



Action For Sustainable Communities Foundation (ASC)

Registered Charity: 1193197

Trustees report and financial statements

For the year ending 31st December 2022

Trustees' Annual Report – 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022

Objectives and Activities

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

Action for Sustainable Communities Foundation (ASC) was established in 2021 to improve the health, education and wellbeing of deprived communities.

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
- Funding projects that enable people to develop their communities improve their own well-being and economic independence in 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.

1. Thitimila Secondary School Malawi

The first project ASC is funding is the Thitimila Secondary School for 200 children in the Mzimba region of Malawi, which is one of the poorest rural areas in the country and when we started the project it had no secondary schools within 10km of the local villages. It is planned that by 2025, 200 children with an equal number of boys and girls will attend the school.

History

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. Across Malawi 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.

In 2020 several villages began to build a classroom, but funds ran out and the building work was left at a standstill. ASC undertook a variety of fundraising events and building work was resumed in 2021 and continued into 2022 enabling the Thitimila school committee to oversee the completion of:

- A school block of two classrooms and a storeroom.
- Four teacher's houses with solar electricity and water
- Pit toilets for girls and boys.
- Installation of solar powered electricity; and
- A bore hole and hand pump.
- Tree planting to replace trees felled to make the bricks.
- A detailed plan for PHASE 2 with a new classroom block, teachers houses and pit latrines.

School opening January 4th 2022

The school buildings were opened on 4th January 2022 with celebrations, singing and dancing that can be seen on the ASC website. ascfoundation.org.uk

ASC funded the cost of text books, stationery and other basic school equipment to enable the school to open for the first intake of 50 children, 25 girls and 25 boys.

Responsibility

The Malawi Ministry of Education signed a Memorandum of Understanding with ASC which states that the Ministry of Education is responsible for the maintenance, upkeep and governance of the school buildings. They are also responsible for providing and paying the teachers and overseeing the syllabus, exams and governance of the school.

Community Engagement

ASC initiated a community engagement process in 2021 and has continued this in 2022 to involve and incorporate the ideas of the community in the planning of phase 2 of the building of the school. This includes a rewilding project to protect and restore the forest around the local villages. Each village is keen to have its own tree nursery to provide new trees for reforestation.

Master Plan

ASC worked with a global engineering company to develop a detailed Master Plan for the whole school site. They gave their expertise pro bono. Details are available on request. The layout of the first school block had been determined by the existing work that the local people had started prior to ASC involvement. The next school block planned for PHASE 2 started development in 2022 but the work is planned to commence in 2023. It will use the Ministry of Education's approved two classroom design with an overhang shaded area to allow the pupils to hang up their coats and remove their shoes. It will be built with compressed earth blocks to minimise the carbon footprint of the new buildings.

Sustainability

In addition to the Malawi's secondary school curriculum, these children are learning how to care for the environment through knowledge about the impact of climate change on their country. They and their parents are undertaking practical ways they can mitigate the problem by planting trees.

They are learning about the importance of solar and wind energy as natural sources of power for cooking, lighting powering computers etc.

ASC encourages entrepreneurial skills so the community in Malawi can help themselves and their families break out of poverty. As a result, a women's sewing group was established which will seek funds to expand in 2023. A sustainable permaculture garden using human and animal waste is planned in PHASE 3

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

2. Tea Leaf Trust Sri Lanka

ASC's second project was to support students attending a post-school course to acquire skills and knowledge in IT, English and social/life skills, at the Tea Leaf Trust Sri Lanka.

ASC organised training modules on nutrition, personal hygiene, relationships, and ecology. Funds were given to help the poorest students attend school during the economic crisis.

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 support from friends and family but has no volunteers and has no plans to recruit 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.

Thitimila Malawi in 2022, ASC successfully funded a secondary school which has enabled 100 students to receive a secondary education which provides them with the knowledge and skills and opportunities to look for better paid jobs and break out of the existing cycle of poverty that is the current situation of most of the students.

An additional 50 students will attend each year over the next 3 years to make up a total of 200 children in four different year groups. The school will give the children the knowledge and skills, they need to improve their prospects, the prospects of their family and their whole community.

Tea Leaf Trust Sri Lanka In 2022 50 students in Sri Lanka were funded by ASC so that they could complete their education despite the economic crisis in the country. Without this they would have

been expected to find work to help their families. The children sent us videos to thank us and explain the difference it had made to their lives.

Achievements against set objectives

ASC has achieved all its set objectives in the period January-December 2022.

Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set.

The fundraising activities have been undertaken thanks to friends and family. ASC is seeking advice from fundraisers to enable us to appeal to donors who are likely to have an interest in our work as well as helping us to organise larger events that will reach the wider public.

Financial Review for the year 1st January 2022- 31st December 2022

Financial position for the Year

Financial review

Action for Sustainable Communities Foundation is a registered charity whose objects are to promote sustainable developments for the benefit of the public in particular, but not exclusively, for communities in Europe, Africa and Asia.

