

# **Transforming Lives Together**

*(A Company Limited by Guarantee)*

## **Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements** **Year ended:** **31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

*Company Number: 08419285*  
*Charity Number: 1157348*

## **Transforming Lives Together**

### **Board of Trustees** during the Year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019

Venerable Ian Bishop

Rev. Tim Hayes (resigned 20 March 2019)

Ms Sibylle Eva Nothhelfer-Batten (resigned 19 February 2020)

Victoria Wells

Mr Corniel Quak-Winslow

Rev Christina Phoebe Upton

Rev. Dr Andrew Knight (appointed 16 January 2019)

Myrtle Lacey (appointed 4 July 2019)

### **Company Secretary**

Victoria Wells

### **Registered Office**

Church House

5500 Daresbury Park

Daresbury

Warrington WA4 4GE

# **Transforming Lives Together**

## **Trustees' Report for the Period ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of the Companies Act, present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the period to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) Accounting and Reporting by Charities in preparing the Annual Report and financial statements of the charitable company, which also comply with the charity's governing document and applicable law.

### **The Charity**

Transforming Lives Together (TLT) is constituted as a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. The company is registered with Companies House in England and Wales – number 08419285. The principal governing document is the Company Memorandum and Articles of Association. The charity is registered with the Charity Commission – number 1157348.

The charity is a joint venture between the Church Urban Fund (CUF) and the Chester Diocesan Board of Finance.

### **Objects**

The charity's objects are for the benefit of the public:

- To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of Christian based charities in the furtherance of their objects or any one of them, mainly but not exclusively, by the promotion of information, advice, support and infrastructure provision; and
- The relief of financial hardship, either generally or individually, though the provision of grants, goods or services.

### **Activities and Performance**

TLT operates within the geographical area covered by the Diocese of Chester, which spans the Victorian county of Cheshire and includes Wirral, parts of Greater Manchester and the edges of Flintshire and Derbyshire. This is a very diverse area of over 1000 square miles, which includes dense urban populations, rural heartlands and prosperous suburbs, and has a population of 1.6 million people.

TLT is part of Church Urban Fund's Together Network of similar joint ventures around England, which are working to transform the lives of the poorest and most marginalised.

In setting out our objectives and planning our activities, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

# **Transforming Lives Together**

## **Trustees' Report for the Period ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 continued**

The work of TLT is currently facilitated by the employment of one part-time worker. Work undertaken included facilitating projects tackling homelessness, food poverty and social isolation, through food provision (i.e. Filling the Gap), credit unions and Places of Welcome, via bid writing and our identified focus on Asset Based Community Development (ABCD). This encourages local churches to engage with their communities by knowing who they are and responding to local social needs. These fulfil our aim to bring about community engagement and change through mobilisation of people within local churches. We were also able to facilitate events to bring churches together across a larger geographical area to encourage self-help and reflect on good practice.

Improvements in communications and social media strengthened our profile during the year and this is particularly important as we work across a diverse urban and rural diocesan footprint.

Over the next year, we aim to continue to develop the objectives we have set ourselves and to making a real difference as we bring people together to engage across communities.

### **Our Vision**

To transform lives and communities through every church in every community tackling poverty.

### **Our Aims**

Our aims are to achieve the Vision by:

- partnering with churches to catalyse a movement to tackle poverty and loneliness
- providing a framework for good practice
- building relationships with churches and other organisations and charities to foster local engagement within communities.

### **This how we intend to meet our Aims:**

- provide long term and sustainable partnerships and guidance for churches and Christians working alongside people profoundly affected by poverty
- enable churches to recognise and utilise the community assets available to them
- enable churches to articulate and celebrate what they're doing
- use the diversity within the diocese to connect church communities to encounter each other and work collaboratively
- provide resources, for example for theological reflection, and tool kits that equip churches for action.

# **Transforming Lives Together**

## **Trustees' Report for the Period ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 continued**

- raise awareness of poverty by providing information about the nature and impact of poverty and sharing stories of transformation and models of good practice.
- advocate for churches and tell the truth about poverty and wealth and promote a new way of living and acting.

### **Finance Review**

The main funding source for Transforming Lives Together is from the Church Urban Fund (CUF). During 2019, CUF have provided a grant of £20,000 which will reduce to £15,000 in 2020.

In 2019, our main costs have been incurred in the employment of a Development Worker along with their travelling and administration expenses.

