

Charity number: 291530

Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia

Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2023

Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
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Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
Report of the Trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements for the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Chair's report

2022-2023 was another challenging year on many levels for our members and our organisation due to the lingering mental health issues caused by prolonged months of isolation during the Covid-19 crisis, compounded by an energy crisis leaving many worried about heavy bills to pay and an increase in food prices caused by inflation.

Our team went above and beyond to encourage members to continue to venture out and stay active. Despite all its challenges, 2022-23 saw numbers of attendees increase at our in-person events including our twice weekly lunch club and its satellite events such as our Tai Chi / dance classes, garden club, health events and talks demonstrating an appetite of the community to gather and help each other out in those difficult times. We would like to thank Hackney Council for their continuous support through their lunch club grant ensuring our elders have access to home-made healthy food and through their main grant, allowing us to spread our wings through our Welcome Back to Good Health project, ensuring members engage in physical activities in order to stay fit in their old age.

We also would like to thank Edgar E. Lawley Foundation and the Greater London Authority through their Building Strong Communities Fund, supporting us in our effort to reconnect and empower the Vietnamese, Southeast Asian and wider community. VLC-Centre 151 team of staff and volunteers rose to the challenge and provided a safe space for all to gather and express their concerns. Through our 1-to-1 advice sessions and our signposting services we managed to support many individuals through their hurdles. We also continued to provide our phone befriending service to ensure members who could not attend our activities physically would still receive support from us and a friendly ear to share their worries with.

Our participation in the Community Champions programme supported by Hackney Giving allowed us to continue delivering key information to our service users about current health issues. We combined this activity together with many opportunities for our members to socialise since this plays a huge part for their mental wellbeing: trip to the seaside, Christmas gathering, story time, Vietnamese New Year celebrations.

VLC-Centre 151 was also part of the Warm Welcome initiative this winter, gathering organisations all around the UK able to offer warm and welcoming spaces to those who could not afford to heat their home. With that in mind, we continued our effort to improve our building and raised funds to install new double glazing in our basement rooms. Thanks to Asda Foundation and National Lottery Community Fund / Awards for All, we will be able to realise this project in 2023-24.

2022-23 has been a year of recovery for our finances with now 60% of our budget raised through our charitable activities compared to 40% last year. It has been a relief to see the artistic community keeping embracing VLC-Centre 151 as a space for creation through our collaboration with Van Huynh Company as well as local community groups making the most of our spaces. The steady recovery of our financial model means that our charity is able to continue to strategise furthering our mission to be a beacon of hope and pride and a safe space for our immediate community members whilst embracing the wider community within Hackney/London.

We are planning for another difficult winter again with projected head winds in the overall economy, social pressures impacting SE Asian/global majority community, rising cost of living but for now let us celebrate the resilience of our members, community and organisation who have pulled together during those difficult times to respond in emergency. Our final thanks goes to all our partners, charity organisations and statutory organisations across Hackney who have extended their support to us, showed so much solidarity in the past few years and without whom we would not be standing here today.

Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
Report of the Trustees Continued
For the year ended 31 March 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The trust's objects are the promotion of any charitable activities for the benefit of the refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia in particular the relief of poverty, the advancement of education and the provision of facilities for recreation and leisure. The policies adopted in furtherance of these objects are the operational policies listed below which are reviewed on a regular basis.

Finance Policy and Procedure
Confidentiality Procedure
Health and Safety Policy
Complaints Procedure
Vulnerable Adults and Children Protection Policy
Grievance Policy & Procedure
Staff Safety and Harassment Policy
Roles of the Management Committee
Training Policy
Equal Opportunities Policy and Procedure
Risk Assessment Policy
Environmental Policy

The trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Significant events

The financial position of the charity at the end of the financial year is as detailed in the attached financial statements. The charity received funding from charitable sources totalling £105,734 (2022: £117,687) during the year. It is financially dependent on funding from these sources.

Reserves

It is the policy of the trust that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The trustees considers that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the trust's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The trust was established by a charitable constitution on 23 March 2003.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The trustees and the officers, which also refer to as the Management Committee, within it are selected at each annual general meeting.

The Management Committee comprised of 11 members. 3 co-optees of which 1 member must be from Laotian and 1 from Cambodian Community. The Term of office of elected members is 2 years. Half of these members will be retired annually and be eligible for re-election. The Amendment of the Constitution in 1995 states not more than 3 Co-optees shall be co-opted by the Management Committee as non-executive members. They shall be entitled to vote at the meetings of the Management Committee and shall serve until the next general meeting after individual co-option. The Management Committee is a policy making body and shall meet not less than 4 times a year. The day-to-day affair is managed by a Standing Committee that includes Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.

There were no related parties identified during the year.

