



Registered Charity Number 1174004

Trustees' Annual Report

for the period

28th July 2019 to 27th July 2020

Malvern Welcomes

Registered Charity Number 117400

42, Cowleigh Bank Malvern, Worcestershire WR14 1QR

A. Trustees

Dan Herbert- Chair

Fiona Carmichael

Tony Mathews

John Raine

Richard Stockford

Rosemary Thorp

B. Structure, governance and management

Malvern Welcomes is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with a constitution, adopted 27th July 2017.

Trustees are appointed or reappointed at the Annual General meeting held in October.

We have members, who pay an annual subscription, have voting rights and receive our newsletter.

There is a Safeguarding Policy in place, which has been written incorporating advice offered by the Home Office and the Worcestershire Safeguarding panel and which is

annually reviewed. All volunteers who have contact with family members will have an up to date enhanced DBS; will have completed safeguarding and befriending training and will have supplied two references; will have provided identity verification; and will have been interviewed by two people, at least one of whom is a member of the Management Team.

Other Malvern Welcome policies are reviewed by Trustees as part of a rolling programme.

Malvern Welcomes Trustees meet every three months. They receive reports from the monthly Management Team meetings and oversee the annual review of all policy documents.

Malvern Welcomes recruited two new trustees at the October 2019 AGM, so as to create a clearer separation between Trustees and Management.

All trustees give their time on a voluntary basis and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

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C. Objectives and activities.

The relief of financial hardship amongst those granted refugee status and their dependants living (temporarily or permanently) in Malvern and the surrounding area within Worcestershire – by providing housing, advice and practical support (including loans or grants

The advancement of the education and training of those granted refugee status and their dependants; assistance in adapting within a new community.

The relief of unemployment of those granted refugee status and those seeking asylum within Worcestershire, by the provision of vocational skills training, advice and support.

The promotion of social inclusion for the public benefit among those who are refugees and asylum seekers who are socially excluded on grounds of their social and economic position, by providing education and training in English language and in vocational skills and housing services to meet identified needs.

The advancement of education of the public in general about issues relating to refugees and asylum seekers.

In planning our activities for the year, we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustee meetings.

- Full Community Sponsorship (FCS)

This has been a busy year for Malvern Welcomes (MW), beginning with the culmination of a very successful series of drama, craft and discussion sessions and ending with the challenge of providing continued support to families in the face of Covid 19 restrictions.

In January 2020 we were preparing to make an application to the Home Office to receive a third family under the FCS scheme. We had made the necessary preparations for accommodation, finance and built a support team. Unfortunately, due to the Covid situation, the Home Office put the scheme on hold in March. MW plans to submit an application as soon as the programme is resumed and MW has found suitable accommodation to offer.

MW has continued to offer support to the two existing families as they settle into life in the UK. The nature of the assistance has changed from the days of their first arrival, with less of an emphasis on meeting day to day needs, to facilitating opportunities for employment, volunteering, and supporting education. MW has maintained its model of having two teams, one providing family support and the other providing language teaching. There is some overlap and co-ordination between the two teams. Both the English and Family Support Teams have regular meetings. There has been continued interest from local people in volunteering with the work.

Our English for Speakers of other Languages team (ESOL) have continued to provide a programme of individualised English learning for all the family members, under the guidance of an experienced ESOL co-ordinator. The year has seen family members making good progress with English. Naturally this has led to increased confidence in interactions with outside organisations such as GPs, banks, utility companies and a significant move towards independence. Volunteering opportunities and social events have furthered integration with the local community. Malvern Welcomes seeks to foster this progress.

- Supporting other resettled families

MW has continued to support the three families who came to Malvern through the government Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (VPRS), administered by Worcestershire County Council (WCC). Our aim was to provide support that complements and enhances that which was provided through the local authority via Refugee Action. Refugee Action's contract came to an end in March. MW now has a close partnership with those WCC employees who continue to provide a service to these three families.

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- Responding to the Covid 19 restrictions.

The 'lockdown' presented MW with the challenge of maintaining contact with families, as well as compensating for loss of schooling and college language classes. We responded by offering to provide a 'homework buddy' to all the school age children, using Zoom. Realising that extra support would be beneficial in meeting the demands of on-line school work MW provided additional laptops to all families, as both the young people and adults would be needing to work online. The ESOL team offered increased input to all family members.

Increased online engagement with school age children prompted us to establish a protocol and guidance for this, which was backed up with training.

