Act 2011 and applicable regulations.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

#### **Incoming resources**

Voluntary income including donations received are included in the accounts in the year of receipt unless entitlement is conditional in which case the income will be deferred to the period in which the condition is to be met.

#### **Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Charitable expenditure comprises of those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include independent examiner fees and costs associated with the management of the charity.

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets over their estimated useful lives.

Fixtures and equipment 20% reducing balance

#### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Designated funds are unrestricted funds which have been set aside to fund particular future activities.

There were no restricted funds held at the end of the current year.

### 2 Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Fixtures and equipment £</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
Additions	2,116
At 31 May 2024	<u>2,116</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
Charge for the year	423
At 31 May 2024	<u>423</u>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 May 2024	<u>1,693</u>

**CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

**for the year ended 31 May 2024**

<b>3 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>
Other creditors and accruals	<u>960</u>
<b>4 Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>
At 1 June 2023	6,612
Net incoming resources	5,659
	<u>          </u>
At 31 May 2024	<u>12,271</u>

**CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**  
**Schedule to the Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the year ended 31 May 2024**

	<b>Total 2024 £</b>
<b>Voluntary income</b>	
Income from Food Fair	17,406
Connect café, clubs and donations	6,221
Grants received	5,360
	<hr/>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>28,987</b>
	<hr/>
<b>Resources expended</b>	
<b>Core activities</b>	
Charitable expenditure:	
Catering and supplies	3,255
Charitable donations paid	10,804
Workshop courses fees	1,100
Rent of halls and premises	4,196
Stationery printing and advertising	331
Insurance	206
Equipment hire	1,098
Repairs and cleaning	110
Depreciation of fixed assets	423
Sundry expenses	563
	<hr/>
	22,086
	<hr/>
<b>Governance costs</b>	
Independent examiner's fee	960
Bank and card charges	282
	<hr/>
	1,242
	<hr/>
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>23,328</b>
	<hr/>

Registered charity number  
1187208

# CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

Accounts

31 May 2024

Khan Adamson Limited  
Chartered Accountant  
Chelworth Industrial Estate  
Cricklade  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN6 6HE

## **CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**

### **Charity Information**

**Trustees** Tajwar Hassan - Chair of Trustees  
Gillian Stokes  
Shafaq Mushtaq  
Nausheen Ali

**Address** 25 Dunvant Road  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN25 2AW

**Registered charity number** 1187208

**Independent examiner** Hussain A. Khan B.Sc., ACA  
Khan Adamson Limited  
Chartered Accountant  
Chelworth Industrial Estate  
Cricklade  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN6 6HE

## **CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**

### **Abbreviated Report of the Trustees**

The trustees present their abbreviated annual report for the year ended 31 May 2024.

#### **Structure, governance and management**

The charity is set up as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and is registered with the Charity Commissioners under registration number 1187208. The charity was registered on 6 January 2020.

The trustees during the period under review were:

Tajwar Hassan - Chair of trustees  
Gillian Stokes  
Shafaq Mushtaq  
Nausheen Ali

#### **Financial review**

The statement of financial activities is set out on page 4. This shows net incoming resources of £5,659 for the year.

#### **Trustees' responsibilities**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards. They are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity, and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions, and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with regulations made under the Charities Act. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are also responsible for the contents of the trustees' report, and the responsibility of the independent examiner in relation to the trustees' report is limited to examining the report and ensuring that, on the face of the report, there are no inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

On behalf of the trustees

Tajwar Hassan  
Chair of trustees

Dated: 14 November 2024

## **CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**

### **Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Connecting Communities**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the period ended 31 May 2024 which are set out on pages 4 to 8.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

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

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- to 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 the seeking of 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

#### **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 Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities 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.

Hussain A. Khan B.Sc., ACA  
Khan Adamson Limited  
Chartered Accountant  
Chelworth Industrial Estate  
Cricklade  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN6 6HE

14 November 2024

**CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the year ended 31 May 2024**

	<b>Unrestricted total funds</b>
	<b>2024 £</b>
<b>Incoming resources</b>	
Total voluntary income	<u>28,987</u>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<u>28,987</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>	
Costs of generating funds:	
Charitable	22,086
Governance costs	1,242
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<u>23,328</u>
<b>Net incoming resources</b>	5,659
Total funds brought forward	6,612
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<u>12,271</u>

The notes and schedule on pages 6 to 8 form an integral part of these accounts.

**CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**as at 31 May 2024**

	Notes	2024 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
Tangible assets	2	1,693
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash at bank and in hand		11,538
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	3	<u>(960)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>10,578</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>12,271</u>
<b>Reserves</b>		
Unrestricted funds	4	<u>12,271</u>
<b>Charity funds</b>		<u>12,271</u>

These accounts were approved by the Trustees on 14 November 2024

Tajwar Hassan  
Chair

Gillian Stokes  
Trustee

The notes and schedule on pages 6 to 8 form an integral part of these accounts.

# CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

## Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 31 May 2024

### 1 Accounting policies

#### **Accounting convention**

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities published on 16/07/14, the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRSSE), and the Charities Act 2011 and applicable regulations.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

#### **Incoming resources**

Voluntary income including donations received are included in the accounts in the year of receipt unless entitlement is conditional in which case the income will be deferred to the period in which the condition is to be met.

