

Charity Registration No.
1205294

Charlbury Refugee Action Group

**Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August
2025**

Fiveways House
Sturt Road
Charlbury
Oxfordshire
OX7 3AB

CHARLBURY REFUGEE ACTION GROUP (1205294)

Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025

The trustees hereby present the annual report together with the financial statements and independent examiner's statement in respect of the charity for the financial year 2023-2024.

A: Reference and Administrative Details

Name of charity: Charlbury Refugee Action Group (also known as CRAG)

Charity registration number: 1205294

Charity's principal address: Fiveways House, Sturt Road, Charlbury, Oxfordshire OX7 3AB

Trustees and officers:

Felicity Brooks	
Vicky Buser	Secretary
Hugh Goyder	
Angela Gwatkin	Treasurer
Nick Parker	
Val Parker	Chair
Alice Prochaska	
Christina Surawy	
Frances Webber	

Independent Examiner:

Hugh Belshaw,
14 Sandford Park,
Charlbury,
Oxfordshire OX7 3TH

B: Structure and governance

The charity is an unincorporated association. Its governing document is a Constitution, first drafted in 2016 and adopted in its current form by members at an extraordinary general

meeting on 16 October 2023. Trustees are elected annually by members at the charity's Annual General Meeting.

The Trustees have adopted policies and procedures relating to:

- (a) Internal financial controls;
- (b) Safeguarding;
- (c) Risk management;
- (d) Trustees' expenses.

C: Objectives and activities

Objects: to provide relief and assistance for refugees and those seeking asylum who are victims of war, natural disaster, trouble or catastrophe, primarily by providing grants or donations to such charities or charitable bodies as the trustees shall determine.

Activities undertaken in relation to the objects:

- Raising funds and receiving grants and donations through means including direct requests and appeals to grant-making bodies and individuals, sales and community events;
- Applying the funds thus raised to carry out the work of the Charity;
- Cooperating with other charities and humanitarian and development organisations;
- Supporting individuals and organisations to engage with meeting the needs of those the Charity seeks to serve;
- Disseminating information on refugee-related subjects through means including publications, talks and public meetings;
- Carrying out any other activities which in the opinion of the Trustees will promote the Objects of the Charity and are for the public benefit.

Public benefit: In exercising their powers and duties, the Trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on the public benefit as required by s17 Charities Act 2011.

D. Achievements of the charity during the year

Report from the chair:

In this our second year as a Registered Charity we as CRAG Trustees have been working hard to ensure that our activities further our objectives and are for the public benefit.

In line with our objectives, we have undertaken the following work during the year:

Grant-giving: As raising funds and making grants to front-line organisations working with refugees constitute our main activities, our main responsibility as Trustees is to ensure that

the uses to which our funds are directed meet the needs of their beneficiaries in ways wholly compatible with our charitable objectives and with the public interest, and that the organisations we fund are safeguarding beneficiaries, volunteers and staff and acting in line with the nine principles of the Core Humanitarian Standards. Our grant-making has been informed both by the extent of need in particular areas, and by trustees' confidence in the grantees' ability to meet the need appropriately. To that end, we have developed our due diligence processes during the year, so that we know as precisely as possible:

- what the grant will be used for;
- whether any financial, regulatory or safeguarding issues have arisen in the organisations we fund, and if so how they were dealt with.

We perform full due diligence on all new grantee organisations. This year we have appointed two due-diligence officers (Christina Surawy and Hugh Goyder) to focus on this work. We have 6 partner charities with whom we work closely, and to whom we regularly give funds. The charities concerned, in the financial year, were:

Care4Calais, who received a total of £4,000 over the year for clothing and other support for refugees in Calais and for asylum seekers accommodated at former RAF base Wethersfield, Essex;

Refugee Community Kitchen, who received £2,000 to enable them to supply hot meals for refugees in Calais;

Safe Passage, who received £4,005 for the provision of legal advice and assistance for those fleeing conflict, for advocacy in support of safe routes to asylum for refugees, and for working with young refugees in the UK;

Asylum Welcome, a local Oxford charity, who received £4,000 over the year for general purposes relating to their work with refugees and asylum seekers, including provision of meals; provision of bicycles and laptops; assistance in finding legal representation for asylum seekers; mentoring refugee children in local schools and finding sanctuary hosts;

Collective Aid, who received £4,000 over the year for the supply of essential relief items, including clothing and hygiene kits for refugees in Lesbos, Greece.