- Community involvement

Malvern Welcomes has received amazing support from the Malvern community, both through people who have volunteered to be personally involved with the charity's activities, those who have shown a continued interest and those individuals and organisations who have contributed financially to the charity. We have an enthusiastic team of volunteers, who are willing to be involved with the families, attend meetings and contribute to the proper running of the charity.

The Arts based project, for which we received a grant from the Home office, came to an end in September 2019. This had been held on five Saturdays over the summer months and brought together adults and children from the local community and resettled families. From these events friendships have developed, which have extended beyond the project. They were a real 'Coming Together', as the project was entitled.

As our financial return shows, local churches have given generous financial support and several have given us free use of their rooms. One has made us their 'Charity of the Year' for a second year running, ending in March 2020. A representative from Malvern Welcomes reports regularly to Malvern Churches Together.

Research has shown (University of Birmingham, Institute for Research into Superdiversity) that the type of volunteering activity we provide has many gains for those taking part. Volunteers acquire new skills and knowledge, have the opportunity to attend training and develop new friendships and links with the wider neighbourhood.

We also see the charity's work as leading to an increased diversity in the community, to an extension of tolerance and inclusion and a challenging of stereotypes about migrants, as people get to know individuals who have arrived in Malvern as refugees.

- Education outreach, talks and research.

Malvern Welcomes has participated in research carried out by Birmingham University into the Community Sponsorship programme. The charity has assisted in surveys sent by Reset (Community Sponsorship Learning Hub) and the Home Office, into how Community Sponsorship is working in the UK. In this way the charity hopes that by sharing our experiences and knowledge, other Community Sponsorship groups will benefit, as we have benefitted from others.

Members of the charity have given talks to local schools and groups about Malvern Welcomes and the wider refugee situation. These have not been possible since March.

- Worcestershire Welcomes

As active members of the umbrella organisation for Welcome Groups in the county representatives of Malvern Welcomes attend the bi-monthly meeting in Worcester.

The charity supports events organised by other Welcome groups in the county and works with Worcestershire County Council and other agencies to promote the welfare of families who have been resettled in Worcestershire. This year has seen a strengthening of the links between MW and those employed by Worcestershire County Council to work with refugees.

- Malvern Open Homes

Malvern Welcomes, through a sub-section, Malvern Open Homes, is linked with the national charity Refugees at Home and from time to time we are contacted with a request to provide temporary accommodation for destitute refugees or asylum seekers. We have a group of local hosts who have offered the use of spare rooms for this purpose. No rent or expenses are asked for.

D Achievements and performance

- Successful monitoring visit by the Home Office to our second Community Sponsorship family.
- Extending our support to all resettled families in Malvern.
- Supporting two families through serious health crises, so far with promising outcomes.
- Providing enhanced support to resettled families in the face of Covid 19 restrictions.
- Maintained a volunteer presence in local schools to support learning for resettled children.
- Organised fundraising with the assistance of a fundraiser on the Management Team. This coupled with an improvement in financial record keeping.

Future plans: the charity will:

- make application to the Home Office to receive a third family via the Community Sponsorship Scheme, when this is resumed – our ambition is to receive a new family on an annual basis.
- continue to offer support to all resettled families coming to Malvern by way of befriending and ESOL.
- maintain the aim of integration and independence in our work with families. This to include assisting with pathways to employment.
- continue to support Worcestershire Welcomes and play an active part in its activity.
- continue to raise funds for families currently in Malvern and those coming to Malvern in the future.
- Develop the support, mentoring and training of volunteers.
- maintain our objective of the advancement of education of the public in general about issues relating to refugees and asylum seekers

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Signature(s)



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Malvern Welcomes

Charity Number
1174004

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/8/2019		31/07/2020

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					
Grants	2,530	-	-	2,530	14,575
Donations and memberships	15,284	-	-	15,284	18,356
Other	-	-	-	-	3,073
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	17,814	-	-	17,814	36,004
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	17,814	-	-	17,814	36,004
A3 Payments					
Language Support and Translation	2,494	-	-	2,494	8,592
Family Support	18,157	-	-	18,157	12,608
Outreach and education	584	-	-	584	3,563
Administration	285	-	-	285	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	21,520	-	-	21,520	24,763
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	21,520	-	-	21,520	24,763
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 3,706	-	-	- 3,706	11,241
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	25,026	-	-	25,026	13,785
Cash funds this year end	21,320	-	-	21,320	25,026

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		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	-	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details			
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
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	