#### **Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Charitable expenditure comprises of those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include independent examiner fees and costs associated with the management of the charity.

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets over their estimated useful lives.

Fixtures and equipment 20% reducing balance

#### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Designated funds are unrestricted funds which have been set aside to fund particular future activities.

There were no restricted funds held at the end of the current year.

### 2 Tangible fixed assets

	<b>Fixtures and equipment £</b>
<b>Cost</b>	
Additions	2,116
At 31 May 2024	<u>2,116</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>	
Charge for the year	423
At 31 May 2024	<u>423</u>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 May 2024	<u>1,693</u>

**CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

**for the year ended 31 May 2024**

<b>3 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>
Other creditors and accruals	<u>960</u>
<b>4 Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>
At 1 June 2023	6,612
Net incoming resources	5,659
	<u>          </u>
At 31 May 2024	<u>12,271</u>

**CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**  
**Schedule to the Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the year ended 31 May 2024**

	<b>Total 2024 £</b>
<b>Voluntary income</b>	
Income from Food Fair	17,406
Connect café, clubs and donations	6,221
Grants received	5,360
	<hr/>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>28,987</b>
	<hr/>
<b>Resources expended</b>	
<b>Core activities</b>	
Charitable expenditure:	
Catering and supplies	3,255
Charitable donations paid	10,804
Workshop courses fees	1,100
Rent of halls and premises	4,196
Stationery printing and advertising	331
Insurance	206
Equipment hire	1,098
Repairs and cleaning	110
Depreciation of fixed assets	423
Sundry expenses	563
	<hr/>
	22,086
	<hr/>
<b>Governance costs</b>	
Independent examiner's fee	960
Bank and card charges	282
	<hr/>
	1,242
	<hr/>
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>23,328</b>
	<hr/>

**CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1187208

---

# Accounts

---



# Connecting Communities

---

# Annual Report



# 2022/23



# Table Of Content

**About Us**

**Our Vision and Mission**

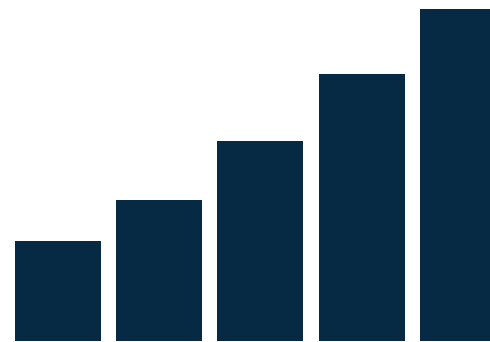
**The Food Fair**

**Other Projects**

**Other Projects**

**Financial Review**

**Contact Us**



# About Us

**It started with a Food Fair! The International Food Fair was a project that was started more than 20 years ago by members of the Muslim Community with a desire to bring the community together whilst raising money for charity. The much loved event ran annually until key organisers moved away and for a number of years was abandoned.**

**With a keen desire to see the International Food Fair up and running again Tajwar Hassan, Gillian Stokes, Shafaq Mushtaq, Nausheen Ali and Noshi joined forces to revive this important community event.**

**From this revival Connecting Communities was born.**





# Vision And Mission

## Vision

**With the birth of Connecting Communities a desire to connect the wider community together and identify areas of need arose.**

**At Connecting Communities we believe in strength in numbers and that diversity can be the colour of life.**

**We aim to create a tightly knitted and diverse community where individuals needs are supported and catered for.**

## Mission

- **We aim to run the International Food Fair annually in order to promote community cohesion, diversity and a safe place to share culture and food.**
- **With the proceeds of the International Food Fair we aim to donate to charitable causes both locally and abroad.**
- **We aim to identify areas of need within our community and work together with key members to meet those needs.**
- **We aim to raise funds for the purpose of acquiring a property that will help to fulfil the needs of women and children in particular within our community.**

# The International Food Fair



The International Food Fair is the Queen of our charity, we have so much love for her and spend around eight months of the year planning the event.

The event is absolutely unique. Between thirteen to fifteen countries each year working together to bring a spectacular display of not just delicious food but harmony, friendship and a love of raising money for others.



All of the food is donated and cooked authentically by members of our diverse community to be sold with every penny going to charity.

A beautiful example of what can be achieved when diversity is celebrated and a community comes together.

## BENEFICIARIES OF 2022

- For the beneficiaries of The International Food Fair 2022 we chose causes from within countries participating in the Food Fair, a cause where the need was great and a local Swindon charity.

### International

- Funds to help with solar panels for an Orphanage in Pakistan
- A solar powered well in Yemen
- Water handpumps in India
- Water handpumps in Afghanistan
- Relief aid for the flooding in Bangladesh

### Local

- Funds for a local hospital in Swindon to purchase dementia friendly clocks.



# Other Projects

---

In 2022 we started our wonderful Connect Cafe, a safe and warm place for women and children to meet and feel connected. Attendees also had access to English language classes there. We tried to tailor these meet ups to the needs of the women, sessions included hot meals and drinks, Arabic sessions, book swap, discussions on life. The women have made close bonds and on the back of this project were able to plan and carry out a drive thru fundraiser and a ladies Eid party from within the cafe.



