

Reduce Our Carbon Charitable Foundation

Trustee's Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31st March 2022

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Charity Information

Trustees

Mrs Amanda Spicer (Chair)

Ms Megan Neathway

Mr Andrew Walsh-Perez

Secretary

Ms Megan Neathway

Registered Charity Number

1188256

Principal Address

Old Church School
Butts Hill
Frome
BA11 1HR

Report of the Trustees for the Year ended 31st March 2022

Introduction

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015) (amended 2 February 2016 and further updated 1st January 2019) as detailed in the accounting policies.

Structure, Governance and Management

Reduce Our Carbon Charitable Foundation (the “Charity”) was registered as a charitable incorporated organization on 27th February 2020 registered number 1188256.

Trustees are appointed by the board of Trustees and meet at least four times a year to approve funding requests and deal with the governance of the Charity

The introduction process for newly appointed Trustees comprises an initial meeting with the Trustees to brief them on their legal obligations under charity law, the decision making processes of the charity and its policies and procedures.

Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks that the charity faces and confirm that the systems have been established to ensure regular reports are produced for Trustees to ensure all necessary actions are taken to lessen risks.

Public Interest

The Trustees have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the 2011 Charities Act to have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission in respect of public benefit and in planning the activities for the year, have kept this in mind.

Objectives and Activities

The purpose of the charity is to promote the conservation of the natural environment and the advancement of public education therein with particular reference to deforestation and other effects of the release of carbon dioxide emissions into the atmosphere and the encouragement of afforestation.

To further these purposes for the public benefit, the Charity, funded by founding sponsor Your Eco Construction, set up a volunteer-supported reforestation pilot project in Boaco, Central Nicaragua. The objective of the project was to establish a community-based agroforestry model that would help prevent deforestation by providing families with recurring incomes through the use of native fruit trees.

The main participants in the project are rural farming communities that have limited sources of income and depend primarily on family and community labour to work small holdings typically ranging from 0.25 to 5 acres.

The project provides immediate financial support by paying participants to collect and replant saplings from within the community as well as to harvest branches for use as fence posts that regerminate and become live fences. This method ensures that only trees that are already native to the region are used. The planting fees are paid in two instalments with the second payment made in the following year to ensure participants are incentivized to ensure saplings survive through the dry season, typically December to April.

In addition to the immediate financial support paid to participants through planting fees for the live fences, the Charity matches each live fence and sapling planted one-for-one with a native fruit tree (e.g orange and mandarins) which, on average, takes three years to mature.

Achievements and Performance

The pilot project proved to be extremely successful with 42 families from 2 communities (La Reyna and Tule) signing up to join the project. The live fence and sapling planting took place early in the planting season, from April to June in 2020, with fruit trees being delivered from May through August 2020. The fruit trees when mature will yield both a source of food as well as income.

2020

- Planted 7,930 trees including 3500 fruit trees
- Immediate income from planting fees to project participants
- Recurring income after 3 years from fruit crops

- 42 families took part in the pilot project
- Project sponsor, Your Eco Construction Ltd, offset its annual carbon footprint
- Trained 4 local coordinators to support and supervise planting activities
- Secured planting pledges from nearby communities wanting to join the project

The global Covid pandemic impacted the foundations activities during 2021 and early 2022. But inspite of the difficult conditions the foundation was able to continue to support community agroforestry activities and still ensure that Covid safeguarding practices were adhered to. As such an additional 15 families joined the programme and along with existing members were able to plant over 8000 more trees. The delivery of fruit trees was deferred due to the Pandemic until the 2022 planting season

Financial Review

The Charity received £5400 during the year from sponsors including £5360 Your Eco Construction Ltd to fund the planting of 8,033 trees and to provide further funding to help support the Charity's start-up activities. The financial objective of the Charity is to secure additional funding to support further agroforestry activities.

Work was also undertaken during the year to develop a website to publicize the Charity's activities. The Charity also secured the help of a volunteer Executive Director to help develop the growth and expansion strategy for the Charity.

Plans for Future Periods

The Trustees are keen to expand the Charities fundraising activities to fund the demand from rural communities in Nicaragua wishing to take part in tree planting activities.

Approval

This report was approved by the Board of the Trustees on 25th January 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Amanda Spicer

Chair of Trustees

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st March 2022

	Notes	2022 GBP	2021 GBP
Income From:			
Donations		5400	6,085
Total Income		5400	6,085
Expenditure on: Charitable activities		5250	5,940
Total expenditure		5250	5,940
Net income before other recognized gains or (losses)		150	145
Net movements in funds for the year		150	145
Funds carried forward as at 31 st March 22		150	145

All income and expenditure in the current Statement of Financial Activities was unrestricted.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognized in the year.

The notes on pages 8 to 10 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2022

Notes	2022 GBP	2021 GBP
Fixed Assets		
Total Fixed Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	150	145
	150	145
Net current assets	150	145
Net Assets	150	145
Funds		
Unrestricted funds	250	145

The financial statements on pages 8 to 10 were approved by the Trustees on 25th January 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

Amanda Spicer

Chair of Trustees

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

CIO information

Reduce Our Carbon Charitable Foundation was registered as a charitable incorporated organisation on 28th February 2020 and is governed by a constitution dated February 2020 and registered with the Charity Commission under charity number 1188258. The charity's principal office address Old Church School, Butts Hill, Frome, BA11 1HR

Accounting Convention

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 ("Charities SORP (FRS102)"), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015 (amended 2 February 2016 and further updated 1st January 2019)

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following Charities SORP (FRS 102) rather than Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

Reduce Our Carbon Charitable Foundation meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Going Concern

The Trustees have at the time of approving the financial statements a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities ("SoFA") in the year in which it is receivable. Gifts in kind are recognised in the SoFA as income at the fair value of the goods, services or assets gifted at the date of the gift.

Interest income from cash deposits and listed investments is recognised in the accounts gross, when receivable.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2022 (Continued)

Expenditure

Expenditure (excluding grants) is included in the SoFA on an accruals basis.

Grants

Grants payable are commitments (including payments) made to third parties in the furtherance of the charitable objectives of the charity. Single or multi-year grants are accounted for as grants payable when either the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant and the Trustees have agreed to pay the grant without condition, or the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant and any condition attaching to the grant is outside the control of the charity.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity held for working capital.

Debtors

Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through profit and loss, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting end date.

Creditors, loans and provisions

Creditors, loans and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors, loans and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due. Amounts recognised as provisions are best estimates of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting end date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

Fund Accounting

All funds received in the year are unrestricted in their application, the Trustees having full discretion over their use.

Critical accounting and estimates

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised, if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The Trustees have judged that there are no estimates or assumptions which have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities.

2. Income

	2022 £	2021 £
Income from donations		
Your Eco Construction Ltd	5360	6085
Others	40	

3. Charitable Activity Expenditure

	2022 £	2021 £
Expenditure		
Project direct expenditure	5250	5940

There were no staff employed by the charity (2021- no staff employed).

The Trustees received no remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year (2021: none).