We have continued to direct some 99% of our donations to charitable causes. The main beneficiaries being the Thitimila school in Malawi and the Sri Lanka Tea Leaf Fund.

Income

The charity has continued to receive support from organisations and individuals from within the UK and in particular from its trustees who have donated funds and provided services free of charge so that donations received are expended as fully as possible on the charitable work we undertake.

Trustees do not take salaries or receive expenses for the work they do.

Income has been received from companies (£21.5k) and private sources (£13.4k)

The fundraising activity has included: sponsored walks, marathons, concerts, a Christmas quiz and a curry night).

Expenditure

The charity has been able to direct 99% of its expenditure directly to charitable causes. In particular to the Thitimila community in Malawi to provide a classroom, teachers houses, solar power, a water supply and latrines to support the development of a secondary school to be used by the dispersed communities in the area.

Our support for this project commenced in May 2021 and it is gratifying to have achieved so much in such a short timescale. It is also amazing to see the first cohort of boys and girls commencing their education. We also contribute to the local community by providing support as the school becomes a community centre to provide educational modules on hygiene and nutrition. A workshop was held for parents and girls to develop practical vocational skills in entrepreneurial activities.

In addition, donations have also been made to The Teal Leaf Fund to support their work in improving access to education in deprived areas in Sri Lanka for young men and women completing a year of post school education, coaching mentoring and entrepreneurial activities.

ASC has continued to obtain free professional advice 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 by providing access to professional skills. They have been supervised in developing skills in construction and re-forestation locally. The professionals plan to train local people in the vicinity of Thitimila school to make compressed earth bricks in 2023.

Reserves and Financial Health

The trustees do not hold any reserves, as our fixed costs are minimal. However, ASC maintains working capital to provide a source of funding to support our Malawi school project. At the year- end our available cash reserve was £20.6k.

The trustees regularly review the finances, budgets and spend against the budget of the foundation.

Forward Strategy

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 to add an additional school block with two classrooms and additional teachers' accommodation to expand the capacity of the school to provide access to a wider number of rural villages. To build dormitories for children from the furthestmost villages or explore options for transport.

We continue to work to engage in and to develop new partnerships to enable us to meet our objectives by raising our profile and engaging with other organisations and the charity community to broaden our funding streams. In particular, we are pleased to have developed a good working relationship with the government of Malawi, with the Malawi Department of Education and its local officers. Accordingly, we agreed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Malawi Department of Education and this has been duly signed.

Our website has been developed by a prestigious designer Steve Edge Designs free of charge to develop a wider awareness of our work and to encourage donations from other like-minded individuals and organisations.

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 area of primary focus for our current work is the provision of a secondary school in the Thitimila 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 provide mentoring and guidance to the local teams who lead on the development and expansion of the school.

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 \$ 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
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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 Ronald Jones	Treasurer	Appointed 1 st May 2022	Trustee
3	Dr Newton Matupi			Founding trustee
4	Ms Felicity Corbyn			Founding trustee
5	Mr Iain Corbyn			Founding trustee

ASC does not hold title to any property.

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

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

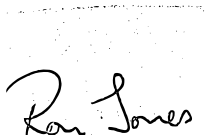
Signature:



Full name: Dr Catherine Brogan

Position: Chair

Signature:



Full name: Ronald Jones

Position: Trustee

Date: 13th October 2023



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Action for Sustainable Communities Foundation

1193197

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01/01/2022

To

Period end date
31/12/2022

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 £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Company donations	16,500	5,000	-	21,500	-
Public donations		3,773	-	3,773	-
Go fund me		7,022	-	7,022	-
Gift Aid	1,250	1,383	-	2,633	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	17,750	17,178	-	34,928	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	17,750	17,178	-	34,928	-
A3 Payments					
Thitmillia school Malawi project	16,179	11,678	-	27,857	-
Tea Leaf donation		5,500	-	5,500	-
Bank charges	60	-	-	60	-
Paypal charges	11	-	-	11	-
Fundraising expenses	240	-	-	240	-
Misc.	29	-	-	29	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	16,519	17,178	-	33,697	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	16,519	17,178	-	33,697	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,231	0	-	1,231	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	1,231	0	-	1,231	-

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	HSBC	16,935	-	-
	Paypal	3,642	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	20,577	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Debtor - Gift Aid		1,595	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		<i>Catherine Brogan</i>	Dr Catherine Brogan	12/10/2023
		<i>Ron Jones</i>	Mr Ron Jones	13/10/2023



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees	Action for Sustainable Communities Foundation		
On accounts for the year ended	31 st December 2022	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 year ended 31st December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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.

Signed:

Date:

4/09/2023

Name:

Christopher James Tempest Vane

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

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

Address:

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