# Other Projects

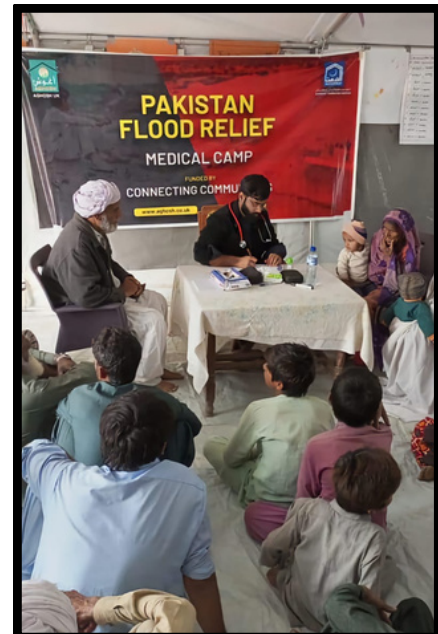
---

We have carried out various fundraisers through the year which include:

- Pakistan Flood Relief
- Turkiye Earthquake Appeal

Other projects include:

- Connecting Communities Thank you Iftaar
- Supporting Refugees in Swindon

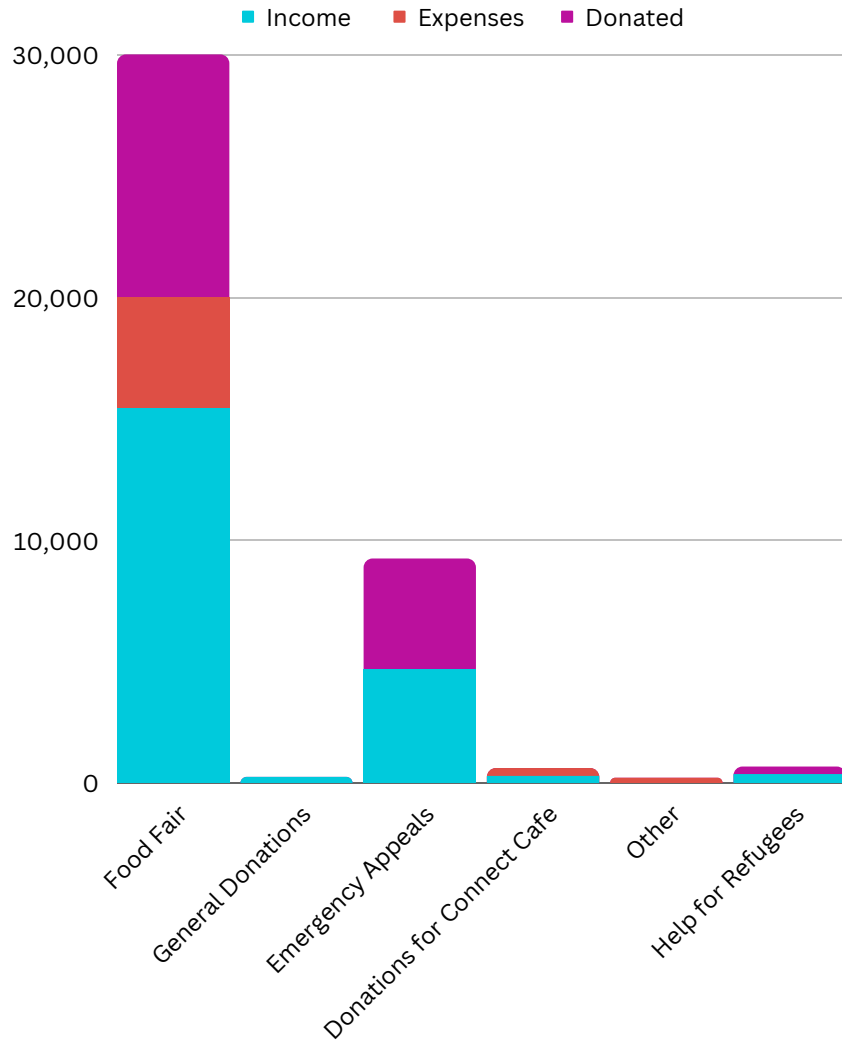




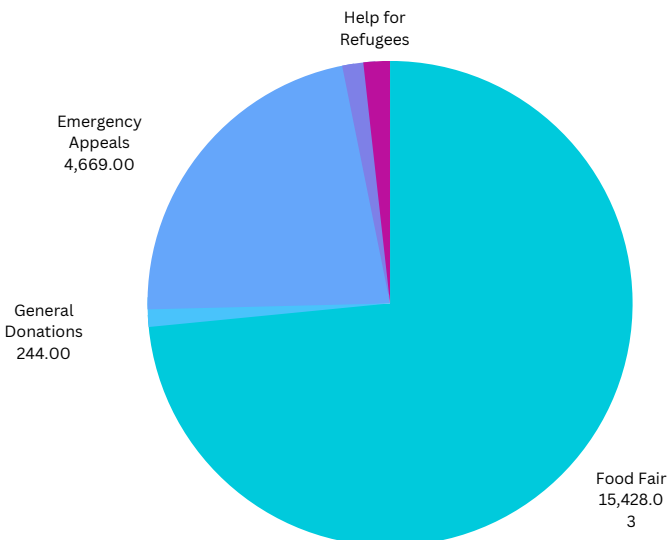
# Financial Statement

	<b>Tax Year June 22' - May 23'</b>
Revenue	£21,008.53
Donations and Expenses	£19,262.68
Leftover	1745.85

