

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31st December 2022

Charity name: **HOTHOUSE**

Charity registration number: **1196722**

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

The Trustees present their report and unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2022

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name Hothouse

Registered charity number 1196722

Charity principal office 78 Whalley Rd
Ramsbottom
Bury
BL0 0DE

The Trustees	Mr S Bottrill (Chair)	
	Mrs Joy Kilpatrick	
	Mr P Minney	(Appointed 7 July 2021)
	Michelle Hyams-Ssekasi	(Appointed 7 July 2021)

Treasurer Mr D W Wyke FCMA

Bank Co-operative Bank

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Hothouse first started in 2020 after the initial Trustees working for some years for Seedbed which providing funding for several small Christian start up charities. This had been funded by a philanthropist who had decided to stop providing the funding. However, from experience we had seen that through support, networking and coaching local Christian social enterprises could play a valuable role in helping to improve the local community and the influence which the church had within it.

The organisation registered with the Charity Commission, achieving Charity status on 23rd November 2021 (Registered Charity Number 1196722)

In June 22, a bank account was established with the Co-operative bank to help with fundraising.

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

Hothouse is a Charitable incorporated Organisation (CIO), governed with a foundational model constitution and established in Nov 21. The original constituted group was established in February 2020.

OBJECTIVES

To advance the Christian religion in Bolton, Bury and the surrounding area for the benefit of the public through the holding of prayer meetings, lectures, retreats, pastoral care and through nurturing the development of not-for-profit initiatives which advance the Christian faith either directly or through "good works".

Our activities are continually monitored to ensure consideration of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The Trustees believe that the implementation of the above satisfies the Charity Commission general guidance on Public Benefit

APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

(1) Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a maximum term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees. It can however be shorter.

(2) In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees consider the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

3) Number of charity trustees - There must be at least three charity trustees. If the number falls below this minimum, the remaining trustee or trustees may act only to call a meeting of the charity trustees or appoint a new charity trustee.

4) The trustees are the members of the organisation.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charities state of affairs. In preparing these reports, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed.
- Prepare the financial accounts and submit them in line with Charity Commission requirements.
- The Trustees are also responsible for ensuring that the charity has appropriate systems of internal control across the organisation.
- They are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at the time, the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements follow best practice.
- They are further 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 systems of internal control are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute reassurance against material misstatement of loss. Internal control processes implemented by the Trustees include Agreement of policy and service development.
- An annual budget approved by the Trustees. Regular consideration by the Trustees of financial results. Delegation of authority to appropriate levels of management. Identification and management of risk.

ACTIVITIES

Hothouse seeks to nurture and support individuals to start-up a social enterprise, charity or missional project that will bring positive change! Here are the 4 areas we support.

1. Community - We provide regular networking and mentoring group opportunities for our participants, stakeholders, and volunteers.
 2. Christian Discipleship -We deliver teaching on Christian leadership, so that individuals become more mature in their faith.
 3. Coaching -Dependant on the project needs and availability, we offer some initial coaching sessions to help develop a plan for growth. Our trained coaches come from a wide range of backgrounds and volunteer their time.
 4. Participant programme and workspace – our participants work on a personal development plan.
- We provide a learning platform which includes teaching on a wide range of topics necessary for start-ups such as governance, social value, and finance. We offer workspace days to help collaboration opportunities and peer to peer learning.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Hothouse began operating in the heart of Bolton, at the start of 2020, prior to it being established as a charity. Bolton has a large population of 145K. Deprivation according the IMD2019 shows that Bolton is in the lowest 1%. This highlights the challenges people and families face in employment, health, poverty, crime, and education. The Impact of Hothouse is that through support of start-up initiators, they go on to develop projects with good leadership, that are more equipped and are more strongly rooted in the local community.

Hothouse is reliant on a dedicated group of volunteers who are passionate about seeing transformation in people and their community through faith and good works. Thank you to each of the volunteers, your hard work and commitment does not go unnoticed, thank you for who you are and all you do.

We would also like to thank our many partners including Bolton CVS, Bolton Christian Community Cohesion, Bolton local churches, Passion for Bolton and CreateBolton. Without them we would not be able to deliver the support we do. Thankyou.

THE PRACTICAL DIFFERENCE THAT WE MAKE.

In the past two years, we have been able to help support 20 new local seed initiatives, from women's refuges to therapy for children in schools. An outcome is that these projects have gone on to have a huge positive impact on people in Bolton and beyond such as children, vulnerable adults, and those in poverty. We have provided 200hrs of coaching to our participants. We have put on 16 training workshops and large networking events. We have provided over 600 hrs of discipleship teaching to our participants. The outcome is that local people have better skills and knowledge to become good leaders in their community. We have calculated a contribution monetary value of £43,000 for our volunteering. This is the number of hours in volunteering for Hothouse, multiplied by the hourly rate that they could have been paid. This includes our charity management, coaching and training as well as those supporting with social enterprise/charity planning. This is based on 20 volunteers over 2 years. Additionally, a new outcome has emerged through volunteering, that our team has grown in confidence and learnt new skills.

