Charity number: 309719

### **CHARLES PLATER TRUST**

# TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

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#### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE TRUST, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Trustees Cardinal Vincent Nichols

Elizabeth Slinn (resigned 31 December 2019)<sup>1</sup> Philomena Cullen, Chair of Grant Making Committee<sup>2</sup> Russell Sparkes, Chair of Finance Committee<sup>1</sup>

Catherine Sexton<sup>2</sup>
Richard Hopper<sup>2</sup>
Michael Walsh<sup>2</sup>
Cathy Corcoran<sup>2</sup>
Anthony Carey<sup>1,2</sup>
Bishop Paul McAleenan

Bishop Pat Lynch

Finance Committee
 Grant Making Committee

Additional members of the Finance Committee are Sophia Pain and Andrew Haines. Andrew Haines is also an additional member of the Grant Making Committee.

**Charity registered** 

**number** 309719

Principal office 39 Eccelston Square

London SW1V 1BX

Independent auditors MHA MacIntyre Hudson

Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditors Abbey Place

24-28 Easton Street High Wycombe Buckinghamshire HP11 1NT

Bankers Allied Irish Bank

London W1J 6AA

**Solicitors** Fieldfisher LLP

Riverbank House 2 Swan Lane London EC2A 4AR

Investment managers Sarasin & Partners LLP

Juxon House

100 St. Paul's Churchyard

London EC4M 8BU

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE TRUST, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Investment managers Epworth Investment Management Limited

9 Bonhill Street London

EC2A 4PE

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of Charles Plater Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2020. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the Trust comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Trust's governing document and the provisions of the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102) and Charities Act 2011.

#### Structure, governance and management

#### PRINCIPAL AIMS AND OBJECTS

According to the Deed, the Trustees of the Charles Plater Trust hold the income of the Trust Fund

to pay or apply it in such a manner to or for the benefit of such exclusively charitable objects in furtherance of the advancement of education as the Trustees may think fit, including in particular those consistent with the social teaching of the Roman Catholic Church. [Trust Deed Clause 5]

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance provided by the Charity Commission on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives, in planning future activities and setting the grant making policy for the year.

Each year the Trust seeks to fulfil its charitable objectives by disbursing funds from the income from investments through an open competition for projects and initiatives that meet at least one of the Trust's three specified themes:

#### **Laity Leadership**

Proposals for grant aid should be aimed at deepening the awareness of Catholic Social Teaching and Thought to better equip people to take on leadership roles in tackling poverty, exclusion, economic inequality, or environmental concerns.

#### **Social Action**

Grants for this theme need to demonstrate how the applicant's project will deliver tangible outcomes to tackle poverty, exclusion, economic inequality or environmental concerns through education or training activities.

#### **Applied Research**

Grants will be awarded to projects which seek to develop and apply Catholic Social Teaching and Thought, in partnership with those who are working in and delivering social action work, with a view to ultimately improving practice and public policy.

The Trust invites applications for grants from institutions by advertising in Catholic and other national media. Institutional applicants submit their proposals to the Trustees in a specified format, which are initially assessed, against published criteria, by the Grant Making Body (GMB). The GMB recommends selected applications for agreement by the Trustees, carrying out the necessary due diligence to ensure that proposals do not pose any detriment, harm or reputational risk to either the beneficiaries or other parties involved.

The beneficiaries of the grants are the clients of the recipient organisation and the general public. The themes each reflect the Plater objectives and are in the Catholic tradition, although eligibility for grants is not limited to Catholic organisations or causes. Successful award holders are required to allow their work in relation to the award to be assessed, publicised and used to promote good practice in charitable work.

#### **TRUSTEES**

The original Trust Deed of 21st June 2006 was varied by a Deed of Amendment dated 3rd February 2012. This allowed the Trust to appoint up to a maximum of twelve Trustees. Following a competitive interview process in November 2012, the Trust appointed three further Trustees. In July 2017, three further trustees were appointed to fill current vacancies and a further four were appointed to take office from December 2018 on the expiry of the terms of office of existing trustees.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

The Trustees shown in the reference and administrative details of the Trust were in office at 31 March 2020. Except where shown, they served throughout the period covered by this report.