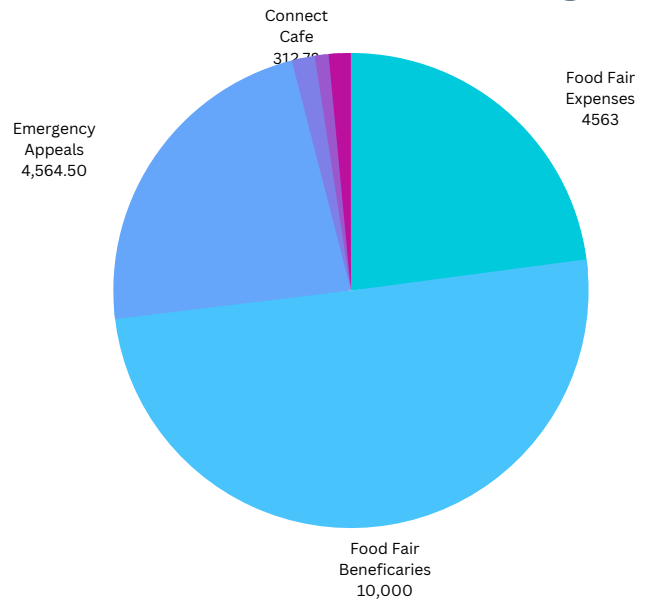
# Financial Breakdown



## Ingoing



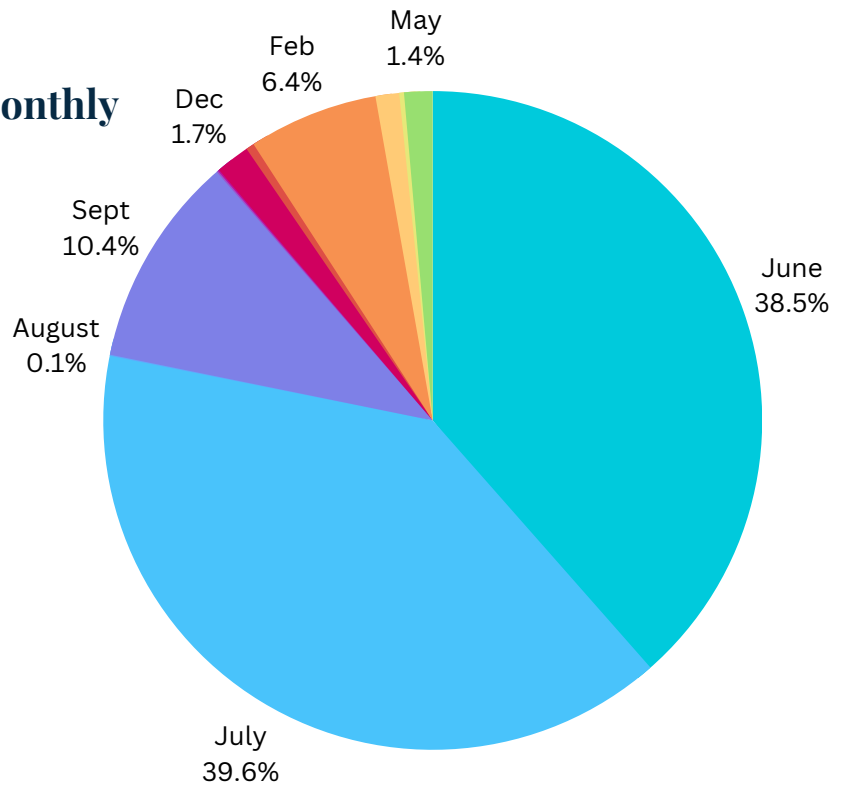
## Outgoing



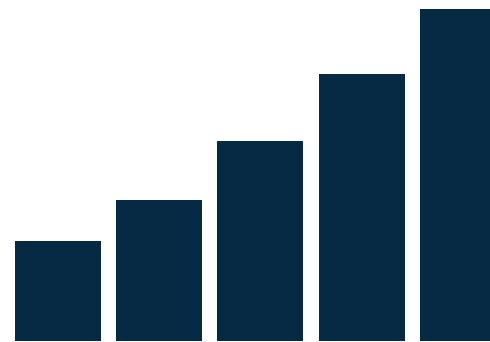
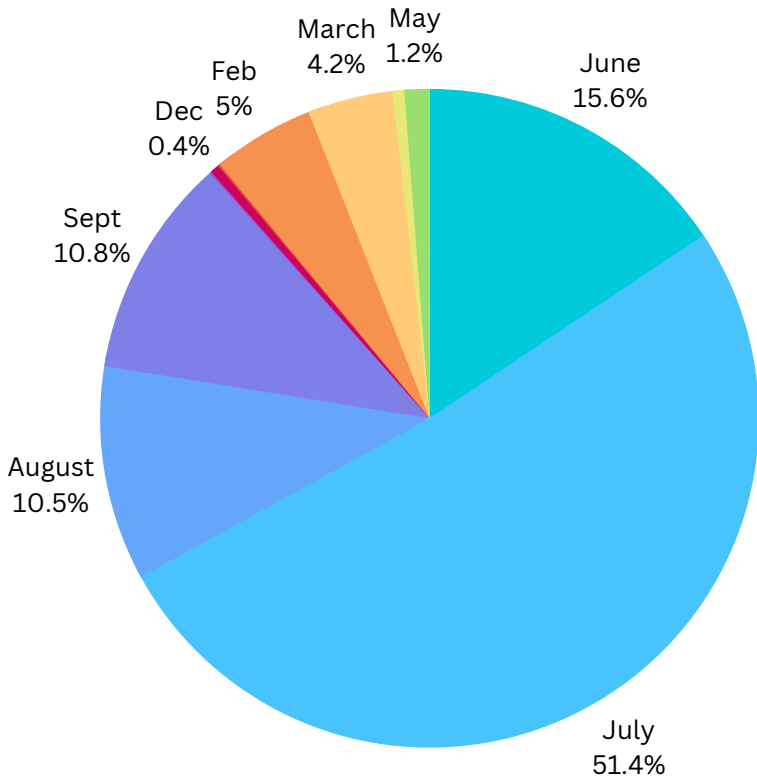
# One Year Review



### Percentage of Monthly Income



### Percentage of Monthly Spenditure



# Contact Us



**07498 214370**



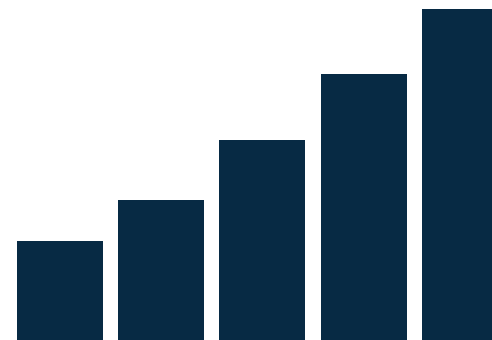
**[nali@connecting-communities.co.uk](mailto:nali@connecting-communities.co.uk)**



**[connectingcommunities.swindon](https://www.instagram.com/connectingcommunities.swindon)**



**[connecting-communities.co.uk](http://connecting-communities.co.uk)**



**CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1187208

---

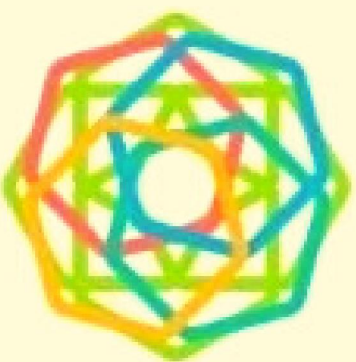
# Accounts

---

**2021/2022**

ANNUAL

**REPORT**



**Connecting  
Communities**

# TABLE OF *contents*

1

**Our story  
So far**

2

**2021 Overview**

3

**Supporting the  
local  
Community**

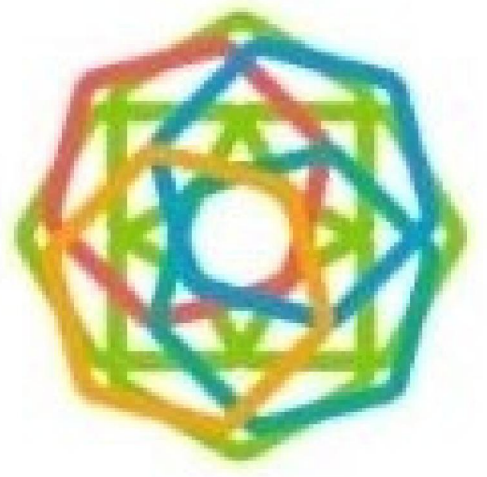
4

**Other Projects**

5

**Financial Report**

# Our Story So Far



## **Our Mission**

**Connecting Communities is a non-profit charity which promotes social inclusion and provides social relief to people in the local Swindon Community.**

**We carry out this mission through events that celebrate diversity and fundraisers that engage and mobilise different racial and religious groups where possible to maximise our impact.**

## **Our 2021 Goals**

**Everyone has been affected by Covid- 19, this year we worked hard to focus our efforts on supporting families in our local community in particular refugees.**

**We strived to work alongside other communities to build a stronger relationship and interconnect families within.**

# 2021 Overview

**Coffee Mornings**

Providing support for family in Crisis

Eid packs for the asylum seeker families

Orphanage Clothes Collection

Ramadan ration support for families in need

Winter Packs for families in need

Hosting opening Fasts gatherings in Ramadan to connect individual/families

Distributing Clothes/shoes, packs and food to the Afghan refugee families

Helping a family flat with essential furnishing including carpet and white goods

# Supporting the Local Community.

When the Afghan Refugees arrived in Swindon in 2021, we engaged with our community to provide clothes and shoes for all the families. The support was over whelming and we were able to provide 18 families with clothing and shoes. We also provided hot meals as requested by the families.

