

Charity Registration Number: 1158604

OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM
(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Year Ending 31st March 2020

OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM

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OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS

Registered Charity Name	Oldham Interfaith Forum
Charity Number	1158604
Registered Office	40 Union Street West Oldham OL8 1DL
Trustees	Rev Howard Guest Sutcliffe Mr Jitendra Bhimji Kara Rev Philip Thomas Sumner Mr Abdul Basit Shah Anil Kara Rev James Arthur Read
Accountants	Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C. Foxfields 9 Norley Close Chadderton Oldham OL1 2RA
Bankers	The Co-Operative Bank PO Box 250 Delf House Southway Skelmersdale WN8 6WT

OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2020

The trustees present their annual report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year to 31 March 2020.

Objects

The Forum operated informally within the Oldham Metropolitan Borough for a number of years before becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with a constitution dated 7th January 2014 and registration with the Charity Commission on 18th September 2014. Its objects are:

“the promotion of religious harmony for the public benefit by:

(a) educating the public in different religious beliefs including an awareness of their distinctive features and their common ground to promote good relations between persons of different faiths;

(b) promoting knowledge and mutual understanding and respect of the beliefs and practices of different religious faiths”.

Structure

Membership is open to each localised faith community in Oldham, whose representatives are entitled to attend general meetings of the Forum. Operational management is undertaken by a Steering Group, consisting of the Trustees and a small number of other members. The work of the Forum is carried out by the two members of staff with the assistance of volunteers.

Funding and Reserves Policy

The Forum has always depended largely on grant funding, provided (up to 31st March 2018) equally by Oldham MBC and the Stoller Charitable Trust. Reserves vary according to the timing of grant receipts, but the aim is to have reserves at least equal to three months' expenditure.

Activities

Covid-19 began to have a major impact on the country, and on us as a charity, only during the final quarter of the year being reported. It, therefore, had little impact on our ability to continue to achieve the targets set for us. We had been set a target of delivering workshops on interfaith matters to 1260 pupils; we delivered them to 2,701 pupils. We also facilitated visits to places of worship for 1,602 pupils when the target set for the year was 240. We provided 4 very successful “Any Questions on faith” events, one in Oldham Sixth Form College for over 150 pupils.

Our largest event of the year continues to be the Festival of Light. Last December's event was again a great success, with over 400 people attending.

We've held three more discussion events this year, one organised by 'Women Growing together' taking the theme of “Inspirational women. Another was on the 'Dignity of life' and its importance to the different faith communities. The final one was on 'Music in faith'. These were all very effective in developing understanding between different faith communities.

During the year, the world was rocked by terrorist incidents in Sri Lanka, New Zealand and in the US. The Forum organised, with the Local Authority, an event to show that people of the different faiths of the Borough stood together in peace and committed themselves to continue to work for that peace. Debbie Abrahams represented the local MP's and councillors from each of the local political parties spoke at the event, along with representatives of the different faith communities.

We continue to receive funding from the Lottery (Reaching Communities Fund), which requires us, in addition to our usual work, to form meaningful partnerships between places of worship. Six of these partnerships were formed before the beginning of lockdown in March and three more were in the pipeline. Clearly, lockdown has made it extremely difficult to achieve this target.

**OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2020

The work we'd begun in the previous year around the development of the Sex and Relationships Education policy continued and the Forum's involvement was very much appreciated by the Local Authority.

The Covid-19 Lock-down started on the 21st of March 2020, and the Forum worked closely, with the Council to get the appropriate messages out to the different faith communities and to gain their cooperation. There were many attempts made by mischief-makers, at this time, to suggest falsely that people were attending mosques or churches in great numbers. We were able to work with the Council quickly to dispel these myths and to avoid any significant rise in tension.

All in all, we've managed another very successful year and adapted ourselves to address the challenges brought on by Covid-19.

The report of the members of the board were approved by the Board on14th January 2021
and signed on their behalf by:

Signed: Philip T. Sumner

Name: REV. PHILIP T. SUMNER
Trustee

OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM

REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2020

We report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020 set out on pages 6 to 8.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

The charity's trustees consider an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the 2011 Act, and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility as independent examiner to:

- ~ examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- ~ follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- ~ to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of Independent Examiners Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

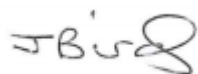
Independent Examiners Statement

I have completed my examination for the year ended 31 March 2020.

I can confirm that no material matters have come to my attention 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 2011 Act or
- ~ the accounts do not accord with the accounting records to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

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.



15th January 2021

Miss Jacqueline Bird F.M.A.A.T.

Community Accounting Lancashire C.I.C.

Foxfields

9 Norley Close

Chadderton

Oldham

OL1 2RA

OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2020

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
		2020	2020	2020	2019
	Notes	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS					
Grants and Donations	2	66,000	1,829	67,829	64,620
Other Income		-	-	-	-
Interest		-	-	-	-
TOTAL RECEIPTS		66,000	1,829	67,829	64,620
PAYMENTS					
Salaries		54,363	-	54,363	47,837
Festival Of Lights		3,784	-	3,784	4,034
Events		1,959	-	1,959	926
Mobile Telephones		817	-	817	622
Office Costs		766	-	766	1,136
Travel Costs		-	-	-	-
IT & Website		-	-	-	396
Computer Equipment		-	-	-	-
Training		-	-	-	717
Payroll & Accounts		771	-	771	1,059
Donations		-	1,829	1,829	4,758
Women's Interfaith Group		274	-	274	83
TOTAL PAYMENTS		62,734	1,829	64,563	61,568
Net of receipts/(payments)		3,266	-	3,266	3,052
Cash funds at 1st April 2019		35,822	19	35,841	32,789
Cash funds at 31 March 2020	3	<u>39,088</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>39,107</u>	<u>35,841</u>

OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2020

	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2019 £
CASH FUNDS	39,088	19	39,107	35,841
LIABILITIES – fee for Independent Examination			2020 £	2019 £
Fee for the Independent Examination			642	642
Other fees paid to the Independent Examiner			-	-
			<u>642</u>	<u>642</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on the 14th of January 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Signed: 
Name: REV. PHILIP T. SUMNER
Trustee

OLDHAM INTERFAITH FORUM

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2020

1. Receipts and payments accounts

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context “cash” includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

2. Grants and Donations

	Unrestricted Funds 2020 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2020 £	Total Funds 2019 £
Donations:				
Mayor's Charity	-	1,829	1,829	4,380
Ross Street Mosque	-	-	-	-
Bluecoat	-	-	-	240
Lottery Reaching Communities	-	-	-	15,000
Lottery Funding	30,000	-	30,000	-
Oldham Council Funding	36,000	-	36,000	36,000
Stoller Charitable Trust	-	-	-	9,000
	<u>66,000</u>	<u>1,829</u>	<u>67,829</u>	<u>64,620</u>

3. Fund Analysis

Fund Name	Balance as at 1st April 2019 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Balance as at 31 March 2020 £
Unrestricted Funds	35,822	66,000	(62,734)	39,088
Restricted Funds:				
Mayor's Charity	-	1,829	(1,829)	-
Ross Street Mosque	19	-	-	19
	<u>19</u>	<u>1,829</u>	<u>(1,829)</u>	<u>19</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>35,841</u>	<u>67,829</u>	<u>(64,563)</u>	<u>39,107</u>