No Trustee received any remuneration from the charity during the period. Travel expenses to attend meetings were reimbursed to Trustees. No Trustee had any beneficial interest in any contract with the charity during the period.

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Trust has assessed major risks faced by the charity and sought to establish systems and procedures to mitigate those risks. The main risks are the risk arising from the Trust's dependency on its capital and the risk of loss of key staff, committee members and Trustees.

#### POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Grant Making Body members sign written declarations of interest in relation to bids where there may be potential for conflict of interest. The Trust continues to examine ways to discover and develop best practices in the field.

#### AGREEMENTS WITH GRANT RECIPIENTS

The Trust obtains signed agreements with all recipients prior to paying the first grant instalment. These agreements govern the relationship between their organisations and the Trust and are signed by officers of the organisations. The agreements commit the recipients to report on the project's progress after six months and to submit a full report, including outcomes, at the conclusion of the project. The grant is paid in stages; 50% on receipt of the signed agreement, 40% on receipt of a satisfactory progress report (normally at the half-way stage) with the final 10% payable on receipt of the final report. The agreement with recipients is reviewed regularly to ensure that the Trust's requirements are clear.

#### MONITORING OF GRANT FUNDED PROJECTS

The Trust has adopted a formal procedure for monitoring recipients of grants. Progress reports are required at the half-way stage and on completion of the project to demonstrate how the outcomes matched the stated and approved aims of the projects. The Trust has adopted a policy of allocating a Link person, generally from its Grant Making Body or its Finance Committee, to monitor and advise specific grant recipients and act as a contact person, in addition to the Trust Manager.

#### **Activities**

#### **FINANCE**

The Trust's Finance Committee, during 2019-2020, discussed and proposed to the trustees:

- A budget for the forthcoming year
- A review of its investments and cash balances
- A review of its asset allocation
- A review of its ethical investment policy
- A review of its investment management service leading to the appointment of two new Investment Managers (Sarasin and Epworth)

These were considered and accepted by the Trustees at their meetings on 19th June 2019 and 12th December 2019.

The Trust is a member of the Church Investors Group – which enables it to join with other church funds to use their combined investment leverage to influence the boards of companies to exercise ethically based judgements in their operations. This is in line with the Trust's objectives to further social justice and with its

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

ethical investment policy.

#### **GRANT AWARDS**

Monitoring and supporting the recipients of grants awarded on 18th January and 28th November 2018, continued throughout the year. This was the second year of the Trust's new policy of awarding grants to cover a two-year period (rather than the previous single year). Some grants awarded for these awards (which commenced at various points after March 2018) were:

#### 2017-18 Grant Awards (agreed by the trustees on 18th January 2018):

#### Asylum Link Merseyside - £30,000

For an educational and vocational programme, which forms a core section of their provision. The amount requested is £30,000 towards the salary of the Operations manager/Volunteer Coordinator.

#### Baytree - £50,000

Setting up a new Volunteer Service which would also reach out to eight Charities in Young Lambeth Cooperative and Building Young Brixton

#### Cardinal Hume Centre - £39,600

The project will involve running a welcome and assessment service run by volunteers and trained specialist staff for 1,200 people facing homelessness and destitution for one year. The project also involves appointing a researcher to interview service users, staff and volunteers, analyse assessment and outcome data, and report on delivery.

#### Catholic Care (Diocese of Leeds) - £33,678

For a Safer Futures programme which aims to educate children and young people about creating healthy relationships and how to avoid perpetuating the destructive cycle of domestic abuse.

#### Marriage Care - £40,000

The project aims to deepen the leadership of Marriage Care's volunteers by engaging them in reflecting more deeply on Marriage Care's mission, ethos and values, reaching their geographically dispersed volunteers by developing an online module which will be delivered as part of volunteer induction.

#### Million Minutes - £50,000

The aim of this project is to reach out to the mass of young people in the Catholic community, inspiring and resourcing them to put CST into practice. In this project, a new engagement officer will work to engage thousands more young people on social action activities. This will collect 'a million minutes' of action (averaging 3 hours each).

#### Noah Enterprise - £37,950

This project aims to work alongside people who face serious disadvantage and poverty due to unemployment, isolation and mental health problems, and support them through training (via Noah's Academy model), to move them closer to employment. The funding is for an Academy Co-ordinator to provide support to people attending Noah Enterprise's new satellite courses in Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire.

