



Action For Sustainable Communities Foundation

Registered Charity: 1193197

Trustees report and financial statements

For the period ending 31st December 2021

Trustees' Annual Report - 21st January 2021 to 31st December 2021

Objectives and Activities

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document

The objects of the Action for Sustainable Communities Foundation (ASC) are to promote sustainable development for the benefit of the public in particular, but not exclusively for communities in Europe, Africa and Asia by:

(a) the preservation, conservation and the protection of the environment and the prudent use of resources.

(b) the relief of poverty and the improvement of the conditions of life in socially and economically disadvantaged communities; and

(c) the promotion of sustainable means of achieving economic growth and regeneration.

The charity will use such means as determined by its trustees including the following:

- providing or assisting in the provision of goods, services, resources, grants and technologies and equipment to enable better use of resources
- developing infrastructure and educating communities
- providing people with the means to live and support themselves and their community for the present and for the future
- promoting public interest in and recognition of such needs in the local areas

Nothing shall authorise an application of the property of the charity for the purposes which are not charitable.

Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts

The first project ASC has undertaken is to fund the Thitimira Secondary School for 200 children in the Mzimba region of Malawi which is one of the poorest rural areas in the country. Before December 2021 there was no secondary school within 10km of the local villages which made attendance impossible for most children who are expected to do household chores before and after school.

Several villages had come together to start building the school but funds had run out and the building work was left at a standstill. Thanks to the Public Health Action Support Team CIC (PHAST) as well as several other very generous donors and several fundraising events organised by trustees (including sponsored walks and a triathlon), building work was resumed enabling the school committee to complete the following:

- the first school block;
- two teacher's houses.
- temporary pit toilets for girls and boys.

- installation of solar powered electricity; and
- a bore hole and hand pump.

Once completed, the school will be transferred to Malawi's Ministry of Education. They provide teachers and oversee the syllabus and governance of the school.

ASC funded the cost of text books, stationary and other basic school equipment to enable the school to open on 4th January 2022 for the first intake of children.

ASC coordinated a community engagement process to involve and incorporate the ideas of the community in the planning of phase 2 of the building of the school. This included planning a permaculture garden and a rewilding project to protect and restore the forest around the local villages.

ASC is receiving advice and support from a global engineering company who are offering their help pro bono.

In addition to the country's curriculum, these children will learn how to care for the environment through knowledge about the impact of climate change on their country and undertaking practical ways they can mitigate the problem by planting trees and creating a sustainable permaculture garden using human and animal waste. They will learn about the importance of solar and wind energy as natural sources of power for cooking, lighting powering computers etc. ASC will encourage entrepreneurial skills so they can help themselves and their families break out of poverty. It is hoped that by 2025, 200 children with an equal number of boys and girls will attend the school.

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

ASC has had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Contribution made by volunteers

ASC has been fortunate to have been supported by friends and family but have not recruited any volunteers.

Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.

In its first year ASC has successfully funded a secondary school which will enable the first 50 students to receive a secondary education. This will provide them with the knowledge and skills to find better paid jobs and enable them to break out of the cycle of poverty.

An additional 50 students will attend each year over the next 3 years to make up a total of 200 children in 4 different year groups. The school will help children to break out of poverty, giving them the skills, they need to improve their prospects, the prospects of their family and their whole community.

Malawi remains one of the poorest countries in the world and has the fourth highest percentage of people living in extreme poverty in the world with 70 percent living on little more than a dollar a day.

According to the Borgen Report (<https://borgenproject.org>) Malawi is one of the least developed countries in the world and has been ranked as one of the lowest performing nations for literacy in sub-Saharan Africa. Education is seen as one of the critical pathways to improving living conditions in the country.

Currently only 8 percent of children finish secondary school. The major reason is the distance to secondary school and lack of transportation or infrastructure. Secondary education only receives 10 percent of the education budget.

The installation of a bore hole providing access to clean water has been lifechanging for the local communities as well as for the students. Prior to this, villagers had to walk 2 km to fetch water.

Achievements against objectives set

The successful installation of the bore-hole and the completion of basic infrastructure will enable the school to open to the first year intake of students in January 2022. This achievement could not have been realised without the generosity of donations and the expertise provided by trustee Newton Matupi's expertise as well as his knowledge of the area and contacts on the ground.

Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set

The fundraising activities were restricted due to Covid concerns and avoidance of inside venues for events. However, outside events and events online were possible and raised several thousand pounds mainly thanks to friends and family. ASC now seeking advice from fundraisers to enable us to appeal to donors with a likely interest in our work as well as running larger events that will reach the wider public.

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period

ASC is a registered charity whose objects are to promote sustainable development for the benefit of the public, but not exclusively, for communities in Europe, Africa and Asia.

ASC was registered on the 22nd January 2021 and commenced operations in May 2021. The charity has been successful in raising funds and particularly in meeting its objects in a very short timescale.