## Eid Packages for Afghan Families

Treat packs were made for the families and children to enjoy for Eid.



## Coffee Mornings

Assalaamu aleykum ladies

Connecting Communities is hosting its first coffee morning.

We are welcoming ladies one and all.

If you feel isolated, need to connect or want a sisterly chat then come along.

Day: Thurs 18th Nov  
Time: 10.30am  
Venue: Turkish Masjid  
Swindon



# Supporting the Local Community.

When the Afghan Refugees arrived in Swindon in 2021, we engaged with our community to provide clothes and shoes for all the families. The support was over whelming and we were able to provide 18 families with clothing and shoes. We also provided hot meals as requested by the families.

## Eid Packages for Afghan Families

Treat packs were made for the families and children to enjoy for Eid.



## Coffee Mornings

Assalaamu aleykum ladies

Connecting Communities is hosting its first coffee morning.

We are welcoming ladies one and all.

If you feel isolated, need to connect or want a sisterly chat then come along.

Day: Thurs 18th Nov  
Time: 10.30am  
Venue: Turkish Masjid  
Swindon



# Supporting Other Charities

## Winter Project

We worked alongside the local mosque and Harbour project to distribute 170 winter packs to individuals and families in need.

36 m • 🌍

Last week we took delivery of 170 winter provision bags, which we'll be distributing with our regular food parcels. Generously donated by the Al-Imdaad Foundation UK, and coordinated by Connecting Communities and the the local Mosque, Jamia Masjid Swindon. The past year has been so challenging for everyone and we are continually bowled over by what people can achieve together.



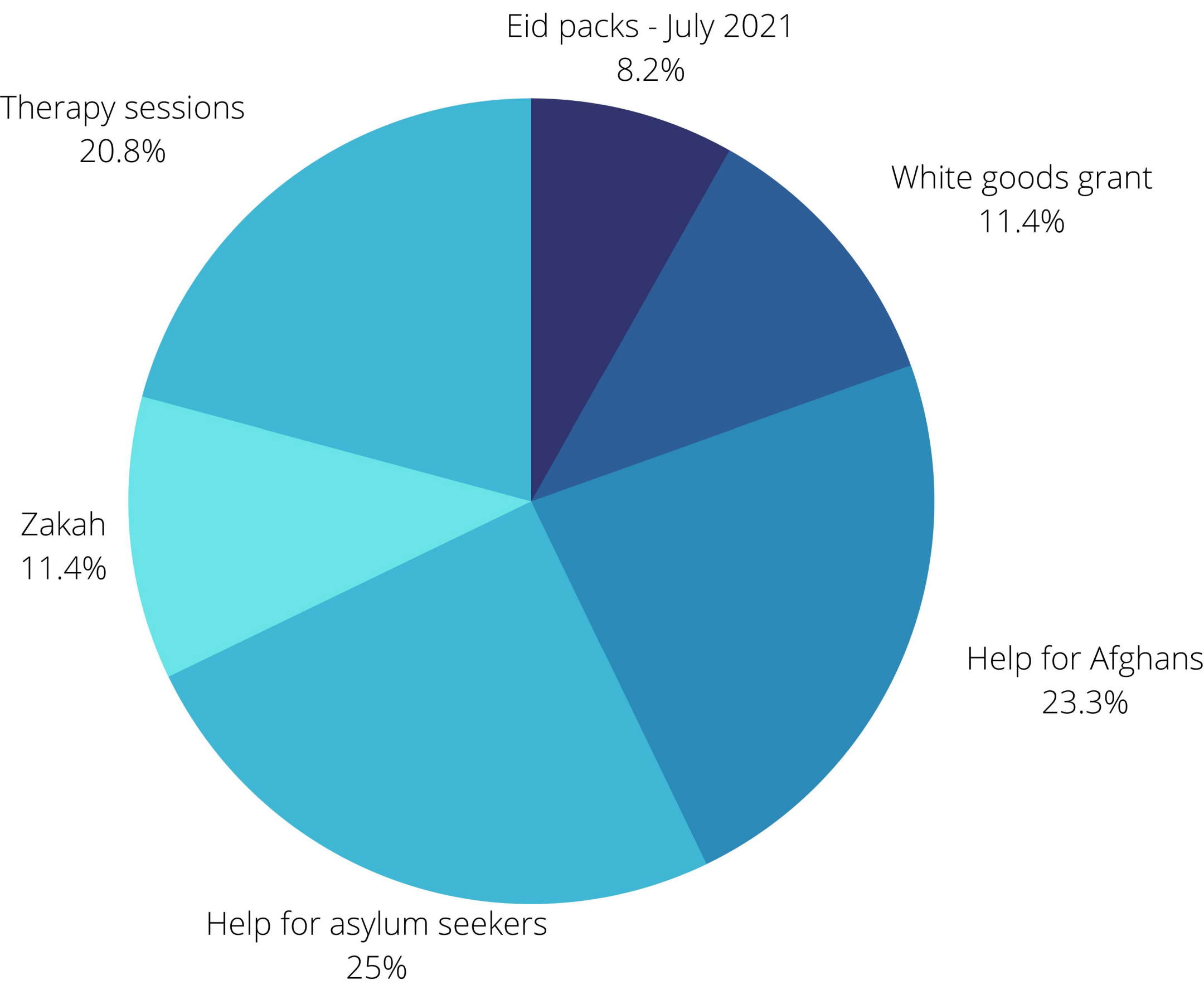
## Ramadan Packages

Connecting communities collaborated with the local mosque and Harbour Project during the month of Ramadan to facilitate the distribution of Ration packs to refugees and asylum seekers.