#### Salford Diocese - Lazarus Project - £18,341

The Lazarus project is a pilot project to develop and test out a new model of shaping advocacy and social action in schools & parishes, by people who have the real-life experience of poverty. 30 people experiencing grass roots poverty, homelessness and social isolation will be trained in CST and be skilled to work with 270 young people in universities, schools & parishes, to deliver on social awareness, advocacy and action projects in some of the poorest areas in the Diocese of Salford. The methodology and training materials will be disseminated at a national level to diocese and social action organisations through CSAN and the CBCEW Department of Christian Responsibility & Citizenship.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Straight Talking Peer Education - £50,000

Straight Talking Peer Education supports disadvantaged young parents back into the world of education and employment; educates pupils through an understanding of the realities of the responsibilities of parenting and the impact on their future. Teenage parenthood is both a cause and consequence of poverty. The project involves employing a Social Media Campaign Manager to harness the enthusiasm of teenage mothers and young fathers employed by STPE, and teach them to run a Social Media Campaign

Total (2017-2019): £349,569

#### 2017-18 Grant Awards (agreed by the trustees on 18th January 2018):

#### Borderlands Trust - £30,000

Borderlands is a charity supporting asylum seekers and refugees in Bristol to rebuild their lives. The charity is closely linked with the Catholic parish of St Nicholas of Tolentino.

Their Mentoring Project aims to provide support for 120 asylum seekers and refugees over the next two years.

#### CAFOD - £30,000

The Step into the Gap programme enables young adults from a wide background to have the opportunity to learn invaluable life skills and develop their faith. The programme aims to address the need to nurture a new generation of lay Catholic leaders, who are now in their late teens and early 20s. These young people are eager to work for social justice at community level and overseas and to establish a legacy of Catholic Social Teaching.

#### Faith in Families - £50,000

This project is aimed at pre-school children who may be denied access to the basic right of learning, laughter and friendship. The grant will enable Faith in Families to employ an Engagement Worker and Play Workers to deliver intensive support, play and learning activities for children and their parents together, building relationships using a variety of engagement tools with the child and the parent/carer.

#### L'Arche - £35,520

L'Arche is a Christian Community grounded in the social teaching of the Church, supporting people with learning disabilities. The grant will fund a project to create a tailored induction programme for new staff that integrates the values of L'Arche and Catholic Social Training (CST) into the Care Certificate. The programme will be piloted in 5 L'Arche Communities and then provide the foundation of all L'Arche's future training, formation and leadership development programmes.

#### Mustard Tree - £50,000

Mustard Tree works with people unable to work, such as those claiming benefits, asylum seekers or people with disabilities and supports them to develop new skills, find work and secure somewhere to live through providing practical support. The grant will support a programme to give "Freedom volunteers" the opportunity to recognise their talents and contribute to community through meaningful volunteering, practical work experience in Mustard Tree's own operations, training and support needed to secure sustainable employment, awareness of their rights and help increase their financial capability through Money Management courses.

#### Oscar Romero Award - £45.862

This project aims to establish an Award to promote social justice in Catholic schools and colleges across the country, inspired by the example of Blessed (Saint) Oscar Romero.

The Oscar Romero Trust Award will celebrate each school/college's commitment to promoting Catholic social justice. The Award initially aims to reach 200 schools, in the Catholic dioceses in London and the South East of England by 2020

#### PACT - £26,043

This grant over the next 2 years, will enable PACT to establish a pilot project in a diocese in the south of England, where it has an active presence. Pact will work with these parishioners to develop, review and pilot resources, both theological and practical, to deepen participants' understanding of the needs of prisoners and their families, and which can then be used in their engagement with parishes more widely, building on their work around Prisoners' Sunday. The project aims also to create a new parish training programme which can be used

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

by parishes across England and Wales, including from other Church communities, and as appropriate, other faith groups.

#### THOMAS - £47,000

THOMAS is a specialist provider of drug and alcohol rehabilitation and homelessness services in Blackburn, Salford, Trafford and Bolton. The grant will enable them to develop a programme, grounded in Catholic Social Teaching concepts and principles. This programme will engage and support 25 members of local communities and parishes in Blackburn, Salford, Bolton and Trafford. Trained volunteers will offer life-changing mentoring, support and direction to 40 people who are socially excluded, addicted to drugs or alcohol, living in poverty, or at risk of homeless.

