

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY

ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES March 2021

African Refugee Community (ARC) is a registered charitable organisation providing confidential emotional and practical holistic support to African Asylum Seekers and Refugees living in the borough of Barnet in particular and surrounding boroughs in general. Our aim is to facilitate the safe integration, relocation and rehabilitation of our service users who often present complex and challenging issues. Our target is to improve the quality of their life and promote their well-being in different aspects of their integration by helping them to reduce health inequalities, social exclusion, poverty and stigmatisation. The Safeguarding promotion of our clients is our priority.

ARC works with individuals as well as families, we closely work with professionals from statutory and voluntary agencies providing additional and appropriate services

What we offer

- **Advocacy and Case Management**
Referrals and signposting to partner agencies such as: GP surgeries, medical health centres, solicitors, social services, job centre, hospitals, housing including other refugee organisations
- **Advice and information**
Education, immigration, health, employment agencies, training, housing, welfare benefit, individual and family grant applications for white goods, utility debts and holidays
- **Translation and Interpreting services** (French, Swahili, Kikongo, Tshiluba, Lingala and Arabic)
- **Outreach visits:** Home, hospital, detention centre, prison, residential care homes
- **Workshops**
Healthy eating, obesity, well being, tackling youth violence, domestic violence, completion of CV, job Interview techniques, IT, basic English classes, cultural barriers and parenting skills
- **Group visits:** seaside, park/gardens, museums, libraries, football stadiums and African cultural events

Operation during Covid-19

From April 2020 to March 2021, all our services were delivered virtually due to Covid-19 and the lock down restrictions declared by the government. We had to adapt to the challenges caused by this new way of working. On exceptional cases, the most vulnerable ones were still being visited by our well trained volunteers and members of staff who had to comply with all the safeguarding measures such as: social distancing, wearing of masks and use of sanitizers.

Our members:

During this financial year, we have registered about 300 service users attending to our services for different needs. They are from different countries such as:

Uganda
Sudan
Democratic Republic of Congo
Algeria
Tunisia
Rwanda
Burundi
Angola
Togo
Gambia
Ivory Coast
Cameroun
Ghana

Additional tasks:

- Training our staff and volunteers to work virtually
- Getting the right device to communicate with our participants
- Participants in need of digital device and data in order to interact with us
- Food delivery
- Sanitizer and masks provision
- Basic English and IT Support to our participants
- Individual and Group support online using Zoom or visiting the most vulnerable ones
- We managed to set up online groups dealing with: Wellbeing, resilience, hope, employment support, IT and English classes, healthy eating, Conversational English in groups, Individual 1-2-1 English support
- Liaising with statutory agencies dealing with mental health, housing, general health

Challenges:

- Mental health increased level
- Isolation
- Fear, uncertainties
- Poverty due to unemployment
- Lack of advocacy
- Housing and benefits issues
- Lack of device and data to support our service users
- Immigration issues
- Unavailability of training in different domains.

Financial Support received from:

- London Community Response to Covid19
- Big Lottery – Awards for All
- City of London
- Young Barnet Foundation
- Voice4 Change
- The Barrow Cadbury
- Community Barnet
- Refugee Council
- Red Cross
- Medical Foundation (Freedom from Torture)
- Catholic Women League
- Family Action
- Vicar Relief Fund
- Society of Friends of Foreigners in Distress
- Society for the relief of Distress
- SC Witting and Blackwell
- London Refugee Churches Fund
- Donations / Individual

Total income: Restricted and unrestricted

£138.025

Total Expenditure: Restricted and unrestricted

£117.008

Balance on 01.04.2021

£21,017

Partner Agencies

- Barnet Refugee Service
- Refugee Council
- Freedom from Torture (Medical Foundation)
- Red Cross
- Notre Dame Refugee Centre
- Praxis
- Social services
- Housing / Homeless Department
- Barnet College
- Citizen Advice bureau
- Food bank agencies
- ASAAP
- HEAR
- Community Barnet
- Young Barnet Foundation
- Baobab for Young Survivors in Exile
- Job Centre
- Benefits Agency
- Barnet Law Centre
- Immigration Solicitors
- Ground work
- Refugee Community organisations
- Libraries
- Local churches and mosques
- Local shops
- Community Focus