The trustees has assessed the major risks to which the trust is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Charity	Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
Charity registration number	291530
Principal address	151 Whiston Road London

Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
Report of the Trustees Continued
For the year ended 31 March 2023

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Trustees

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Mr Thinh Van Lai (Chairman)
Mrs Sobopha Owen (Vice chair)
Mr Tai Phat Tu (treasurer)
Mr K Phomavongsa (Vice chair)
Mr Dam Van Huynh (Secretary)
Mrs Anna Thao Lai
Mrs Loan Anh Nguyen
Mr Tran Kien Dan
Mr Gac Van Nguyen
Mr Dinh Pham
Mr Andrew Philip Coggins MBE

Independent examiner

Andrew M Wells FMAAT
Counterculture Partnership LLP
99 Western Road
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 1RS

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by



.....
Mr Thinh Van Lai (Chairman)

26 August 2023

Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees
For the year ended 31 March 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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 examiners statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.



.....
Andrew M Wells FMAAT
Counterculture Partnership LLP
99 Western Road
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 1RS

26 August 2023

Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 £	2022 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	100	42,388	42,488	66,404
Charitable activities	3	63,246	-	63,246	51,283
Total		63,346	42,388	105,734	117,687
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	4/5	(66,983)	(30,864)	(97,847)	(91,774)
Total		(66,983)	(30,864)	(97,847)	(91,774)
Net income/expenditure		(3,637)	11,524	7,887	25,913
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		299,190	-	299,190	273,277
Total funds carried forward		295,553	11,524	307,077	299,190

Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
Statement of Financial Position
As at 31 March 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	191,006	193,800
		191,006	193,800
Current assets			
Debtors	11	2,496	-
Cash at bank and in hand		115,213	110,072
		117,709	110,072
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(1,638)	(4,682)
Net current assets		116,071	105,390
Total assets less current liabilities		307,077	299,190
Net assets		307,077	299,190
The funds of the charity			
Restricted income funds	13	11,524	-
Unrestricted income funds	13	295,553	299,190
Total funds		307,077	299,190

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board and signed on its behalf by:



Mr Thinh Van Lai (Chairman)
Trustee

26 August 2023

Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 March 2023

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investments which are included at market value and the revaluation of certain fixed assets and in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Charities Act 2011.

Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

Going concern

The financial statements are prepared, on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the Charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended when there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to the expenditure:

Taxation

As a registered charity, the company is exempt from income and corporation tax to the extent that its income and gains are applicable to charitable purposes only. Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the company, and is therefore included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, are stated at cost or valuation less depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following basis:

2. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Donations received	100	-	100	100
Grants received	-	42,388	42,388	66,304
	100	42,388	42,488	66,404

Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the year ended 31 March 2023

Analysis of grants received

	2023	2022
	£	£
Arnold Clark Community Fund	-	1,000
ASDA Foundation	7,500	-
Edgar E. Lawley Foundation	1,500	-
Hackney Council Lunch Club	12,381	12,381
Hackney Council Main Grant	7,322	-
Hackney Giving	3,730	6,853
Independent Age	-	15,000
Mayor of London's BSC Fund	9,955	-
National Lottery Awards for All	-	10,000
The London Community Foundation	-	18,500
	42,388	63,734

3. Income from charitable activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Unrestricted funds		
<i>Community activities</i>		
Hall bookings	57,443	49,183
Luncheon club	5,099	1,990
Tai Chi	212	40
Membership fee	145	70
Others	347	-
	63,246	51,283
	63,246	51,283

Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the year ended 31 March 2023

4. Costs of charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Direct cost				
Events and activities	5,034	6,526	11,560	6,110
Travelling	706	820	1,526	2,450
Postage and stationery	-	44	44	205
Others	1,039	120	1,159	500
Telephone	363	574	937	937
Website and marketing costs	204	135	339	341
Premises costs	9,912	5,843	15,755	21,824
	17,258	14,062	31,320	32,367
Management				
Staff costs - wages & salaries	35,334	15,703	51,037	49,198
Staff costs - pension contributions	706	823	1,529	1,402
Depreciation - leased assets	2,794	-	2,794	2,794
Funding consultancy	2,000	-	2,000	2,000
Duty manager	7,727	-	7,727	2,573
Governance costs				
Accountancy fees	1,164	276	1,440	1,440
	49,725	16,802	66,527	59,407
	66,983	30,864	97,847	91,774

Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the year ended 31 March 2023

5. Costs of charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly	Support costs	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Support costs				
Community activities				
Staff costs - wages & salaries	-	51,037	51,037	49,198
Staff costs - pension contributions	-	1,529	1,529	1,402
Accountancy fees	-	1,440	1,440	1,440
Depreciation - leased assets	-	2,794	2,794	2,794
Events and activities	11,560	-	11,560	6,110
Travelling	1,526	-	1,526	2,450
Postage and stationery	44	-	44	205
Others	1,159	-	1,159	500
Telephone	937	-	937	937
Website and marketing costs	339	-	339	341
Premises costs	15,755	-	15,755	21,824
Funding consultancy	-	2,000	2,000	2,000
Duty manager	-	7,727	7,727	2,573
	31,320	66,527	97,847	91,774
	31,320	66,527	97,847	91,774