Feedback from our participants.

"If it wasn't for Hothouse, I don't think my project would have started, let alone be up and running, especially during lockdown. Thanks so much to Hothouse for being there for support. If I had been doing this alone, I would have got disheartened with the enormity of it. Helping me stay focused was so important, now I too can make a difference to other people's lives through starting my charity. "

"The question 'what's stopping you?' is so powerful, as all too often I will feel 'stuck' and don't know why? When I take the time to think about it with the guidance of my coach, I can identify a thought that's holding me back and together we work out how to move past it. This has helped me hugely can honestly say I could not have done this without her."

A Story from one of our participants.

Lee had a desire to launch an adventure project to support adults and youth from areas of deprivation. He heard about Hothouse and thought it was exactly what he needed to get his charitable trust off the ground. After a successful application he was partnered with his coach, which was a great match, they connected and got off to a good start. He tells his story.....

"I had previously spent 22 years working at sea, so I had a lot of experience already in project and people management. However, I had absolutely no idea about the legalities and complexities around setting up a UK based charitable trust, and this is where the mentoring was invaluable.

After setting up an initial meeting whereby I discussed the project vision and the work so far, my coach Dave then arranged for me to meet a couple of people who had set up charities with similar aims themselves and we talked through their stories including their challenges along the way. This allowed some good networking opportunities and because of an introduction. Coaching and mentoring has enabled me to decide with confidence on the right structure to aim for, identify good potential trustees and has also helped me get our constitution set up well with the aims and objectives being clarified, especially from a funder's perspective and led to me getting our grant bids spot on resulting in a lot of funding coming in for equipment and training.

Working alongside another adventure provider, we recently took 20 young people from a social housing estate in Bolton for an outdoor adventure and bushcraft day. We plan to get the youth involved with refurbishing a couple of Canadian canoes, which we then plan to paddle under safe supervised conditions in a local reservoir.

Alongside coaching and mentoring, Hothouse has also hosted various seminars looking at topics such as fundraising, legalities around charities and social value, along with partner organisations. These have all been useful.

I would wholeheartedly recommend Hothouse for anyone who feels that they have a specific vision for a project but little idea about how to go about realising that vision."

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

In 2022 we are planning an away weekend space, in the form of a retreat for participants to spend time in prayer and learning about identity and purpose. Also providing an opportunity to find clarity around the vision idea for future planning.

In 2023 we will embark on a fundraising campaign, to find sustainable income streams that help support our core costs of Hothouse.

We plan to develop our social media and a website in 2022/3. We want to share more stories of the amazing impact, that our initiatives have had in bringing good news to our town and beyond.

Towards the end of 2023 we aim to offer a course around finding our purpose. It will be developed in partnership with the local church and delivered across Bolton.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

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

Hothouse is funded through grants and general giving. Our funders include grant-making bodies, trust funds, businesses, churches, local organisations, and individuals.

In the main, the charity does not conduct any significant fundraising activity.

Factors likely to affect future financial performance or position are reviewed at each trustee meeting alongside a review of performance against the original approved budget for the year in hand. Forecasts are amended as appropriate at such time. There have been no significant events that have affected our financial performance and position during the year. Our balance sheet remains in credit, and we remain a going concern.

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

Our policy is to accumulate free reserves in proportion to the risk associated with one or more major income streams failing to deliver to expectation. Our free reserves target equates to approximately twelve months operational costs. Any surplus which may be generated in excess of our reserves target will be reinvested in activities which accord with our charitable objectives.

Reserves are periodically used to cover costs arising from a change or short-term cessation of funding of a project or service, to enable the effective management of change whereby new initiatives need time to become established, or to help fund required investments in facilities from which the charity operates.

RESERVES POLICY

Amount of reserves held - £2,052

We remain satisfied that our cash reserves and our reserves target are sufficient to enable the charity to effectively manage contractual risks, issues and organisational change as identified above, or to wind up its affairs in an orderly fashion should the need arise.

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Full name(s)

Position (e.g., Secretary, Chair, etc)


Steve Bottrill
Chair

Date

7th May 2023

Annual accounts for year ending 31st December 2022						
Income and Expenditure Analysis						
-	-	-	-	-	-	
Income		2021		2022		
Donations		-	£2,000		£2,000	
-						
Expenditure		-				
Networking events		£85		£298		
IT equipment		£79		£96		
Promotional mat'ls		£0				
Stationery		£96		£45		
Zoom subscription		£216		£264		
Indemnity Insurance		£200		£210		
Training / Development		£210		£120		
Sundry		£56		£39		
-						
Total			£942		£1,072	
-			-		-	
Profit / (Loss)			£1,058	-	£928	
Balance Sheet						
-						
Bank Balance			£1,124		£2,052	
-			-		-	
Reserves		-	£1,124	-	£2,052	