#### Women at the Well - £36,023

Women at the Well seeks to ensure that all women entrapped in the sex trade are given hope and are supported to see that an alternative future is possible. It provides women with comprehensive support to exit a life of prostitution, abuse, homelessness and poverty. Many have been trafficked into the sex trade whilst others are trapped by the on-going chaos of their lives. The grant will fund for a Support and Advocacy Worker who will work one-to-one with women. The project includes training and workshops to build self-esteem and confidence, explore the possibility of employment and further training and help them navigate the often confusing range of services they need to access in order to start the process of exiting prostitution.

Total (2018-2020): £350,448

#### On 10th December 2019, the trustees agreed to eight further awards as follows:

#### Art of Dying Well - £30,150

This applied research, undertaken in conjunction with Demos, aims to deepen understanding amongst health practitioners, chaplains, hospice workers, carers and bereavement groups to help people prepare for a good death. This will be achieved through the delivery of workshops and the development of a guide from the workshop material. The findings will also shape future content on the increasingly popular public-facing website.

#### Destitution Project - £25,000

Bolton has the greatest number of asylum seekers for any UK town. Destitution Project are the only charity in Bolton feeding destitute asylum seekers. This project is to continue the Caseworker's contract for another two years to tackle poverty, exclusion and economic inequality among asylum seekers. The team had 1,200 visits last year from clients from 45 different countries, supplied 7,700 hot meals cooked by their volunteers in their kitchen. They supply clothes, rucksacks, shoes for all and when available, bikes, push chairs, duvets, sleeping bags. They provide a week's groceries, toiletries and baby items to an average of 25/30 service users and their families per week. They have a well-attended drop-in, averaging 135 people per drop-in.

#### Father Hudson's Care/ Brushstrokes - £51,167

Brushstrokes aims to develop existing English language education, mentoring and training activities as the primary issue facing asylum seekers, refugees and migrants in Sandwell. The project will be delivered by trained tutors and volunteers and aims to benefit a minimum of 220 existing and 90 new migrants over two vears.

#### Margaret Beaufort Institute - £24,756

The key aim of this project is to develop rich, targeted theological and ethical resources and training for Catholic pastoral work in prisons in England and Wales, and to newly shape CST from practice, collaborating throughout with those working in prison contexts.

#### Medaille Trust - £58,950

The project aims to help victims of modern slavery and is to develop an allotment encompassing an "Ed Shed". The service is based on a repurposed church. The facility will provide opportunities for clients to have their social, spiritual and emotional needs met to enable them to grow and develop as individuals and play an active part within their communities when they move from being a victim to being a survivor.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

#### Soundabout - £12,440

The project is for disabled children and young pupils in four schools for those with special needs in Bracknell, Reading and Maidenhead. They will benefit from improved, consistent delivery of interactive music provision. Special needs teachers, musicians and other professionals will gain knowledge, skills and confidence in how to use simple music making activities in the classroom to stimulate communication skills, learning, physical movement and self-expression.

#### St Wilfrid's Centre - £49,872

St Wilfrid's will work with an external evaluation consultant using a Theory of Change model to engage all stakeholders in the development of a new impact measurement framework. Working with Sheffield Hallam University and Social Work England, St Wilfrid's will share its findings nationally as an evidence-based model of effective practice for helping people who experience severe and multiple disadvantage.

#### Together for the Common Good - £50,000

Catholic laity are well-placed to play a key role in parishes, neighbourhoods and workplaces. However, capacity building is needed. This project centres around T4CG's new "Here: Now: Us People" (HNUP) Common Good Training and Parish Development Workshop which has been tried and independently evaluated. The groundwork has been done and it is now ready to scale with partners in dioceses of Nottingham, Brentwood, Shrewsbury, Liverpool and Westminster.

#### **Total 2019-21** £302,335

Since the Trust was established, it has awarded grants of over £2.1 million to support 51 projects in the fields of social action and education for the disadvantaged.

