



Reg No 1169402

## **Trustees Report to the Charity Commission for the year to September 2018**

### **Preamble**

Wallingford Emergency Food Bank began as an unregistered small charity in 2011. As the use of the Food Bank increased so the financial turnover increased above the limit of £5000 set by the Charity Commission and the Trustees decided to register with the Commission as a CIO. The Constitution was approved by the Commission in September 2016 and came into effect on 1 October 2016. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Report of the CIO Trustees and covers the period 1 October 2017 to 30 September 2018.

Due to vandalism and the declining state of the Council-owned Bullcroft premises we will be required to vacate them by July 2019. The Trustees are therefore diligently looking for alternative accommodation.

For further information, to view monthly reports or make a donation, visit our website:  
<http://www.wallingfordfoodbank.org.uk/>

### **The objects**

The objects as stated in the constitution are:

'TO RELIEVE PERSONS IN WALLINGFORD AND THE SURROUNDING VILLAGES WHO ARE IN CONDITIONS OF NEED, HARDSHIP OR DISTRESS (BENEFICIARIES) BY THE PROVISION OF FOOD, GOODS AND SERVICES OF ANY KIND AS DEEMED APPROPRIATE BY THE TRUSTEES.'

To date this has focussed on the provision of a three-day supply of food to clients who have been given a voucher by one of a number of local agencies appointed by the Food Bank Management Team. The agencies include, Citizens Advice Bureau, Health Visitors, Surgeries, several other charities dealing with health and welfare matters, and most of the Local Churches.

### **Activities in 2017/18**

The Charity operates from premises owned by the Town Council and shared with Wallingford's Citizens Advice Bureau. It is open for people to redeem their vouchers for 2 hours each on Mondays and Thursdays. Each claimant is given enough food for themselves and their dependents for three days. For those that are unable to visit the premises or are physically unable to carry the food, we will deliver to their homes.

" I was hungry and you gave me something to eat."

Registered Charity No. 1169402

Chairman: Neville Burt      Manager: Jean Burt

Tree Tops, Church Lane, Brightwell cum Sotwell, OX10 0SD Tel 01491 836823.

Eml [nevburt@btinternet.com](mailto:nevburt@btinternet.com)

In the current period we have had more people than ever come to us for help. Last year all the harvest donations that we received amounted to about 2 tonnes including about 4,000 tins and packets of food. We have used almost all of it supplemented by a lot of bought items. Last year we gave out 1,241 food parcels consisting of a three-day supply of food. This year it has been 1,922, a 50% increase! This trend appears to be in line with the general trend quoted by Trussel Trust, indeed it is a bit higher.

### **School Vouchers**

This is the third year that we have been running the school voucher scheme. During the summer holidays some families whose children have free school meals, struggle to cope with providing extra meals for six weeks. In June we visited all the schools in our local area and took them some information regarding the voucher system that we would be operating during the summer. If the schools felt that particular families would benefit from extra food from us they were given special vouchers to cover the six weeks holiday period. Each voucher was dated and they could only be redeemed during the week shown. When we first started this scheme three years ago only one family with six children took up the offer, this year we gave out food to 240 children! This resulted in extra expenditure and extra effort but was very much appreciated by the families concerned.

Donations of food come from a wide range of individuals, churches, schools (especially at harvest festival time), local businesses and clubs, supplemented when necessary by purchasing stock items. Financial donations are sufficient for this purpose and to cover running expenses. Further details are given in The Accounts.

The Food Bank is manned by a team of about 20 volunteers who work about once a month in groups of three. They are supervised on each occasion by at least one of three Team Leaders, one of whom is the Manager.

### **Benefit Guidance**

The Trustees believe that the Food Bank has operated in a way that conforms with the commission's public benefit guidance. The Town Council do not require the Food Bank to pay any rent and the only costs associated with the premises are a donation to Citizen's Advice towards the heating and lighting costs. Administration costs are minimal and there are no paid workers meaning that all usable donated food and a high proportion of financial donations are used for the benefit of those in need as set out in the Objects.

For and on behalf of the Trustees

*Thomas Neville Burt*  
*Chairman*

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