



Charity Commission no: 1153530

Report to the Charity Commission 2016/17

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POOLE AFRICA LINK Charity commission no:1153530

Foreword

The Trustees present the Charitable Fund Annual Report together with the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2017, which have been prepared in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.

The main objective of the Charity is to relieve sickness and to promote good health by advancing and sustaining an education and teaching programme based at Lira Regional hospital and Lira University and schools of nursing in Lira and in Wau South Sudan. It is designed to improve the health care of the people of Uganda and South Sudan.

Trustees

The Trustees serving for the financial year 2016-17 were as follows:

Dame Yvonne Moores - Patron

Mr Andrew Goodwin - Treasurer

Dr Frankie Dormon - Medical lead

Dr Antoinette McAulay - Chair

Dr Janet Scammell

Mrs Jean Lang (resigned November 2016)

Rev Canon Jane LLoyd

Mr Mark Mould

Dr Paul Thompson (appointed January 2017)

The Charitable Fund is registered with the Charity Commission (no. 1153530) in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

Reference and Administrative details

Poole Africa Link Charity (R.C.N. 1153530) was registered with the Charity Commission on 23rd August 2013. Prior to this date Poole Africa Link (PAL) was managed as a separate Trust Fund within the Poole Hospital NHS FT Charity (R.C.N. 1055808). Charitable funds received by the Charity are held and administered as funds and held on trust for purposes relating to developing health services in Africa, particularly Uganda and South Sudan.

Principal charitable fund advisor to the Board of Trustees

The Deputy Director of Finance of Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust has day to day responsibility for the management of the Charity and was responsible for overseeing the financial management and accounting for the Charity during the year.

Registered address of the Charity

Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Finance Dept.
Longfleet Road
Poole Hospital NHS Trust
Longfleet Road
Poole
Dorset
BH15 2JB

Banking details

Lloyds Bank
Poole High Street
Poole,
Dorset

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity was registered as a single purpose charity with the Charity commission on 23rd August 2013. PAL is a restricted fund. As such the income and property of the fund are applied totally towards the promotion of the objects of advancing and sustaining an education and training programme designed to improve the healthcare of the people of South Sudan and other areas in Sub Saharan Africa, as agreed by the Trustees.

Appointment of Trustees:

New trustees are appointed when existing trustees retire or resign. Trustees would normally be expected to have a professional background (e.g. legal, accounting, medical, or health) or direct involvement in humanitarian aid in sub Saharan Africa and would be expected to have a good understanding of the aims and objectives of the Charity and the relationship with Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. In the first instance new Trustees are nominated to the existing Trustees and appointment is confirmed by a majority vote of the existing Trustees.

Annual Review: Our Activities

The Poole Africa link was set up in 2009 when a link was formed between Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Wau Hospital in South Sudan. Since then there have been 12 successful visits with teams of 4-6 healthcare professionals visiting for 2-3 weeks at a time. October 2015 saw a change in direction for Poole Africa Link. Due to the political situation in South Sudan, the scheduled trip was diverted to a new location in Lira, Northern Uganda. The town of Lira has a referral hospital, with 500 beds, and several schools of nursing. We teach there and Lira University outside town, which currently has three intakes of midwifery students, plus some business and IT courses. In addition they have built a small maternity facility which is due to open shortly and ambitious plans to open a 200 bed hospital are well underway. The midwives once trained will have an extended role as they will work in remote village clinics. As well as midwifery they will work as nurse practitioners particularly for sick children, and will be trained to give simple anaesthesia and perform caesarean sections.

Two visits took place in this reporting year, the first in October 2016 when 11 healthcare professionals visited over one month and the second in March 2017 when seven team members visited. The teams continue to be involved in teaching in both the University and Lira District Hospital carrying out daily ward based teaching and delivering practical changes resulting in improved patient safety and care. Items of essential kit and teaching aid were donated to both the hospital and the university. Bi-annual visits to Lira by our teams are now planned to continue.

Our ties and support for Lira University have grown stronger with the signing of a formal MOU in October 2016.

We hope in future to facilitate continuous professional development of staff from South Sudan from the safer base of Uganda; until such time that the political difficulties allow a safe visit. In the meantime we continue to support the population of Wau via the Sister Grace's children's feeding program; helping children in dire situations at risk from starvation.

Public Benefit

The benefits include increased knowledge and education for student nurses and qualified health care professionals in the developing world, particularly Lira hospital and University. This will lead to improved mortality rates and improvements in all areas of patient health care and safety for those we are involved with, which relates to the aims of our work. We also continue to assist in South Sudan.

There are no risks of detriment or harm to those we seek to assist and educate and the view from hospital managers and the university in Lira is that we bring a very positive and vital input to healthcare and patient survival. At present we work mostly amongst health care professionals in Lira Regional hospital and Lira University. We support where we can in South Sudan during the time of conflict. This is not exclusive and our only restrictions are around time and funding.

Those overseas staff visiting the UK will benefit from education and development in the UK and knowledge of new ways of working to assist with the care of their patients in the developing world and their personal self-development.