# Financial Report

## Annual spending



**CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**

England & Wales - Charity number 1187208

---

# Accounts

---



CONNECTING  
COMMUNITIES

# Annual Report 2020

# Table of Contents

01

Our story so far

02

2020 overview

03

Supporting the  
local community

04

Ramadan food  
packages

05

Supporting other  
charities

06

Financial report

# Our story so far



## Our Mission

Connecting Communities is a non-profit charity which promotes social inclusion and provides social relief to people in the local Swindon Community.

We carry out this mission through events that celebrate diversity and fundraisers that engage and mobilise different racial and religious groups. We aim to work with local charities where possible to maximise our impact.

Connecting Communities was set up in 2019, with the highlight of the year being the highly successful International Food Fair.

## Our 2020 Goals

Like most people, covid-19 has hit us hard, and made us even more aware of those in our community who need extra support during this difficult time.

This year we focused our efforts on smaller sustainable projects to help groups in Wiltshire including our local refugee community, as well as focusing efforts further afield in supporting charity drives in Yemen and Pakistan

# 100%

of our  
funds have  
been  
donated  
this year

# 2020 Overview

**Candy Cones  
Fundraiser**

**Yemen Crisis  
Fundraiser**

**Eid Candy  
Cones**

**Ramadan  
Food Boxes**

**Orphanage  
Clothes  
Collection**

**Coffee  
mornings**

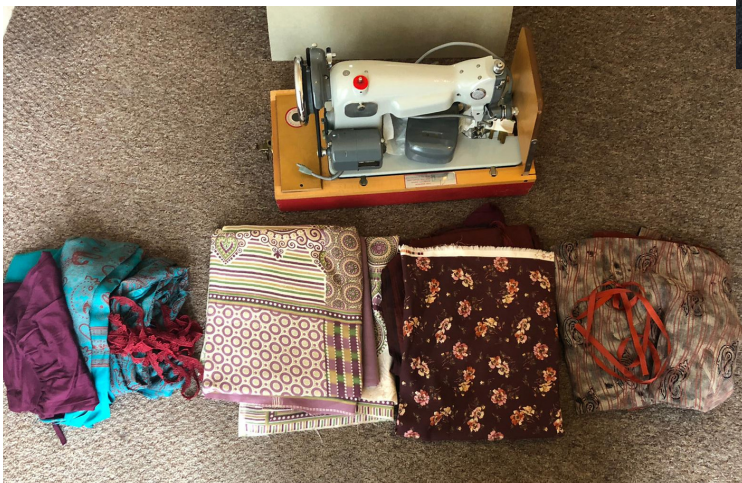
**Prison Quran  
Collection**

**Harbour Project  
Technological  
Devices Drive**

# Supporting the local community

## Helping set up local businesses

Connecting Communities was made aware of local community members with skill-sets they have been unable to use due to financial or linguistic constraints. Through fundraising we have been able to support these community members to set up small entrepreneurial businesses, including two home-tailoring and a catering business. Setting up such ventures is key to empowering individuals and creating sustainable change.



## Candy Cones Fundraiser

One of our popular fundraisers this year involved bringing together girls in their teens to creatively make candy cones, which were sold at Eid.



# Ramadan Food Packages

**Fundraising and organising food packages for refugee and asylum seeking families in the local area**

Through a range of smaller fundraisers, this year we supported 80 families with food packages to help support them through the month of ramadan.

Food packages contained a mix of staple items and allowances were made for larger families.

The packages were kindly distributed by The Harbour Project.



# Supporting other charities

## Harbour Project Technological Devices Drive

1 Supporting our local charity, The Harbour Project by helping local asylum seeking and refugee service users engage with online classes. We collected a number of tech appliances including phones and iPads to donate for the cause.



THE  
**HARBOUR**  
PROJECT



## Orphanage Clothes Drive

2 Collecting over 150kg of clothing items for Sirat-ul-jannah Charity, which provide a safe and loving home, including food, shelter, medical care and education to over 400 orphan children. in Karachi, Pakistan.