The Hope Project, also in Lesbos, who received £4,500 to support their work in assisting the mental health of refugees through offering safe spaces for women and opportunities for creativity through art and other activities.

Refugee Resource, a local charity which offers refugees counselling and psychological support, received £4,100.

We also give one-off grants where we see a particular need, and this year made a donation of £5,000 to **Medical Aid for Palestinians**.

Thus our total grants this year amounted to £31,605.

Fundraising

Alongside our regular donations and one-off gifts, our main source of income has been through events such as our winter concerts season, which has now become a mainstay in Charlbury, benefitting our community as well as raising significant sums for our charity; our annual Bring and Buy sale; and other local charity events such as the local Beer Festival where we run a stall.

Collections: We have made two collections of warm clothing and equipment which have been sent to Care 4 Calais.

Disseminating information: We use a variety of media to disseminate information about the charity and its activities. In addition to CRAG's Facebook page, and a page on the Charlbury Info website, we now have our own website, where people can find out what we do, the work we support, can book tickets for events and become members. A CRAG newsletter goes out to members once or twice a month, and we have a page in the quarterly Charlbury Chronicle and a column in The Leaflet (St Mary's Charlbury parish magazine). CRAG members speak to local groups on request.

Raising awareness: We are aware of the importance of raising awareness in our local community of the plight of refugees and make sure that we have a presence at local events such as the annual Street Fair, where members of the public stop and ask questions. This year we participated in the Christmas Tree Festival, with refugee-themed decorations, and for Refugee Week 2025 in June, we partnered with the local Amnesty International group in Chipping Norton in covering an old telephone box in the centre of the town with informative posters. We also hosted 3 talks on refugee-related issues.

E: Financial review

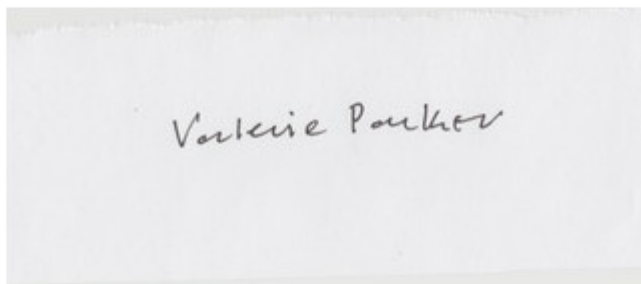
Charity's policy on reserves: The charity has small reserves to cover the costs of one paid member of staff who manages our website. We have no other ongoing expenses or other major expenditure, operating almost entirely through volunteers. The charity aims to give funds to frontline groups assisting refugees as quickly as possible after receiving the funds.

For the financial period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025, our total receipts were £35,094 of which £3,364 is restricted. None of our funds come from government contracts or government grants, and none of our income came from outside the UK.

Our total payments were £33,726 of which £1,530 came out of restricted funds. As noted above, the grants we made to charities in the UK, France, Greece, and Gaza totalled £31,605. We made no grants to individuals, to non-charitable organisations or to trustees (except to reimburse expenses incurred in carrying out the charity's activities).

We also paid a total of £169 for a freelance consultant to maintain our website.

Approved by the Trustees of the charity on 11 May 2026, and signed on its behalf by

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in dark ink. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "Valerie Parker".

.....

Val Parker, Chair
Trustee

.....

Angela Gwatkin, Treasurer
Trustee

Section A Receipts and payments

A1 Receipts

Concert income

Café

Art Fair/sale

Merchant Fees reclaimed

Bring & Buy

Talks

Net CD sales

Recipe Books

Greetings Cards

T-shirt sales

Evenlode Fund

Group Donations

Personal Donations

Just Giving Donations

Gift Aid

Sub total(Gross income for AR)

A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).