In its first year, almost all payments, other than administrative costs (representing some 4% of overall expenditure and fully covered by donations from trustees) were directed to the Thitimira Secondary School project.

Receipts

The charity has received support from organisations and individuals from within the UK. The trustees have donated funds and provided services free of charge so that donations received are expended in full on the charitable work it undertakes.

Payments

The charity has been able to direct 96% of payments directly to the Thitimira community in Malawi to fund a borehole, two classrooms, two teachers houses, solar power and toilets to support the establishment of a secondary school to be used by the dispersed communities in the area.

ASC ensures the funds provided are properly utilised by seeking photographic evidence of building progress, obtaining written quotes, and having a presence on site when Trustees visit the project.

ASC has obtained free professional advice for the community from international architects and engineers and has supported the use of local professionals in the construction of the school thus helping to support the community in its economic sustainability.

Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held

The trustees do not hold any reserves, as fixed costs are minimal, but do maintain working capital to provide a source of funding to support the Thitimira Secondary School project. At the year end, ASC's available cash reserve was £19.3k.

Forward Strategy

Much has been achieved in a very short time despite the impact of Covid. The aim of the charity is to build on the foundations already put in place and to expand both our charitable income and our work in Malawi. It also plans to fund projects in Sri Lanka to the benefit of extremely poor communities, to assist these communities to raise themselves out of poverty.

ASC is working to engage in and to develop new partnerships to enable us to meet our objectives to raise our profile and engage with other organisations and the charity community to increase our funding. ASC is looking to develop a good working environment and relationship with the Government of Malawi, its Ministry of Education and its local officers.

Structure, Governance and Management

ASC's governing document is the Constitution dated 17 January 2021.

ASC is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) founded on 22nd January 2021.

Trustees are appointed by the charity trustees. Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed (for a term of three years) by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

ASC Foundation is a charity registered in England and Wales. The charity (registered charity number 1193197) was entered on the Register of Charities on 22 January 2021. The charity is overseen by its Board of Trustees to raise funds and work in partnership with other professionals to deliver educational development projects in Malawi, Sri Lanka and other developing nations. The areas of primary focus for our work currently is the provision of a secondary school in the Thitimira Secondary School in a remote area of Malawi.

The trustees meet on a quarterly basis to review expenditure on its projects, set priorities, and review progress against strategic goals and key performance indicators. They also provide mentoring and guidance to the local team who lead on the development and expansion of the school construction.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place. Measures are in place to ensure this happens on an annual basis.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Action for Sustainable Communities Foundation
Other name the charity uses	ASC
Registered charity number	1193197
Charity's principal address	St Clair Petrockstowe Okehampton Devon EX20 3QJ

Names of the charity trustees who managed the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Dr Catherine Brogan	Chair		Founding trustee
2	Mr David Smead	Treasurer		Founding trustee
3	Dr Newton Matupi			Founding trustee
4	Ms Felicity Corbyn			Founding trustee
5	Mr Iain Corbyn			Founding trustee
6	Ms Charmaine Donnelly			Founding trustee

ASC does not hold title to any property.

There are no custodian trustees holding funds on behalf of others.

Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Accounts

The Charities Act 2011 requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that year. In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

1. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
2. observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
3. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
4. prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011. 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.

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signature:



Full name: Dr Catherine Brogan

Position: Chair

Signature:



Full name: Iain Corbyn

Position: Trustee

Date: 14 October 2022



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Action for Sustainable Communities Foundation

1193197

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 1/21/2021	To	Period end date 12/31/2021
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £
A1 Receipts				
Company donations	32,400	-	-	32,400
Public donations	5,050	5,277	-	10,327
Go fund me		5,154	-	5,154
Misc	30	-	-	30
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	37,480	10,431	-	47,911
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	37,480	10,431	-	47,911
A3 Payments				
Thitmilla school Malawi project	16,986	10,431	-	27,417
Start up expenses	343	-	-	343
Paypal fees	5	-	-	5
Website development	800	-	-	800
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	18,134	10,431	-	28,565
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total payments	18,134	10,431	-	28,565
Net of receipts/(payments)	19,346	-	-	19,346
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	19,346	-	-	19,346

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	HSBC	19,346	-
			-
		-	-
	Total cash funds	19,346	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
	Gift Aid claim	1,250	1,319
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
			-
			-
			-
			-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)
			-
			-
			-
			-

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Catherine Brogan

Dr Catherine Brogan

CC16a

Last year
to the nearest £

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**Endowment
funds**
to nearest £

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**Endowment
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to nearest £

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**Current value
(optional)**

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**Current value
(optional)**

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**When due
(optional)**

Date of
approval

14-Oct-22



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Action for Sustainable Communities Foundation

On accounts for the
period ended

31st December 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1193197

Set out on pages

1 and 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the period ended 31st December 2021.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

14/10/22

Name:

Christopher James Tempest Vane

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

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accounts in England and Wales
(Retired)

Address:

Summers Cottage, Dinton, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP17 8UG