## Yemen Crisis Fundraiser – Ummah Welfare Trust

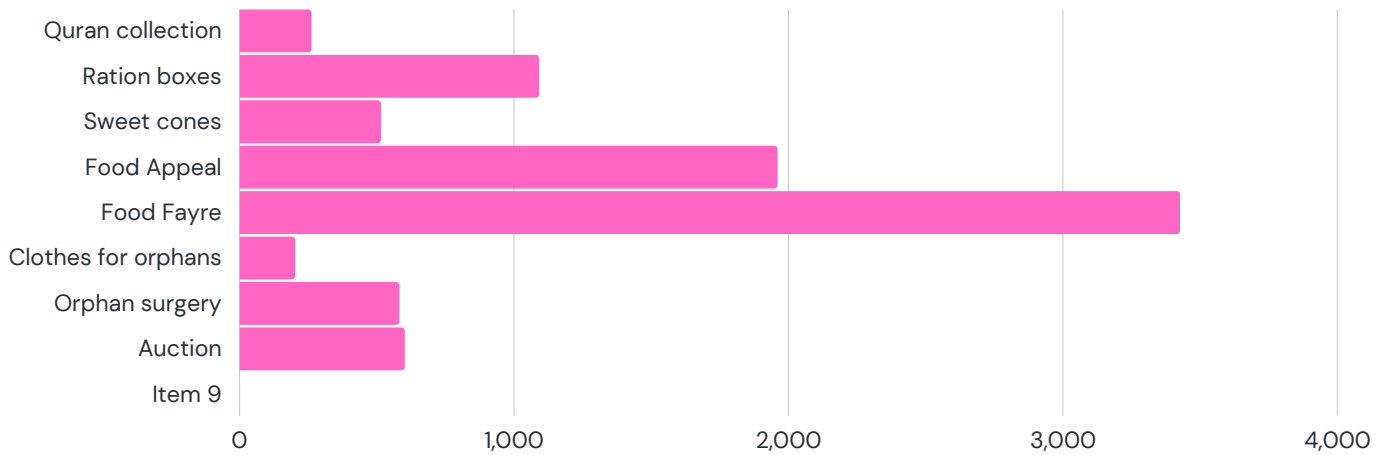
3 Connecting Communities mobilised local families who were willing to offer their time and money to cook speciality meals, which were then sold locally. This fundraising effort resulted in her £5000 being raised, which helped feed 93 families in Yemen.



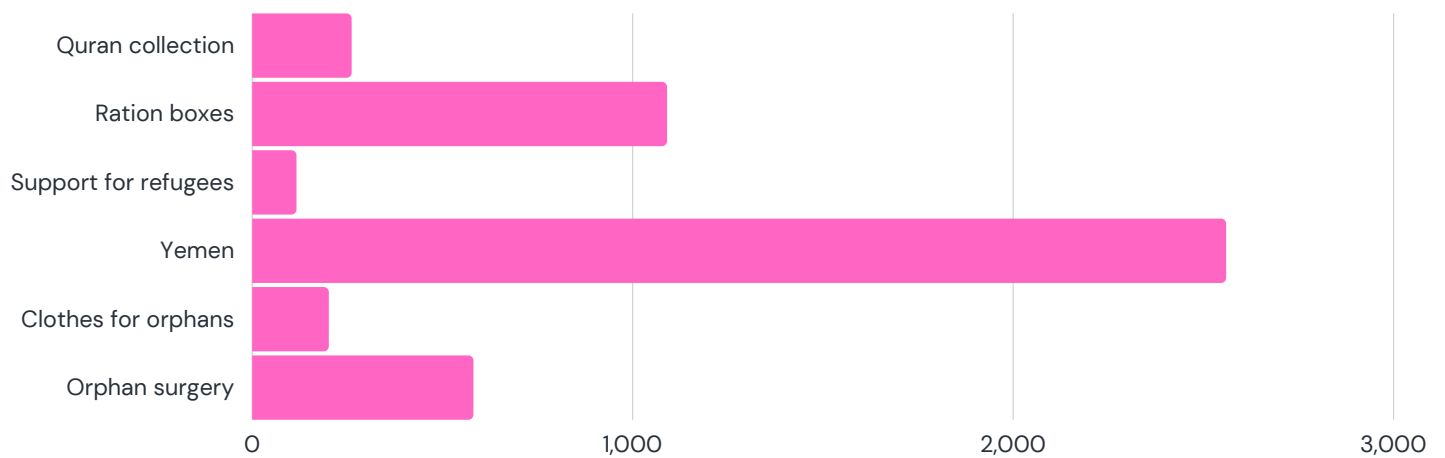
100% DONATIONS POLICY

# Financial Report

## An overview of income raised from various appeals



## Expenditure



## Financial Report

YEAR

Jan '20 to May '21

Date	Project	Outgoing	Income	Remaining \$	Remaining %
June '19	Food Fair		£ 3,424.74	£ 3,424.74	100.00%
May '20	Ramadan Feeding	£ 1,089.13	£ 1,089.13	£ -	0.00%
July '20	Yemen Appeal	£ 2,558.44	£ 2,558.44	£ -	0.00%
	Sweetcone Appeal		£ 513.00	£ 513.00	100.00%
	Qur'an collection	£ 260.00	£ 260.00	£ -	0.00%
	Clothes for orphans	£ 200.00	£ 200.00	£ -	0.00%
	Support for Orphan Surgery	£ 580.00	£ 580.00	£ -	0.00%
	Donations/Expenses	£ 332.00	£ 841.00	£ 509.00	60.52%
<b>Total</b>		<b>£ 5,019.57</b>	<b>£ 9,466.31</b>	<b>£ 4,446.74</b>	<b>46.97%</b>