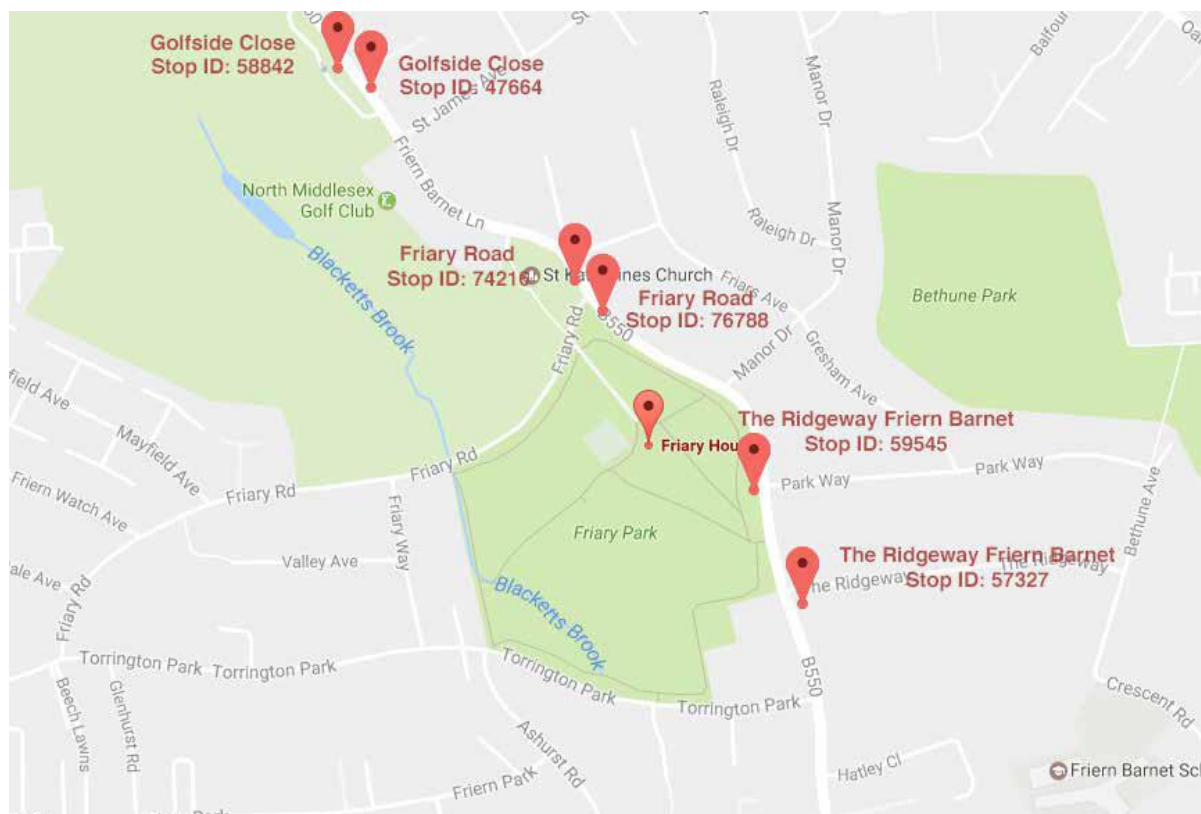
General comment

Last financial year 2020-2021 has been the most challenging one as we had to face the reality of working virtually without any planning or additional resources. Our volunteers and staff members have been working hard to trying to meet the holistic and complex and needs of our service users. Many of our volunteers felt desperate and hopeless about their future. I am delighted to share that we managed to secure some funding to help us providing services to all our service users and hope that we will be able to deliver more during 2021-2022.

Thank you to all our dedicated volunteers and staff members for their work in keeping active our mission when delivering services during this time.

Mr Bitenge Makuka
Chairman and Operations Manager
African Refugee Community
27.08.2021

