

WESTERN SAHARA SUPPORT GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1191126

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Trust

Registered 2020-09-03

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

Contact

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Activities

Objects: THE PREVENTION OR RELIEF OF POVERTY AND THE RELIEF OF NEED OF THE SAHRAWI PEOPLE IN THE WESTERN SAHARA REFUGEE CAMPS IN ALGERIA (THE CAMPS) BY PROVIDING GRANTS TO SUPPORT PROJECTS TO PREVENT OR RELIEVE POVERTY.

Activities: The Western Sahara Support Group raises funds to support projects that improve the quality of life of people living within the Western Saharan refugee camps, based in the harsh desert conditions of southern Algeria. We organise a range of fundraising events and also apply to individual trust funds, individuals and donor organisations to enable the projects agreed to come to fruition.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations
- **What:** Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief
- **Who:** Children/young People, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin

Geography

- Algeria
- Western Sahara
- Manchester City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-09-30	£21,237	£11,122	-	-
2024-09-30	£15,462	£14,831	-	-
2023-09-30	£19,715	£19,865	-	-
2022-09-30	£33,529	£32,025	-	-
2021-09-21	£23,448	£23,160	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
andy pitts	Chair	2018-11-20
Annie Rogers		2025-11-11
Clare Pauline Pitts		2020-05-28
Jack O'Neill		2020-05-28
Melanie Pettyfer		2018-11-20
Ryan Cooper		2025-11-11
Seneda Nassir Ali		2022-01-28

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Accounts



Purpose of meeting AGM	Trustees present	Date/time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review actions and agree previous minutes 15.6.22 Project update and phase 3 plan Finance overview MP/AP Fundraising and next steps Political campaign in UK AOB 	<p>Andy Pitts (Chair), Clare Pitts, Mel Pettyfer, Jack O’Neill, , Seneda Nassir Ali</p> <p>Also present : Kate O’Neill,Dave Aulton,</p> <p>Apologies : Owen Cooper, Kathryn Billington, Julie Marshall,</p> <p>Meeting held via Zoom. Agenda circulated to all trustees and additional interested parties.</p>	<p>12.10.22 6.30pm</p>
Agenda items:	Discussion	Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes updated 15.6.22 	<p>Minutes from last meeting had been circulated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions from 15.6.22 below to be reviewed <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Seneda will update the existing Standing order form to share at events and with people. David and Kate will compose a letter to supporters approaching people about possibly donating the Government Utility donation as a windfall. Julie is willing to contribute funds raised from further items from her house sale. Needs a volunteer to support with putting things on Facebook etc . Clare Kate and Katie volunteered to support with this. Clare to ask Ad if she can help with Facebook market place Julie will liaise with Kate and Katie for hands on support . Jack will add info re the charity e bay page and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes 15.6.22 agreed Discussion round practically of setting up group FB account to advertise things for sale. Agreed too complicated and that if we had items Clare would approach AH who has an account which she uses to sell small items. Decided given harsh economic climate that it was not appropriate to approach people regarding their gov utility donation. Link via email circulated by Seneda to enable trustees to share and access documents and info. Seneda will look into tidying up and aligning website name and name of charity to increase number of hits and improve ease of access..



	<p>we can signpost people to this if selling on e bay Jack and Mel will liaise to set this up. 5.Seneda to set drop box up to enable easy sharing of info.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project update and phase 3 plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fatimatu has been sharing regular photos and videos of the relocation process. Large digging machines have been used to clear and secure the well alongside hard physical labour. • They have purchased a water pump (big agricultural one that converts salts into minerals useful to plants), seeds, seed trays, compost and tractor hired to ‘stir’ the soil have been purchased. Also water pipes for drip and pivot watering, nets to protect some outside plants. Tomatoes, turnips, onion, beetroot, cucumber, sweet pepper, parsley, coriander, lettuce, mint. • Danielle from Sandblast Arts is visiting the camps in October. We have arranged for her to meet up with Fatimatu and to produce a short video for us. • Fatimatu has been speaking with Oxfam to try and get them to purchase and then distribute produce. • Latest video from Fatimatu showing where the project is up to will be shared at the The Big Ramble. 	<p>Feedback and question session by FB.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They are in a position to start sowing and planting both in the polytunnel and the outside area within 2 weeks. • All equipment has now be resited to Laayoune camp. • The well is ready and provides water for the project so we no longer need to find the funds to buy in. Irrigation system in place. Ground composted and ‘stirred’. • FB is looking at more effective ways to distribute the produce. There was some wastage last year a it wasn’t collected on tie as had been intended. The Polisario still owed the project money from last year. • Distribution : <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a neighbouring project and the woman who oversees it links with the WFP (World Food Programme) and FB will meet with her. 2. FB discussing with Oxfam, 3. project called Sierra which has bought and distributed food for schools in the camps. 4. final option of using a merchant in



		<p>Tindouf who then sells produce back to the camps(this is very much the last option)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project has sufficient money to start this years growing .They might need some money to cover cost of wages for 5 people (btw 100 -150 euros per person per month depending on job).The aim is that the project covers this wage cost once produce is sold. • One of the trustees now has a sterling bank account and this could be used to avoid the cost of currency conversion charges when transferring funds to the bank in Tindouf(Santander charge for every transaction.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance update 	See table below	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundraising and next steps 	Trustees in agreement we should look at Big Ramble 3 next year.	Next year a small steering group will be used to organise. We have already had expressions of interest to be involved.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political campaign in UK 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beccy Allen has made contact from Western Sahara Campaign. Aim to link up organisations : Western Sahara Campaign ,Sandblast, Olive Branch, Ad Dahla (spl?) and ourselves. • Joint working around endorsements, lobbying, human rights, projects to improve 	Andy produced and shared a short introductory video and send to the event. Kate O. suggested other people should be



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	<p>quality of life, legal challenges and campaigns. Aim to be less London centric.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed joint annual event .This year 29th Oct 2022 in London. Asked if we could attend (AP is away). Option of sending a video outlining who we are and what we do to 	involved in attending and moving things forwards so as to share out responsibilities. Seneda might be in London and will try to attend.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trustees/supporters 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AOB 	TBR 3 ?	

Minutes taken by: Clare Pitts

Chair Andy Pitts

Trustee

Information to Trustees YEAR 2 22.9.21- 30.9.22 FINAL					
VERSION					
Activity/Item	Income	Item	Expenditure	End date	accounted
Balance carried over	388.24				
Music night	2161.07	Fatimatu water/wages	550	24.9.21	
The Big Ramble 2022	3935	Fatimatu water/wages	606.89	27.10.21	
Belfast fundraiser	591.61	Fatimatu water/wages	723.95	2.11.21	
Peace walk	240	Fatimatu water/wages	1033.36	1.12.21	
Unicorn	5050	Fatimatu water/wages	674.62	4.1.22	
Donations	14543	Fatimatu water/wages	602.09	18.1.22	



Western Sahara Support Group

Gift Aid	2914.50	TBR Refund	20		
Pay pal	2300.81	Installment 1	3460.64	3.2.22	
Standing orders	640	Installment 2	4368.56	23.2.22	
Julie/Alice fundraiser	765	YHA deposit	464	2.3.22	
		Installment 3	5201.49	26.3.22	
		Fatimatu wages	536.69	19.4.22	
		Clearing well	3122.59	19.5.22	
		YHA final @40 places	1581	3.8.22	
		Coach Belle Vue	450	3.8.22	
		Phase 3	8650.11	4.8.22	
TOTAL	33529.23		32025.92		
BALANCE 30.9.22	1503.31				