#### Financial review

Income in the year was £255,456 (2019: £263,625) and expenditure was £353,171 (2019: £327,443) including grant payments of £271,726 (2019: £246,367). A net deficit arose of £97,715 (2019: £63,818) before realised and unrealised losses on investments of £966,862 (2019: gains of £323,135), resulting in a net deficit for the year of £1,064,577 (2019: surplus £259,317). The excess of expenditure over income for the 2019/20 year was deliberate policy in order to utilise income received in earlier years when grants were not awarded.

#### **RESERVES POLICY**

Charles Plater Trust's operational policy is to ensure that it has adequate reserves to meet its continuing charitable obligations and day to day working capital requirements, as well as to meet future commitments. Charles Plater Trust is reliant on income from its investments to meet this operational policy. All funds are treated as unrestricted.

Reserves brought forward at 01 April 2019 were £7,961,817, so reserves carried forward at 31 March 2020 are £6,897,240, of which £6,504,414 is held in long-term investments generating income to support grant payments. Investments of about £7.4m at the start of the year generated the income of £255,456, representing a return of about 3.4%. The Trustees consider that investment levels at 31 March 2020 are adequate on a prudent basis to meet the Trust's long-term grant-making objectives.

#### **GOING CONCERN**

The Trustees monitor the investments and financial returns at each of their six-monthly meetings and consequently have a reasonable expectation that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

The Impact of COVID-19 on the Plater Trust (operational, financial, future activities) and how we anticipate the virus to impact the charity going forward.

#### Operational

The effect of COVID-19 control measures, and their impact on the Plater Trust, has primarily been seen through the ongoing projects and organisations that Plater has funded, as recipients of Plater grants, rather than the Trust itself. The Plater Trust Manager continued operations remotely and sent an email to all its grant recipient organisations at the beginning of this period of disruption (Monday 6 April 2020). This email included the reassurance, and offer, of continued support to the organisations to which Plater made grants.

Assurance was given of the Trustees' awareness of the difficulties that might be experienced in progressing projects that had initially been put forward in grant applications prior to the coronavirus outbreak. Trust-funded organisations were asked to relay their revised project timeline and activities, if their original Plater-funded project was to be amended in light of COVID-19 control measures. Plater continues to monitor the outcomes of its funded projects, offer support and advice through 'Link' Trustees, and monitor guidance from the government regarding restrictions to charitable operations.

The Board meeting held on 9 June 2020 reviewed the organisational arrangements that followed the closure of the Trust's Eccleston Square offices and the subsequent furloughing of staff. It was noted that the Catholic Education Service (CES) had taken on the role of despatching grant cheques to eligible recipients.

#### **Financial**

The Board meeting held on 9 June 2020 reviewed a report from the Trust's Finance Committee, covering the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on both the Trust's capital and its income, and in particular the significant amount of dividend cuts announced and the sharp falls in stock market values in March. This stated that the Trust's financial position is extremely robust, since as an endowment the Plater Trust only pays out in grants what it receives in income. The Board noted that income already received is safeguarded in a deposit account and therefore not subject to market fluctuations, and that this is more than sufficient to meet all the Trust's commitments for paying grants and running costs in the 2020-21 Trust year.

#### **Future Activities**

The Trustees decided, in June 2020 to pause grant-making for the year 2020-2021. This was due to the need to find a replacement for the charity's Trust Manager, who is stepping down, and the anticipated material drop in income in the 2020-21 financial year. The charity envisions that this will only be a temporary pause until the current situation becomes clearer and a new Trust Manager is in post.

#### PRINCIPAL FUNDING

The principal funding source for the Trust is dividend income from investments held.

#### **MATERIAL INVESTMENTS POLICY**

The Trust's policy is to safeguard the capital sum received from the sale of the former Plater College Oxford and to invest it wisely and ethically to provide sufficient funds to make grants in line with its overall purpose as well as covering its necessary management costs.

#### Plans for future periods

#### THE TRUST'S FUTURE PLANS

The Trust intends to continue funding projects which further Catholic Social Teaching through education but, as indicated by its major review (undertaken between 2015 and 2017), it intends to ensure that this remains relevant to the needs facing society and relevant charities today. It will continue to invite applications for grants on relevant projects annually and to hold events to bring together trustees, committee members and the recipients of its grants.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

The Trust is also keen to ensure all trustees are able to benefit from necessary training on their responsibilities and to this end, joined the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) in 2017. Trustees are also able to attend conferences of the Church Investors' Group and associated meetings of other bodies active in the ethical and sustainable finance fields.

