

Buddha Dhamma Fellowship
The Forest Hermitage
Lower Fulbrook
Warwickshire CV35 8AS

Registered Charity Number 289913

Unaudited Accounts

For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Table of Contents

CHARITY INFORMATION	3
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT	4
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT	6
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	7
BALANCE SHEET	8
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS	9

Charity Information

Trustees

Antony James Harfield

Nilar Win (appointed 5th February 2023)

Robert Bryan Yellowhammer (appointed 5th February 2023)

Christopher Donald Cook (appointed 5th February 2023)

Chamila Nayani Wimalka Udagedara Mudiyansele

Sarah Julie Wallis (resigned 31st March 2023)

Mark Andrew Bowen (resigned 25th February 2023)

Jeremy Martin Childerstone (resigned 25th January 2023)

Yin Yin Mon Ohn (resigned 17th January 2023)

Tarinee Sawetnaphanon (resigned 21st January 2023)

Secretary

Matthew Brayshaw (resigned 19th October 2022)

Charity Number

289913

Principal Office

The Forest Hermitage

Fulbrook Lane

Lower Fulbrook

Warwickshire

CV35 8AS

England

Trustees' Annual Report

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2023 and confirm they comply with the Charities Act 2011, the trust deed and the Charities SORP (FRS102). The Trustees confirm they have complied with their duty under the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Management and governance arrangements

The Charity was registered on 30th July 1984.

Committee Members (Trustees) are elected at the AGM by simple majority of those Members present and voting. The Constitution says that the Executive Committee shall consist of not less than three and not more than nine Members. The Spiritual Advisor is also a member ex officio. All existing Trustees have received a copy of document CC3 - The Essential Trustee: an introduction. The charity's finances are also explained and discussed at the AGM.

The Trustees annually review the risks that the charity faces.

The charity is a public benefit entity as set out in PBE3.3A

The Buddha Dhamma Fellowship administers The Forest Hermitage Buddhist Monastery and acts as steward of the Sangha, the community of monks founded by the Buddha more than 2,500 years ago. The senior monk, the Venerable Ajahn Khemadhammo, with other monks and a lay-attendant reside at the monastery. The tradition is that of the Theravada school.

On 10th April 2019 the Trustees agreed to transfer ongoing responsibility and ownership of the assets and liabilities held by the Buddha Dhamma Fellowship to the Forest Hermitage Trust (a charitable company registered at Companies House under company number 10368008 and the Charity Commission under charity number 1173083), for £zero financial consideration. The Purposes of the Forest Hermitage Trust are similar to the Buddha Dhamma Fellowship. The transfer has been accounted for as a charity merger by the Forest Hermitage Trust.

Review of the year: main activities undertaken by the charity to further its charitable purposes for the public benefit

The objective of the charity is to provide a place for the practice and teaching of Buddhism. Each year our Trustees review our objectives and activities to ensure they continue to reflect our aims. In carrying out this review the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular its supplementary public guidance on the advancement of religion for the public benefit.

The monastery continues to recover from the effects of the COVID-19 restrictions that caused significant reduction in visitors to the monastery. Over the last year we've had to rely on the support of a few dedicated individuals.

Ven. Ajahn Khemadhammo runs Angulimala, The Buddhist Prison Chaplaincy and is chairman of The Theravada Buddhist Sangha in the United Kingdom (TBSUK).

Financial activities & future plans

In order to protect an irrevocable trust linked to the Buddha Dhamma Fellowship and also the licence for the Home Office points based immigration system, The Buddha Dhamma Fellowship will continue for the foreseeable future.

Due to the lengthy process of transferring contracts, particularly donations, the Buddha Dhamma Fellowship has continued to receive donations and make payments since the transfer date.

Surplus monies in respect of its charitable activities since the transfer are held in trust on behalf of the Forest Hermitage Trust and will be donated to the Forest Hermitage Trust.

Therefore, the charity's main source of income remains charitable giving, which is used to maintain the fabric of the monastery and provide for the wellbeing of the monks, via the Forest Hermitage Trust.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees' policy is not to hold reserves, and transfer all funds to The Forest Hermitage Trust.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operational existence.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements 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.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by Antony Harfield, Trustee

 dated 3 December 2023

Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the Trustees of the Buddha Dhamma Fellowship (Reg. Charity No 289913) on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 7 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



3 December 2023

Tony Tse

TT Accountants, First Floor, 2 Hampton Court Road
Birmingham B17 9AE

Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 31/03/2023	Total 31/03/2022
	£	£	£	£
<u>Income</u>				
Donations and legacies	59,808	-	59,808	13,531
Charitable activities – Home Office	-	-	-	-
Total	59,808	-	59,808	13,531
<u>Expenditure</u>				
<i>Charitable Activities:</i>				
Donations to Forest Hermitage Trust	55,700	-	55,700	9,808
Travel	30	-	30	30
Council Tax	3,771	-	3,771	3,636
Total	59,501	-	59,501	13,474
<i>Other (Management & Administration):</i>				
Telephone	-	-	-	-123
Legal & Professional	25	-	25	25
Bank Charges	282	-	282	155
Total	307	-	307	57
Net Income	-	-	-	-
Fund Balance c/f	-	-	-	-