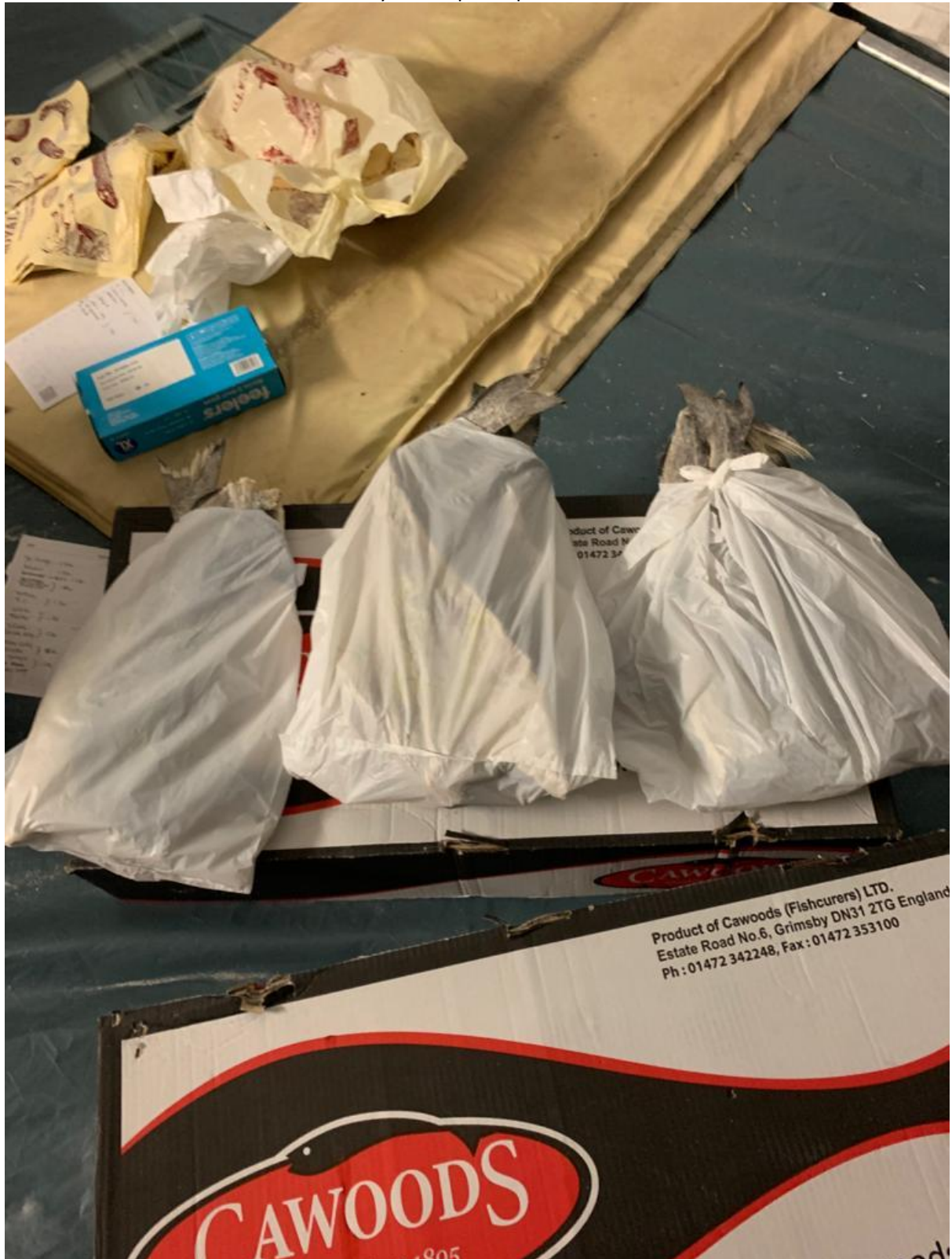
Where to Find Us



Our address:
African Refugee Community
Office 3, Friary House Friary Park
Friern Barnet Lane
London N20 0NR

Our Contacts:
Office: Tel/ Fax: 020 8368 9070
Mobile: 07956566573
Email address: africanrefugeecommunity@acrc.org.uk
Website: www.africanrefugeecommunity.co.uk

Food delivery to our participants– Salted Fish



Baking session



Healthy Eating session



Masks to be distributed to our participants



Walk in nature with a group of asylum seekers and refugees



Food distribution during the lockdown - Semolina



Food delivery to our participants – Salted Fish



Food delivery during Christmas-



Charity Registration No. 1120861 (England and Wales)

**AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

**AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS
CONTENTS**

	Page
Charity information	3
Trustees' report	4
Accountants' report	6
Statement of income and retained earnings	7
Statement of financial position	8
Notes to the accounts	9
Detailed profit and loss account	11

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
CHARITY INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Trustees

Bitenge Makuka Ma
Mbombo Lukubika
Mazuba Makwim

Charity Number

1120861 (England and Wales)

Registered Office

Friary House, Friary Park
Friern Barnet Lane
London
N20 0NR
United Kingdom

Accountants

Accountae Ltd
Union House
111 New Union Street
Coventry
CV1 2NT

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)

(CHARITY NO: 1120861 ENGLAND AND WALES)

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Principal activity

What we offer

? Advocacy and Case Management

Referrals and signposting to partner agencies such as: GP surgeries, medical health centres, solicitors, social services, job centre, hospitals, housing including other refugee organisations

? Advice and information

Education, immigration, health, employment agencies, training, housing, welfare benefit, individual and family grant applications for white goods, utility debts and holidays

? Translation and Interpreting services (French, Swahili, Kikongo, Tshiluba, Lingala and Arabic)

? Outreach visits: Home, hospital, detention centre, prison, residential care homes

? Workshops

Healthy eating, obesity, well being, tackling youth violence, domestic violence, completion of CV, job Interview techniques, IT, basic English classes, cultural barriers and parenting skills

? Group visits: seaside, park/gardens, museums, libraries, football stadiums and African cultural events

Trustees

Bitenge Makuka Ma held office during the whole of the period.

The following Trustees were appointed during the period:

Mazuba Makwim was appointed on 4 July 2020.

Mbombo Lukubika was appointed on 19 July 2020.

