



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Louth Churches for Refugees (Registered Charity No. 1177536) will take place in Louth Methodist Church at 7pm on Tuesday 3 May 2022.

Agenda:

1. Trustees' Annual Report
2. Annual Statement of Accounts
3. Proposed changes to Trustee appointment arrangements
4. Appointment of Trustees

The Annual General Meeting will be followed by a presentation and discussion with perspectives on the global refugee crisis.

Please note the following information:

- The Trustees' Annual Report and the Annual Statement of Accounts are available on the Louth Churches for Refugees website: <https://louthchurchesforrefugees.org/about-us/latest-news> and some printed copies will be available at the meeting.
- We invite anyone wishing to become a member of the charity to complete a Membership Application Form on arrival. There is no charge for membership, and members sign to confirm that they support the aims and objectives of the charity.
- Anyone wishing to be elected Trustee should complete a Nomination Form on arrival which must include the name of a proposer and seconder who are members of the charity. If there are more nominations than places available then each candidate will be given two minutes to explain to those present why they wish to be elected as a trustee.

Overleaf for information:

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 27 July 2021.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Louth Churches for Refugees

held in Louth Methodist Church at 7pm on Tuesday 27 July 2021

The meeting was chaired by Derek Gibson. 20 members and supporters of the charity were present and apologies for absence had been received from 5 members.

1. The meeting received the Trustees' Annual Report and the Annual Statement of accounts for the year ended December 2020 (Proposed: D. Fidler Seconded: A Stratford).
2. The accounts had been examined by Capella Bookkeeping and the meeting noted a proposal to employ Capella again for the next set of accounts.
3. Thanks were expressed to Elaine Chafour who had stepped down as a trustee. Three nominations had been received for elected trustee positions and the following were declared elected:
 - David Fidler
 - Ros Malyon
 - Andrew West.

The formal business of the meeting was concluded. The meeting continued with a presentation and discussion on future opportunities for the charity, including the trustees' proposal to begin the application process for a second family resettlement. The following were among issues raised in discussion:

- Total costs likely to be involved in sponsoring a second family.
- The potential use of a house on Little Lane owned by the Diocese of Lincoln.
- An invitation from trustees to all those who may be in a position to help with the work of the charity (eg administration, fundraising, educational and social activities, donation of furnishings, help with transport, prayer support, etc).
- Challenges encountered by the family already resettled in Louth, including issues relating to the pandemic.
- The extent to which support had been forthcoming from our local MP.



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From: 1 January 2021- 31 December 2021

Charity name: Louth Churches for Refugees

Charity registration number: 1177536

Objectives and Activities

<p>Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document</p>	<p>The objects of the CIO are to relieve financial hardship for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) those seeking refuge from conflict in the Middle East, North Africa region; b) those granted refugee status and their dependents living in Lincolnshire and Louth in particular; and c) refugee children by the provision of holidays.
<p>Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.</p>	<p>The charity's main activities during the year have included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued support for a resettled refugee family in Louth. • Making adjustments to support arrangements when required as a result of Covid pandemic restrictions. • Starting the process of reviewing how support for the family will evolve into the future in line with the expectations of the Community Sponsorship programme. • Beginning preparations for welcoming a second refugee family to Louth. • Continuing regular communications to raise awareness of the activities of the charity and the global situation facing refugees; and encouraging prayer.
<p>Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.</p>	<p>In all of the charity's work, the trustees have been mindful of the need to fulfil the charity's charitable purposes and to work for the public benefit. They believe that this has been the case, and that the activities represented by the summary above and in the report that follows demonstrate both the ways in which Louth Churches for Refugees has fulfilled its purposes of relieving financial hardship of those groups specified in its governing document and that this has been undertaken in a way that is demonstrably for the public benefit.</p>

Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.

It is now nearly two years since Louth Churches for Refugees welcomed a resettled Syrian family to Louth as part of the UK Government's "Community Sponsorship" programme. We have an on-going responsibility for the family as we undertook to care for them until they are fully settled-in. Some of our agreed sponsorship responsibilities (eg financial) will draw to a close over the coming months and this made it timely during 2021 to consider our future plans and opportunities as a charity.

After a pause during the Covid emergency period, the Home Office Community Sponsorship programme re-opened for applications during 2021. The needs of refugees from the areas ravaged by war in Syria/Iraq are continuing - and have escalated as a result of the pandemic. Jesus' call to us as we seek to follow the path of the Good Samaritan in caring for our neighbours remains insistent: "Go and do likewise".