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Balance Sheet

	31/03/2023	31/03/2022
	£	£
<u>Fixed Assets</u>		
Tangible Assets	-	-
<u>Current Assets</u>		
Debtors	-	-
Cash at Bank	2,436	50,017
Creditors – amounts falling due within 1 year (Note 8)	2,436	50,017
Net Current Assets	-	-
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	-	-
Representing Funds (Note 9)		
Unrestricted Funds	-	-
General and Contingency Funds	-	-
Restricted Funds	-	-
Building Fund	-	-
Total Funds	-	-

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by Antony Harfield, Trustee

, dated 3 December 2023

The notes on pages 9-11 form an integral part of these accounts.

Notes to the accounts

1. Statutory Information

The Buddha Dhamma Fellowship is a charitable unincorporated association registered with the Charity Commission on 30th July 1994 under a standard registration - number 28991. The registered address is The Forest Hermitage, Fulbrook Lane, Lower Fulbrook, Warwickshire, CV35 8AS, England.

2. Compliance with accounting standards

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011 except that, to give a true and fair view, the transfer from the Buddha Dhamma Fellowship to the Forest Hermitage Trust has been treated as a merger not a gift in that company's accounts.. This reflects the continuity of operations at transfer.

3. Public Benefit Entity

The Buddha Dhamma Fellowship is a public benefit entity.

4. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below and have remained unchanged from the previous period, and also have been consistently applied within the same accounts.

Basis of accounting - the accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention

Presentation currency - the accounts are presented in £ sterling, rounded to the nearest £.

Going Concern - at the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements. There are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue.

Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation - no tangible fixed assets are held by the Buddha Dhamma Fellowship.

Other contents of the Forest Hermitage and grounds - No financial value is put on items provided as gifts.

Income recognition - income consists mainly of donations and is recognised as it is received.

Creditors - creditors are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Gifts in kind - the Charity receives the benefit of work done by volunteers and receives gifts of food and other items. No financial value is put on these items.

Taxation - as a registered Charity, the trust is generally exempt from income tax, corporation tax and capital gains tax but not from VAT. Irrecoverable VAT is included in the cost of those items to which it relates.

5. Average number of employees

During the year the average number of employees was 0 (2022: 0).

Trustees do not receive any remuneration or other financial benefit from the Charity.

6. Volunteers

Volunteers assist in many of the monasteries activities, including: routine garden maintenance, setting up marquees and preparing offerings at festival days; acting as drivers for the monks; acting as ushers and stewards at the monastery; preparing food for the monks.

7. Independent Examiner

No fees were paid to the Independent Examiner (2022: £243).

8. Creditors

Amounts falling due within 1 year

	31/03/2023	31/03/2022
	£	£
Amount due to the Forest Hermitage Trust	2,436	50,017
	2,436	50,017

9. Funds

General - accumulated surplus of unrestricted donations over general expenditure.

Contingency - an unrestricted fund to be used for unusual or emergency expenditure.

Amounts falling due within 1 year

	Unrestricted	Total
General & Contingency Funds		
	£	£
At 1 April 2022	0	0
Incoming resources for the year	59,808	59,808
Outgoing resources for the year	59,808	59,808
At 31 March 2023	0	0

10. Capital commitments

As at 31 March 2023 the Buddha Dhamma Fellowship had no capital commitments (2022: £nil).

11. Related Parties

On 10th April 2019 the Trustees of the Buddha Dhamma Fellowship agreed to transfer ongoing responsibility and ownership of the assets and liabilities held by the Buddha Dhamma Fellowship to

the Forest Hermitage Trust for £zero financial consideration. The Forest Hermitage Trust and the Buddha Dhamma Fellowship have a number of Trustees in common and are hence related parties.

The Buddha Dhamma Fellowship has a contractual obligation to transfer any monies received by them in respect of charitable activities as and when it is received. Therefore, in the year The Buddha Dhamma Fellowship donated £55,700 to the Forest Hermitage Trust (2022: £9,808)

Surplus monies held by the Buddha Dhamma Fellowship in respect of its charitable activities since the transfer are held in trust on behalf of the Forest Hermitage Trust and will be donated to the Forest Hermitage Trust. 2023: £2,436 (2022: £50,017)

The cost value of assets transferred to the Forest Hermitage Trust on 10th April 2019, for £zero financial consideration, were as follows:

	£
Freehold properties	570,925
Outbuildings	3,571
Motor vehicles	11,671
Computers & office	0
Goodwill	0
Chattels	0
The cash sum (bank balances)	105,485
Private loans from supporters of the Monastery	-10,000
	681,652