Sub total

Total receipts

A3 Grants

Care4Calais (France)

Safe Passage (UK)

Asylum Welcome (UK)

Hope Project (Greece)

Refugee Community Kitchen (France)

Collective Aid (Greece)

Medical Aid for Palestinians (Palestine)

Glocal Roots (Greece)

Refugee Resource

Medical Volunteers

Euro Relief

Wonder Foundation

Other Expenses

Merchant charges

Event Expenses

Calais Trip

Insurance

Sub total

A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)

Sub total

Total payments

Net of receipts/(payments)

A5 Transfers between funds

A6 Cash funds last year end

Cash funds this year end

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

Categories

B1 Cash funds

B2 Other monetary assets

B3 Investment assets


B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use


B5 Liabilities

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

Charity Name
 Charlbury Refugee Action Group
 Receipts and payments accounts
 For the period from

Period start date
 01/09/24

Unrestricted funds
 to the nearest 

Restricted funds
 to the nearest 

	18257		2364
-		-	
	100	-	
	352		
	692	-	
-		-	
	508	-	
-		-	
	406	-	
	121	-	
-			1000
	6157	-	
	2575	-	
	1791	-	
	771	-	
	31730		3364
-		-	
-		-	
-		-	
	31730		3364
	4000	-	
	4005	-	
	4000	-	
	4500	-	
	2000	-	
	4000	-	
	5000	-	
-		-	
	4100	-	
-		-	
-		-	
-		-	
	352		1530
-		-	
-		-	
	239	-	

	32196		1530
-		-	
-		-	
-		-	
	32196		1530
	-466		1834
-		-	
	501		2404
	371		3902

Details

General Fund
Evenlode Fund
25/26 season tickets
Total cash funds
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

Details

Details



Details

Details

Signature

No (if any)
1205294

To Period end date
31/08/2025

Endowment funds to the nearest 	Total funds to the nearest 
-	20621
-	-
-	100
-	352
-	692
-	-
-	508
-	-
-	406
-	121
-	1000
-	6157
-	2575
-	1791
-	771
-	35094
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	35094
-	4000
-	4005
-	4000
-	4500
-	2000
-	4000
-	5000
-	-
-	4100
-	-
-	-
-	-
-	352
-	1530
-	-
-	239

-	33726
---	-------

-	-
-	-
-	-

-	33726
---	-------

-	1368
-	-
-	2905
-	4273

Unrestricted funds
to nearest

371

-
-

371

OK
Unrestricted funds
to nearest

-
-
-
-
-
-

Restricted funds
to nearest

-

1538
2364
3902

OK
Restricted funds
to nearest

-
-
-
-
-
-

Fund to which asset belongs

Cost (optional)

-
-
-
-
-

Fund to which asset belongs

Cost (optional)

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

Fund to which liability relates


Amount due (optional)

-
-

-
-
-

Print Name

CC16a

Last year
to the nearest 

	16858
	928
-	
-	
	876
-	
-	
	25
	319
-	
	1015
	10803
	3897
	1349
	474
	36544
-	
-	
	36544
	4500
	4640
	5500
	4020
	4500
	3500
	6000
	2500
-	
-	
-	
-	
-	
	1480
-	
	206

36846

-


36846

-302

-

3207

2905

Endowment funds
to nearest 

-

-

-

-

OK

Endowment funds
to nearest 

-

-

-

-

-

-

Current value (optional)

-

-

-

-

-

Current value (optional)

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

When due (optional)

Date of approval



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
Charlbury Refugee Action Group

On accounts for the year
ended

31/08/2025

Charity no
(if any)

1205294

Set out on pages

1,2,3

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

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 (other than that disclosed below *) 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed: Hugh Belshaw

Date: 11/02/2026

Name: H R Belshaw

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

MBA

Address:

14 Sandford Park, Charlbury, OX7 3TH

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.