The Trust also intends to further its aims through its influence, not least through active shareholder engagement arising from its financial holdings.

#### INFORMATION ON FUNDRAISING PRACTICES

The Trust does not engage in any fundraising activities.

#### TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Trust and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Trust for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements:
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Trust will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Trust's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust Deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the Trustees, on 8 December 2020 and signed on their behalf by:

Cardinal Vincent Nichols

Chair of the Charles Plater Trust

+ Hincent Nichts

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CHARLES PLATER TRUST

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Charles Plater Trust (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 March 2020 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2020 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

#### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may
  cast significant doubt about the charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting
  for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for
  issue.

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CHARLES PLATER TRUST (CONTINUED)

#### Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report, other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

#### Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CHARLES PLATER TRUST (CONTINUED)

#### Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <a href="https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities">www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities</a>. This description forms part of our Auditors' report.

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

**MHA MacIntyre Hudson** 

MHA Machityne Hudson

Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditors Abbey Place 24-28 Easton Street High Wycombe Buckinghamshire HP11 1NT

15 January 2021

MHA MacIntyre Hudson are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Income from:				
Investments	2	255,456	255,456	263,625
Total income		255,456	255,456	263,625
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	3	46,595	46,595	46,064
Charitable activities		306,576	306,576	281,379
Total expenditure		353,171	353,171	327,443
Net (losses)/gains on investments		(966,862)	(966,862)	323,135
Net movement in funds Reconciliation of funds:		(1,064,577)	(1,064,577)	259,317
Total funds brought forward		7,961,817	7,961,817	7,702,500
Net movement in funds		(1,064,577)	(1,064,577)	259,317
Total funds carried forward		6,897,240	6,897,240	7,961,817

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 16 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

#### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2020

	Note		2020 £		2019 £
Fixed assets					
Investments	9		6,504,414		7,469,544
			6,504,414	•	7,469,544
Current assets					
Debtors	10	994		2,192	
Cash at bank and in hand		404,618		535,501	
	•	405,612		537,693	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(12,786)		(45,420)	
Net current assets	•		392,826		492,273
Total net assets			6,897,240		7,961,817
Charity funds					
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	12	6,897,240		7,961,817	
Total unrestricted funds	12		6,897,240		7,961,817
Total funds			6,897,240	•	7,961,817

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 08 December 2020 and signed on their behalf by:

**Cardinal Vincent Nichols** 

Chair of the Charles Plater Trust

eent Nichols

The notes on pages 16 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

#### 1. Accounting policies

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the Charities SORP (FRS 102) published on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

Charles Plater Trust 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.

#### 1.2 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Trust and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

#### 1.3 Income

All income is recognised once the Trust has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Trust to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Trust's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

#### 1.5 Going concern

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the trust to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. The Trustees do not consider there to be any material uncertainities regarding the going concern status of the Trust as detailed in page 8 of the Trustees report.

#### 1.6 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance Sheet date, unless fair value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and shown in the heading 'Gains/(losses) on investments' in the Statement of Financial Activities.

#### 1.7 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

#### 1.8 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.9 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities and provisions are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Trust anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

#### 1.10 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Trust; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

#### 1.11 Financial instruments

The Trust only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### 2. Investment income

		Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
	Investment income	255,456 ====================================	255,456	263,625
3.	Investment management costs			
		Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
	Investment management fees	46,595	46,595	46,064

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

#### 4. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Institutions 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Grant funding	<u>271,726</u>	271,726
	Grants to Institutions 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Grant funding	246,367 	246,367

Each year the Trust awards grants on a rolling grants programme for the following designated themes:

#### Laity Leadership

Proposals for grant aid should be aimed at deepening the awareness of Catholic Social Teaching and Thought to better equip people to take on leadership roles in tackling poverty, exclusion, economic inequality, or environmental concerns.

#### Social Action

Grants for this theme need to demonstrate how the applicant's project will deliver tangible outcomes to tackle poverty, exclusion, economic inequality or environmental concerns through education or training activities.