6. Analysis of support costs

		2023	2022
		£	£
Community activities			
Management	Activity	65,087	57,967
Governance costs	Activity	1,440	1,440
		66,527	59,407

Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the year ended 31 March 2023

7. Net income/(expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation of assets held under hire purchase agreements	2,794	2,794
Accountancy fees	1,440	1,440
Staff pension contributions	1,530	1,402
	=====	=====

8. Staff costs and emoluments

Total staff costs for the year ended 31 March 2023 were:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries and wages	51,037	49,198
Pension costs	1,530	1,402
	=====	=====
	52,567	50,600

	2023	2022
	£	£
Community activities	4	4
	=====	=====
	4	4

9. Comparative for the Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022
	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	2,669	63,735	66,404
Charitable activities	51,283	-	51,283
Total	=====	=====	=====
	53,952	63,735	117,687
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	(7,029)	(84,745)	(91,774)
Total	=====	=====	=====
	(7,029)	(84,745)	(91,774)
Transfers between funds	(1,138)	1,138	-
Net movement in funds	=====	=====	=====
	45,785	(19,872)	25,913
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward	253,405	19,872	273,277
Total funds carried forward	=====	=====	=====
	299,190	-	299,190

Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the year ended 31 March 2023

10. Tangible fixed assets

Cost or valuation	Land and buildings £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
At 01 April 2022	276,559	45,327	321,886
At 31 March 2023	276,559	45,327	321,886
Depreciation			
At 01 April 2022	82,759	45,327	128,086
Charge for year	2,794	-	2,794
At 31 March 2023	85,553	45,327	130,880
Net book values			
At 31 March 2023	191,006	-	191,006
At 31 March 2022	193,800	-	193,800

The depreciation charge for the year is £(2,794) in respect of assets leased under finance leases or hire purchase contracts.

11. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts due within one year:		
Prepayments and accrued income	2,496	-
	2,496	-

12. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Other creditors	198	3,242
Accruals and deferred income	1,440	1,440
	1,638	4,682

Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the year ended 31 March 2023

13. Movement in funds

Unrestricted Funds

	Balance at 01/04/2022	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Balance at 31/03/2023
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Designated</i>					
Building fund	193,800	-	(2,794)	-	191,006
Building maintenance fund	15,000	-	-	-	15,000
Redundancy Fund	12,000	-	-	-	12,000
<i>General</i>					
General	78,390	63,346	(64,189)	-	77,547
	299,190	63,346	(66,983)	-	295,553

Unrestricted Funds - Previous year

	Balance at 01/04/2021	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Balance at 31/03/2022
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Designated</i>					
Building fund	196,593	1	(2,794)	-	193,800
Building maintenance fund	12,000	-	-	3,000	15,000
Redundancy Fund	-	-	-	12,000	12,000
<i>General</i>					
General	44,812	53,951	(4,235)	(16,138)	78,390
	253,405	53,952	(7,029)	(1,138)	299,190

Purpose of unrestricted Funds

Building maintenance fund

This has been established to ensure funds are available for essential maintenance at 151 Whiston Road.

Redundancy Fund

Given ongoing funding uncertainties, we have established this fund to ensure we can meet our financial obligations should we have to make any posts redundant.

Building fund

The Designated Building Fund consists of the value of the lease on the 151 Whiston Road property which expires in March 2086.

General

These are to be used in running a community centre.

Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the year ended 31 March 2023

Restricted Funds

	Balance at 01/04/2022	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Balance at 31/03/2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted fund	-	42,388	(30,864)	-	11,524
	-	42,388	(30,864)	-	11,524

Restricted Funds - Previous year

	Balance at 01/04/2021	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Balance at 31/03/2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted fund	19,872	63,735	(84,745)	1,138	-
	19,872	63,735	(84,745)	1,138	-

Purpose of restricted funds

Restricted fund

Delivering activities for the general community attending Centre 151 as well as providing a vital service for members of the communities from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Tangible fixed assets	Net current assets / (liabilities)	Net Assets
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
<i>General</i>			
General	-	77,547	77,547
<i>Designated</i>			
Building fund	191,006	-	191,006
Building maintenance fund	-	15,000	15,000
Redundancy Fund	-	12,000	12,000
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	-	11,524	11,524
	191,006	116,071	307,077

Community Centre for Refugees from Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
Notes to the Financial Statements Continued
For the year ended 31 March 2023

Previous year

	Tangible fixed assets	Net current assets / (liabilities)	Net Assets
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
<i>General</i>			
General	-	78,390	78,390
<i>Designated</i>			
Building fund	193,800	-	193,800
Building maintenance fund	-	15,000	15,000
Redundancy Fund	-	12,000	12,000
Restricted funds			
	193,800	105,390	299,190