Staff from UK visiting Uganda will gain a fresh insight into health care from a differing perspective and assist with their self-development, resourcefulness, confidence and knowledge.

Benefits are measured through regular reporting and evaluation of each visit by all team members

The beneficiaries are primarily those with health care needs and in poverty in the developing world which our aims seek to address.

Our teams travel to the hospital and university in Lira where currently most of our work is carried out, no fees are charged to the people there. Team members fundraise towards their fares but no set amount is levied for their contribution.

The private benefits may be said to be those incidental ones experienced by team members giving freely of their time and expertise to carry out the visits. No other private benefits are received.

Reserves Policy

The Charity aims to spend all funds within a 2-3 year period. Most of the expenditure incurred by the Charity is in respect of contributions to team travel to Lira Uganda and subsistence during the trip. Other expenditure includes insurance and medication. The charity also donates items of kit needed at the hospital in Lira and teaching aids for the university in Lira and nurse training school in Wau.

The Charity applies for various grants from international organisations. Team members and supporters engage in fund raising activities to replenish reserves.

Investment Policy

The Charity aims to always ensure that it has a minimum of two years operational costs in reserve. The Charity aims to spend all funds within a 2-3 year period and the Trustees have therefore decided to invest all of the charitable funds in short term fixed and instant access deposit accounts.

Risk Management

The major risks to which the Charity is exposed have been identified and considered. They have been reviewed and systems established to mitigate those risks. New risk assessments have been produced this year.

Acknowledgements

We express our thanks to all our colleagues in Lira, Uganda. As always we learn as much from our visits as we teach and Poole staff have a great personal developmental opportunity.

More information can be found on our website: www.pooleafricalink.org.uk



HILARY FENTON-HARRIS
Poole Africa Link Co-ordinator



DR ANTOINETTE McCAULAY
Poole Africa Link Chair

30 January 2018

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

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 and 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 Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity 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 judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable 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 Charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity 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 Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed A Goodwin Date 30.1.18.

Mr. A. Goodwin - Trustee

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Poole Africa Link (Charity No. 1153530)

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2017, which are set out on pages 7 to 9.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- * examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- * to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- * to state whether particular matters have come to my attention


Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you as 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.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signature:  _____

Name: John Ryan B Comm. ACMA CGMA

Relevant professional qualification or body: Chartered Institute of Management Accountants

Address: Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Longfleet Road, Poole. Dorset BH15 2JB

Date: 30 January 2018

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	2016/17 Total £	2015/16 Total £
Incoming resources		
Voluntary Income		
Donations	8,467	7,283
Other income	5,274	4,355
Investment Income	246	172
Total Voluntary Income	13,987	11,810
Activities for Generating Funds		
Events Income	3,186	8,849
Project Income	1,822	6,139
Total incoming resources	18,995	26,798
Resources expended		
Cost of Generating Funds	1,524	2,745
Charitable Activities		
South Sudan local project support	9,781	0
Visits	10,079	10,732
Total Charitable Activities	19,860	10,732
Support Costs	8,168	9,419
Total resources expended	29,552	22,896
Net movement in funds and carried forward	(10,557)	3,902
Reconciliation of Funds:		
Fund Balances brought forward at 1 April	76,928	73,026
Fund Balances carried forward at 31 March 2017	66,372	76,928

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

Balance Sheet

	at 31 March 2017	at 31 March 2016
	Total £	Total £
Current Assets		
Debtors	0	0
Cash and Cash Equivalents (Lloyds TSB short term deposit accounts)	66,372	76,928
	66,372	76,928
 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	 0	 0
 Total Net Assets	 66,372	 76,928
 Reserves		
Opening Reserves	76,928	73,026
Surplus of Income over Expenditure for Year	(10,557)	3,902
 Total Reserves	 66,372	 76,928

Signed:.....Andrew Goodwin..... Trustee

Andrew Goodwin

Date: 30 January 2018

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2005.

1.2 INCOME

Donations and gifts

All monetary donations and gifts are included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable, provided that there are no donor-imposed restrictions as to the timing of the related expenditure, in which case recognition is deferred until the pre-condition has been met.

All income is recognised gross of expenditure. Legacies are accounted for as incoming resources either upon receipt or where the receipt of the legacy is virtually certain; this will be once confirmation has been received from the representatives of the estate(s) that payment of the legacy will be made or property transferred and once all conditions attached to the legacy have been fulfilled.

Cash collected to which the Charity is legally entitled but which has not been received at the year end is included as income.

Donations under deed of covenant together with the associated income tax recoveries are credited as income when the donations are received.

Investment income

Investment income, including associated income tax recoveries, is recognised when receivable.

1.3

EXPENDITURE

Expenditure is recognised when a liability is incurred and is accounted for on an accruals basis. The expenditure comprises:

- (i) charitable expenditure incurred directly for the fulfilment of the Charity's objectives; to deliver its activities and services for its beneficiaries.
This includes costs that can be allocated directly to activities and those of an indirect nature necessary to support them.
- (ii) costs of generating funds incurred directly in the effort to raise voluntary contributions i.e. fundraising and publicity.
- (iii) expenditure incurred in the management and administration of the Charity