#### Applied Research

Grants will be awarded to projects which seek to develop and apply Catholic Social Teaching and Thought, in partnership with those who are working in and delivering social action work, with a view to ultimately improving practice and public policy.

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Material grants paid to institutions in the year were as fo
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2020 £	2019 £
Salford Diocese - Lazarus Project 9,170	9,171
Baytree 20,000	25,000
Durham University 4,500	10,500
L'Arche 14,208	17,760
Borderlands (South West) Ltd -	15,000
Oscar Romero Award Trust -	22,931
CAFOD 15,000	15,000
Women at the Well -	18,012
Mustard Tree -	25,000
THOMAS -	24,500
PACT -	13,022
Faith in Families -	25,000
Asylum Link Merseyside -	12,000
Catholic Care (Diocese of Leeds)	13,471
Million Minutes 22,500	-
Catholic Marriage Care 20,000	-
NOAH Enterprise 15,180	-
St Mary's University 15,075	-
Destitution Project 12,500	-
Margaret Beaufort Institute 12,378	-
Medaille Trust 29,475	-
Soundabout 6,220	-
St Wilfrid's Centre 24,936	-
Together for the Common Good 25,000	-
Father Hudson's Society 25,584	-
271,726	246,367

#### 5. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Grant funding of activities 2020 £	Support costs 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Grant funding	271,726	34,850	306,576

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

#### 5. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

	Grant funding of activities 2019 £	Support costs 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Grant funding	246,367	35,012	281,379
Analysis of support costs			
		Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Trust manager's fees Consultancy and other professional fees		21,000 2,500	21,000 2,500
Meeting expenses Advertising		3,586 1,500	4,537 1,675
Miscellaneous expenses Governance costs (audit fees)		1,314 4,950	350 4,950
Covernance costs (again 1999)	_	34,850	35,012
Auditors' remuneration	=		
		2020 £	2019 £
Fees payable to the Trust's auditor for the audit of the Trust's a accounts	nnual	3,450	3,450
Fees payable to the Trust's auditor in respect of: Accoutancy services		1,500	1,500
	=		

#### 7. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

6.

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2019 - £NIL).

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

#### 7. Trustees' remuneration and expenses (continued)

During the year ended 31 March 2020, expenses totalling £1,070 were reimbursed or paid directly to 3 Trustees (2019 - £1,144 to 5 Trustees) for travel to meetings.

#### 8. Staff costs

The Trust had no employees during the year (2019: nil).

#### 9. Fixed asset investments

		Listed investments £	Capital bank accounts £	Total £
	Cost or valuation			
	At 1 April 2019	7,462,502	7,042	7,469,544
	Additions	11,213,234	6,063,876	17,277,110
	Disposals	(11,424,181)	(5,852,929)	(17,277,110)
	Revaluations	(966,862)	-	(966,862)
	Transfers to current assets	-	1,732	1,732
	At 31 March 2020	6,284,693	219,721	6,504,414
	Net book value			
	At 31 March 2020	6,284,693	219,721	6,504,414
	At 31 March 2019	7,462,502	7,042	7,469,544
10.	Debtors			
			2020 £	2019 £
	Due within one year			
	Other debtors		994	2,192
			994	2,192

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

11.	Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year
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2020 2019 £ £
12,786 45,420

#### 12. Statement of funds

#### Statement of funds - current year

Accruals and deferred income

Unrestricted funds	Balance at 1 April 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2020 £
General Funds	7,961,817	255,456	(353,171)	(966,862)	6,897,240
Statement of funds - prior y	rear				
Unrestricted funds	Balance at 1 April 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 March 2019 £
General Funds	7,702,500	263,625	(327,443)	323,135	7,961,817

#### 13. Analysis of net assets between funds

#### Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Fixed asset investments	6,504,414	6,504,414
Current assets	405,612	405,612
Creditors due within one year	(12,786)	(12,786)
Total	6,897,240	6,897,240

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

#### 13. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

#### Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Fixed asset investments	7,469,544	7,469,544
Current assets	537,693	537,693
Creditors due within one year	(45,420)	(45,420)
Total	7,961,817	7,961,817

#### 14. Grant commitments

£371,145 relating to grants awarded prior to 31 March 2020 (2019: £315,536) is payable on condition of satisfactory progress of the projects supported.

#### 15. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year (2019: nil).