We are grateful to the Chester Diocese for the in-kind support which includes office accommodation, conference facilities, financial oversight and line management plus access to specialist services on safeguarding, HR and statistics when required.

The Board has examined the charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. The most significant risk is considered to be that the core funding from the Church Urban Fund is not forthcoming. In such a case, it would take 3 – 6 months to make a bid and hopefully secure replacement funding from a grant awarding body. During this period Transforming Lives Together would have to fund key core costs (employee costs, travel etc.) from its reserves. Based on this information, the Board determined that the policy should be to build reserves to an absolute minimum of 3 months cost base.

A grant of £9,300 was received in June 2019 after an application to the National Lottery Community Fund. The trustees have committed to further fundraising to mitigate the short fall since the reduction in donations from CUF.

### **Post Balance sheet event**

In early June it was discovered that CUF would no longer be financially supporting the Together joint ventures. Despite several attempts the Trustees have not been successful in finding core funding in 2020.

The Lottery Community Fund turned down a final application at the beginning of August. Consequently at the meeting on 3 September 2020 it was agreed that in the absence of other funding it will be necessary to move to the responsible winding up of the charity by the end of 2020.

# **Transforming Lives Together**

## **Trustees' Report for the Period ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 continued**

### **Directors' Responsibilities**

The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

1. Make suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
2. Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
3. Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business;

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking responsible steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

### **Small Company Exemptions**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Board on 3 September 2020 and signed on their behalf.

Signed by:

Ven Ian Bishop  
Chair

## Transforming Lives Together

### Statement of Financial Activities

(including Income and Expenditure account)

For the Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December:

		<b>Total 2019</b>	<b>Total 2018</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>			
Grants and Donations	note 4	<b>33,926</b>	37,845
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>		<b>33,926</b>	37,845
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>			
Cost of charitable activities	note 5	<b>29,476</b>	53,479
<b>Total Expended Resources</b>		<b>29,476</b>	53,479
<b>Net Income/ (Deficit) for the Year</b>		<b>4,450</b>	(15,634)
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>4,450</b>	(15,634)
<b>Total Funds at 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019</b>		<b><u>21,326</u></b>	<b><u>36,960</u></b>
<b>Total Funds at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019</b>		<b><u>25,776</u></b>	<b><u>21,326</u></b>

## Transforming Lives Together

### Balance Sheet As at 31<sup>st</sup> December

	2019 £	2018 £
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash at Bank and in hand	25,776	21,326
	<u>25,776</u>	<u>21,326</u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Creditors – falling due within one year	0	0
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	25,776	21,326
<b>Net Assets</b>	<u>25,776</u>	<u>21,326</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>		
Unrestricted Funds	25,776	21,326
<b>Total Funds</b>	<u>25,776</u>	<u>21,326</u>

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Responsibilities of directors/trustees:

1. The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.
2. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the Board of Directors and Trustees on 3 September 2020 and signed on their behalf:

Ven Ian Bishop  
Chair



# Transforming Lives Together

## Notes to Financial Statements For the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019

### 1. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost and accruals basis of accounting. The financial statements are also prepared in accordance with the applicable Accounting Standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities".

### 2. Accounting Policies

#### a. Grants and Donations

All incoming funds are only included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

#### b. Resources Expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. Governance costs are those costs incurred in connection with the compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

#### c. Unrestricted Funds

Current funds under management are all unrestricted.

### 3. Company Limited by Guarantee

The company is limited by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital.

### 4. Grants and Donations

	2019 £	2018 £
Grant from Church Urban Fund	20,000	30,000
Donations	4,626	7,845
Lottery Fund grant	9,300	-
	<u>33,926</u>	<u>37,845</u>

### 5. Cost of Charitable Activities

	2019 £	2018 £
Employee Salaries	26,077	49,709
Employee travel and subsistence	1,609	2,618
Office and administration costs	1,790	1,152
	<u>29,476</u>	<u>53,479</u>

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees and Directors  
of Transforming Lives Together  
for the Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

<b>Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner</b>	<p>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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.</p> <p>It is my responsibility to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• examine the accounts under section 144 of the 2011 Act,</li><li>• to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145 of the 2011 Act, and</li><li>• to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.</li></ul>
<b>Basis of independent examiner's statement</b>	<p>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.</p>
<b>Independent examiner's statement</b>	<p>In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and</li><li>• to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met.</li></ul> <p>However in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached attention is drawn to the Post Balance sheet event noted on page 5 of the accounts.</p>

Signed by: R Dean FCA

Dated: