

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017

Reference and administration details

Charity name: Network for a Better World
Other names Charity is known by: N4BW
Registered Charity Number: 1151571
Charity's principal address: St Vincent's School, Yew Tree Lane, Liverpool, L12 9HN

Contact: Mrs Barbara Charles, Secretary, at the above address or via:
Website: www.n4bw.org.uk
Email: enquiries@n4bw.org.uk

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity:

Ms Alice Davidson (Founder & main fundraiser)
Mr James William Blaney
Mr Andrew Christopher Clark (Chair)
Mrs Mary Clark
Mrs Anne Crowe
Mr Seamus Crowe
Mrs Jacqueline Anne Neale
Mr William George Neale
Mrs Angela Stone

Principal Bankers: The Co-operative Bank
P.O. Box 250, Delf House, Skelmersdale, WN8 6WT

Independent Examiner: H.F.Smith Esq.
56 Brooke Road East, Waterloo, Liverpool, L22 2AW

Structure, governance and management

Governing Document

Network for a Better World became a registered charity on 10th April 2013 under a trust deed signed on 4th February 2013 and operates in accordance with the provisions of that document.

Trustees

Network for a Better World appoints trustees according to skills and experience, especially relevant experience of working in the developing world. The trustees administer the charity and take decisions on the deployment of funds and human resources to meet the charitable objectives of N4BW. The trustees who served during the year are listed on page 1. However, at the time of preparing this report Angela Stone is no longer a trustee, having resigned at the Annual General Meeting held in March 2018. To date the vacancy has not been filled.

Officers

In addition to the Trustees a number of other officers are appointed to assist with the organisation and administration of the charity. Together with the trustees they form the management team and regularly attend or report to quarterly meetings.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Secretary & Administration Officer: | Mrs Barbara Charles |
| Treasurer: | Professor Kenneth Holden |
| Safeguarding Officer: | Mrs Delia Kay |
| Website Editor: | Ms Bridget Fenwick |

Active supporters

A number of other people attend meetings regularly and play an active part in fundraising, promotional activities and short-term volunteering overseas.

Meetings

Trustee meetings are held quarterly with an Annual General Meeting in March to review the year's progress. At the AGM all trustees present will vote for the office bearers. The annual accounts will also be presented and a review of the organisation's yearly objective will take place. The organisation will also agree on priorities for the next year.

Induction and Training

Induction and training is through attendance at trustee meetings and the Annual General Meeting. All trustees, officers and supporters give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits. Volunteers receive induction and training prior to travelling overseas and are required to hold a DBS clearance.

There is a Safeguarding policy which all trustees, officers, active members and volunteers are required to follow. This includes a reporting procedure in case of any safeguarding issues occurring either in the UK or in our overseas field of operations. To date no safeguarding incidents have been reported as requiring investigation.

Objectives and activities

The objects of the charity are:

- (1) The prevention or relief of poverty anywhere in the world by providing grants, items and services to individuals in need and/or charities, or other organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.
- (2) The prevention or relief of poverty anywhere in the world by providing or assisting in the provision of education, training, healthcare projects, and all the necessary support designed to enable individuals to generate a sustainable income and be self-sufficient.

Activities in 2017

N4BW Trustees and the management team met four times in 2017. Grants were received from Misesan Cara, an Irish Government funding agency to fund a project officer, Margaret Cleary, who was responsible for organising a solar-powered irrigation project and distribution of urgent famine relief in the Sitima region of Malawi. Overseas visits to our main project were undertaken by two of our trustees Andy and Mary Clark in February/March, and an active supporter Marian

Kearney in April/May. Later in the year Marian Kearney was engaged under the auspices of VMM (Voluntary Missionary Movement) for a 12 month period starting in November 2017 to undertake work with schools supporting headteachers and staff as well as ensuring continuity of existing projects.

Public Benefit

The objects of the charity are to act as a forum for the missionary members to promote their aims and objectives within the wider context of the ministry of the Roman Catholic Church of England and Wales. When planning the activities of the charity, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Our humanitarian work in the developing world is primarily focused on the relief of poverty and sustainable development to enable disadvantaged people to support themselves and their families. Although we are a lay missionary organisation we make no distinction in the religion or cultural background of our beneficiaries and seek to help people of all faiths or none.

Achievements and Performance in 2017

The irrigation project has enabled the cultivation of crops to provide an income in the dry season for 30 families. Other smaller scale projects in Malawi in 2017, supported from unrestricted donations and fundraising, included

- providing 25 bicycles for poor people in isolated villages,
- setting up a working group to produce female hygiene kits to help girls stay in school,
- a solar lamp hire purchase scheme for impoverished families and schools where no other means of lighting exists
- providing safe water by funding one village to replace its broken water pump
- setting up opportunities for young people to engage in team sports
- providing support and advice for senior management within schools.

The visits undertaken were important in assisting decision making with regard to priorities for future funding.

Priorities for the future

Our focus in 2018 will be on education: assistance with the provision of education and funding to improve school buildings, toilet facilities, teacher training and disability awareness both in schools and the wider community.

In addition we aim to build on the skills acquired by the people involved in the irrigation project and support entrepreneurial activities by providing training and grants to enable the recipients to achieve self-sufficiency thereby enabling them to support their families.

Financial review

Sources of funding

N4BW works closely with VMM (Voluntary Missionary Movement) who assist with grant funding from Misesan Cara for specific projects and volunteers to oversee their delivery.

For smaller projects we rely on donations from the public through:

- Standing orders
- Sponsored events by individuals
- 59 Club - lucky numbers scheme
- One-off donations

In the past year, as a lay missionary organisation registered with the CMU (Catholic Missionary Union of England and Wales), we have conducted a series of mission appeals in designated parishes. This has enabled us not only to raise funds but to promote the missionary aspect of our work and encourage support from people who are inspired by our endeavours.

Accounting

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the trust and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charity Commission's SORP 2005.

Reserves Policy

The General reserve represents the free funds of the charity which are not designated for particular purposes. It is the policy of the trustees to maintain reserves at an adequate level, being at least 12 months' expenditure. The trustees continue to monitor the level of free reserves and believe that the charity will be able to fulfil its objectives in the short to medium term.

Risk Management

The trustees have considered the risks to which the charity is exposed and have reviewed those risks and established systems and procedures to manage them. The trustees consider the principal risks to be related to an inability to provide the necessary continuity of funding to enable the projects to continue.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature: A. C. Clark

Full Name: ANDREW CLARK

Position: Chairperson - Network for a Better World.

Date: 18/09/2018

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Network For A Better World

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2017

Charity no 1151591

Set out on pages

7 + 8

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent
examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent
examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below:*)

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 Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

H.F. Smith

Date:

10th May 2018

Name:

H.F. SMITH

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

RETIREES COMPANY SECRETARY

IER

Address: 56 BROOK ROAD EAG
WATERBURY
LIVERPOOL L22 2AD

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

Give here brief details of
any items that the
examiner wishes to
disclose.

IER

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March 2012

NETWORK FOR A BETTER WORLD
Registered Charity no. 1151591

Financial Statement 1st January to 31st December 2017 (£)

| Income | 2017 | | | 2016 | |
|--|-------------|-----------|--|-------------|-----------|
| Personal Donations | 10,810.00 | | | 6,875.00 | |
| HMRC Gift Aid Refund | 1,498.75 | | | 2,662.25 | |
| CMU Parish Appeals | 3,577.21 | | | 0 | |
| Other Corporate Donations | 3,246.18 | | | 3,335.48 | |
| Internet Fundraising | 764.25 | | | 525.58 | |
| Other Fundraising | 0 | | | 5,913.53 | |
| Total Donations & Fundraising | | 19,896.39 | | | 19,311.84 |
| Irrigation Grant | 13,568.60 | | | 24,709.25 | |
| Famine Relief Grant | 11,207.11 | | | 10,226.00 | |
| Total VMM Grants | | 24,775.71 | | | 34,935.25 |
| Fr Owen Charitable Income | 62.50 | 62.50 | | 0 | |
| 59 Club Gross Income | 3,550.00 | 3,550.00 | | 3,480.00 | 3,480.00 |
| Total Income | | 48,284.60 | | | 57,727.09 |
| Expenditure | | | | | |
| Charitable Expenditure | | | | | |
| Irrigation Expenses | 22,938.52 | | | 19,143.54 | |
| Famine Relief Expenses | 11,244.13 | | | 15,726.50 | |
| Education | 750.00 | | | 2,012.74 | |
| Other Grant Expenses | 0 | | | 6,219.80 | |
| Bessie's Place | 6,072.00 | | | 7,841.50 | |
| VMM Volunteers' visas | 200.00 | | | 0 | |
| Fr Owen Charitable Costs | 114.50 | | | 0 | |
| Total Charitable Expenditure | 0 | 41,319.15 | | | 50,944.08 |
| Fundraising Expenses | 654.18 | | | 1,650.00 | |
| Office Costs: internet | 40.80 | | | 1,295.86 | |
| Total Costs | | 694.98 | | | 2,945.86 |
| 59 Club Prizes | 1,770.00 | 1,770.00 | | | 1,715.00 |
| Total Expenditure | | 43,784.13 | | | 55,604.94 |
| | Surplus | 4,500.47 | | Surplus | 2,122.15 |
| Assets | | | | | |
| Co-op Bank Account no 65608305 | | | | | |
| Bank Statement | 1-1-2017 | 21,211.31 | | 1-1-2016 | 19,089.16 |
| Bank Statement | 31-12-2017 | 25,711.78 | | 31-12-2016 | 21,211.31 |

Note 1

Money for projects in Sitima, Malawi was transferred from the main UK bank account to a Malawi kwacha (MWK) bank account in the name of Network for a Better World (N4BW) with the National Bank of Malawi, Sitima. The payments to the Malawian bank account are treated as expenses in the N4BW accounts. At 31/12/16 the Malawian bank account held 1,375,562 MWK (approx £1,527) and at 31/12/17 the closing balance was 1,563,494 MWK (approx £1,575). A summary of the transactions in the Malawi account is shown below.

| N4BW National Bank of Malawi Kwacha (MWK) Account | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| | 2017 | 2016 |
| Opening balance 1 January | 1,375,562 | 0 |
| Income | | |
| From N4BW | 37,815,867 | 16,305,000 |
| Interest Received | 5,878 | 1,907 |
| Other Income | 18,920 | 10,000 |
| Total Income | 37,840,665 | 16,316,907 |
| | | |
| Expenditure | | |
| N4BW Projects | 37,596,631 | 14,911,220 |
| Bank Charges | 56,102 | 30,125 |
| Total Expenditure | 37,652,733 | 14,941,345 |
| | | |
| Net Surplus/Deficit | 187,932 | 1,375,562 |
| Closing balance 31 December | 1,563,494 | 1,375,562 |