Charitable and Political donations

No political donations were made or received during the financial year

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the report and accounts in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

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

Small Company provisions

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

Signed on behalf of the board of directors

.....

Bitenge Makuka Ma
Director

Approved by the board on: 17 October 2021

ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

Accountants' report to the board of Trustees of African Refugee Community (ARC) on the preparation of the unaudited statutory accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021

In order to assist you to fulfil your duties under the Companies Act 2006, we have prepared for your approval the accounts of African Refugee Community (ARC) for the year ended 31 March 2021 as set out on pages 7 - 10 from the Charity's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given us.

This report is made solely to the Board of Trustees of African Refugee Community (ARC), as a body, in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 17 October 2021. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the accounts of African Refugee Community (ARC) and state those matters that we have agreed to state to them, as a body, in this report. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than African Refugee Community (ARC) and its Board of Trustees as a body for our work or for this report.

It is your duty to ensure that African Refugee Community (ARC) has kept adequate accounting records and to prepare statutory accounts that give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit of African Refugee Community (ARC). You consider that African Refugee Community (ARC) is exempt from the statutory audit requirement for the year.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit or a review of the accounts of African Refugee Community (ARC). For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the statutory accounts.

Accountae Ltd

Union House
111 New Union Street
Coventry
CV1 2NT

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND RETAINED EARNINGS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Turnover	138,025	59,988
Cost of sales	(47,639)	(35,192)
Gross profit	90,386	24,796
Administrative expenses	(69,369)	(22,658)
Operating profit	21,017	2,138
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	21,017	2,138
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	-	-
Profit for the financial year	21,017	2,138
Retained earnings at the start of the year	3,258	1,120
Profit for the financial year	21,017	2,138
Dividends - -		
Retained earnings at the end of the year	24,275	3,258

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

		2021	2020
	Notes	£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	4	15,870	1,344
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		8,405	1,914
Net current assets		<u>8,405</u>	<u>1,914</u>
Net assets		<u>24,275</u>	<u>3,258</u>
Capital and reserves			
Profit and loss account		<u>24,275</u>	<u>3,258</u>
Shareholders' funds		<u>24,275</u>	<u>3,258</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2021 the Charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the Charity to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. However an independent examiner has carried out an audit of the accounts in accordance with charity law

The Trustees 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 in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A - Small Entities.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 17 October 2021 and were signed on its behalf by

Bitenge Makuka Ma Director

Charity Registration No. 1120861

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Statutory information

African Refugee Community (ARC) is a registered Charity, registered in England and Wales, registration number 1120861. The registered office is Friary House, Friary Park, Friern Barnet Lane, London, N20 0NR, United Kingdom.

2 Compliance with accounting standards

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A Small Entities. There were no material departures from that standard.

3 Accounting policies

These financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 are the first financial statements that comply with FRS 102 Section 1A Small Entities. The date of transition is 1 April 2019.

The transition to FRS 102 Section 1A Small Entities has resulted in a small number of changes in accounting policies to those used previously.

The nature of these changes and their impact on opening equity and profit for the comparative period are explained in the notes below.

Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets.

Presentation currency

The accounts are presented in £ sterling.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible assets are included at cost less depreciation and impairment. Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets over their estimated useful lives: 5

Computer equipment Computer Equipment

4 Tangible fixed assets

	Computer equipment £
Cost or valuation	At cost
At 1 April 2020	1,680
Additions	18,494
At 31 March 2021	20,174
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2020	336
Charge for the year	3,968
At 31 March 2021	4,304
Net book value	
At 31 March 2021	15,870
At 31 March 2020	1,344

**AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

5 Average number of employees

During the year the average number of employees was 3 (2020: 3).

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY (ARC)

DETAILED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts.

	2021	2020
Turnover		
Sales	138,025	59,988
Cost of sales		
Purchases	47,639	35,192
Gross profit	90,386	24,796
Administrative expenses		
Wages and salaries	27,850	15,250
Staff training and welfare	2,000	-
Rent	3,000	3,200
Telephone and fax	870	870
Courier services	1,267	-
Equipment expensed	4,570	-
Depreciation	3,968	336
Sundry expenses	1,500	-
Consultancy fees	590	-
Advertising and PR	674	3,002
Other legal and professional	23,080	-
	69,369	22,658
Operating profit	21,017	2,138
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	21,017	2,138
	£	£

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

AFRICAN REFUGEE COMMUNITY

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st March 2021

Reg

1120861

Set out on pages

3 to 16 Of the financial statements

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st July 2021

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust'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
examiner's statement**

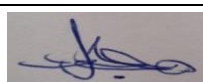
I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a part qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)

I have completed my examination. I 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:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

Signed:



Date:

18/09/2021

Name:

Mamadou Bah

Address:

109 Poppleton Close, Coventry, CV1 3BN