Following a period of prayerful consideration during the early part of the year, the Trustees of Louth Churches for Refugees came to the view that the charity should make a new application to participate in Community Sponsorship and to welcome a second family to the area. Now is the time we need input and assistance from our existing members and supporters, and to extend our network of support. There are various actions ahead for which preparations are now in hand:

- We need to find another house which will be suitable for the next family.
- We need help in putting a Community Sponsorship Application together and getting the necessary support from local agencies and authorities.
- We need help to deepen our connections with local church communities and to extend support, engagement and participation in our charity's work. We also plan to review our constitutional association with Churches Together in Louth and District, given its currently dormant status.
- We need more volunteers to provide practical help for another family - for example more people to help with English tuition, education support and help settling into the local community – we need to widen our charity's connections with local communities, to encompass support from more organisations and individuals.
- We need help to secure the necessary funds.
- We will need people to pray for us and for God's blessing on our plans and efforts.

The trustees of Louth Churches for Refugees are enthusiastic about the opportunities ahead of us to support another family. We appreciate any offers of help; contact can be made via our website at <https://louthchurchesforrefugees.org/about-us/contact-us>. You may also like to follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/louthchurchesforrefugees>

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	In the year, the charity continued to raise funds towards its stated objectives. Income exceeded expenditure during the year as we sought to build up funds to support a second family.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	The charity does not hold significant reserves, with all monies held being required for its immediate charitable work. This is reviewed periodically by the trustees.
Details of fund materially in deficit	None
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	None

Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document	Constitution
How is the charity constituted?	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Election by members (2 or 3 trustees) Nomination by Louth & District Churches Together (3 to 5 trustees)

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Louth Churches for Refugees
Other name the charity uses	None
Registered charity number	1177536
Charity's principal address	Louth Methodist Church Nichol Hill Louth LN11 9NQ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	David Fidler			Elected by members
2	Derek Gibson	Chair		Churches Together in Louth and District
3	Jane Fletcher			Churches Together in Louth and District
4	Ros Malyon		From 27.7.21	Elected by members
5	Andrew West			Elected by members

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	Derek Gibson	
Full name(s)		
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	17 March 2022	

The Treasurer
Louth Churches for Refugees
Louth Methodist Church
Nichol Hill
Louth
LN11 9NQ

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Louth Churches for Refugees

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Louth Churches for Refugees (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Charity, 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 Charity'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 have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matter 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.



Keith May ACMA CGMA
Qualified member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants
Keith May Accounting Services
Aura Business Centre
Heath Road
Skegness
Lincolnshire
PE25 3SJ

3 March 2022



Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/01/2021	To	31/12/2021
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Regular Giving		-	-	-	-
Event Donations	629	-	-	629	-
Specified Giving	20,141	-	-	20,141	-
Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	-
Family's Benefits	7,188	-	-	7,188	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	27,958	-	-	27,958	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	27,958	-	-	27,958	-
A3 Payments					
Charitable Expenditure - Rent	7,800	-	-	7,800	-
Charitable Expenditure - Utilities	516	-	-	516	-
Charitable Expenditure Computers	1,219	-	-	1,219	-
Charitable Expenditure Education	8,918	-	-	8,918	-
Charitable Expenditure - Loan	1,428	-	-	1,428	-
Charitable Expenditure Holiday	404	-	-	404	-
Charitable Expenditure Other	994	-	-	994	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	21,279	-	-	21,279	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	21,279	-	-	21,279	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	6,679	-	-	6,679	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	1	-	-	20/03/2022

Cash funds this year end | **6,679** | **-** | **-** | **6,679** | **-**

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds <small>(agreed balances with receipts and payments)</small>	-	-	-
		Error	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest	Restricted funds to nearest	Endowment funds to nearest
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	

		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees
on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval

Louth Churches for Refugees

Proposed Changes to Trustee Appointment Arrangements

1. The constitution of Louth Churches for Refugees requires a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 8 trustees to oversee the work of the charity.
2. Trustee appointments are made through a combination of direct election and nomination from Churches Together in Louth and District.
3. As currently drafted, the constitution allows for up to 3 elected trustees and up to 5 nominated trustees.
4. The balance in favour of nominations by Churches Together in Louth and District was appropriate at the foundation of Louth Churches for Refugees and as the charity settled into its operation
5. Since Louth Churches for Refugees is now an established and active charity, and bearing in mind the relative inactivity within Churches Together in Louth and District over recent years, we would like to re-balance the trustee appointment arrangements to allow for up to 6 elected trustees and up to 2 nominated trustees, retaining the nominations link with Churches Together in Louth and District.
6. If this proposal is agreed, the relevant section of the constitution 12 (3) would be amended as shown below:
~~Not less than 2 nor more than 3 elected trustees~~
~~Not less than 3 nor more than 5 nominated trustees~~
No more than 6 elected trustees
No more than 2 nominated trustees.
7. No change is proposed to the requirement for a minimum of 4 trustees to oversee the charity.
8. Churches Together in Louth and District have been made aware of this proposal.

Trustees of Louth Churches for Refugees
March 2022