



The Benwell Christian Shop Project

Trading as

Cornerstone Benwell

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2024

Benwell Christian Shop Project

Registered in England & Wales No. 02349218

Registered Charity No. 701263

Serving the Community of Benwell since 1987

Trustees and Directors at 31st March 2024

David Kirkwood (Chair)

Peter Michell (Secretary)

Carol Davison

Shirley Irving

Tim Woolley

Claire Lewis

Rachel Turner

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Welcome to this Annual Report which summarises the achievements of Cornerstone during the financial year leading up to March 2024.

Also included is a summary of the 2023/2024 Annual Accounts.

Cornerstone has a long-term commitment to serve the people of Benwell by working to:

- Include the excluded
 - Empower the disempowered
 - Encourage the discouraged
 - Celebrate all that is good
-

Registered Office:

62 Armstrong Road

Benwell

Newcastle Upon Tyne

NE4 7TU

T: 0191 226 0941 E: cornerstonebenwell@gmail.com

www.cornerstonebenwell.com

www.facebook.com/cornerstonebenwell

Bankers

TSB PLC

104 West Road

Newcastle upon Tyne

NE4 9QA



Report from Operations Manager Amy Sturdy

The year 2023 into 2024 saw the community of Benwell and Scotswood adapting to, and getting used to, the new normal in this period of financial insecurity. With more people than ever now living below the poverty line we at Cornerstone have been there to ensure no one goes hungry, families live in dignity, and everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

We continued to operate as a Warm Hub throughout the winter months and then made the decision to change into a Wellbeing Hub so we can offer a full wrap around wellbeing package including free hot meals on a Monday evening and Wednesday afternoon, The Benwell Bubble Laundry Service and the Benwell Bridge Food Pantry. We remain passionate about delivering dignity in poverty.

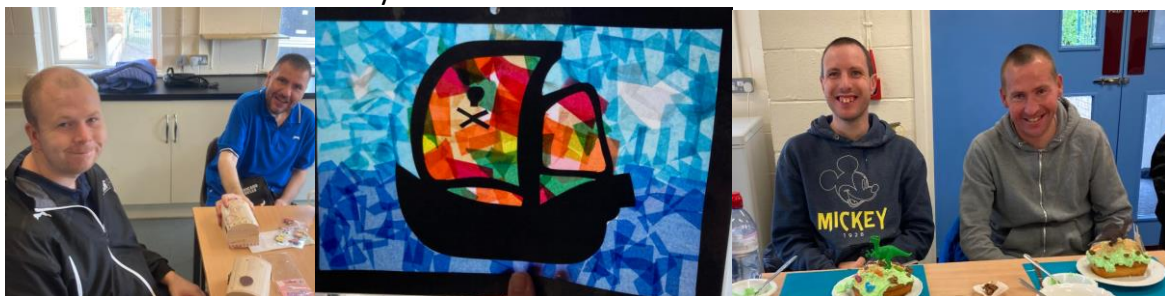


A huge thank you to Lesley for another year of making amazing lunches.

A huge thank you to Maureen for all her hard work this year supporting Lesley in the kitchen, running the Benwell Bubble and Benwell Bridge and providing teas and coffees to the Welcome Project.

We are so grateful to have you ladies working with us!

Our popular Welcome Project continued and grew this year and saw our friends enjoying many new activities including Lego building, Gardening and Cookery. We also had a Pirate Day, a Disney Day a Jurassic Park Day and a Harry Potter day! And of course, celebrated Halloween and Christmas in style.



A massive thank you and of course WELCOME to Angela who joined us in January 2024. She supports all aspects of Cornerstone however has the special job of running the Welcome Project who just adore her.

Our Kindful Project, delivered across 5 schools, finished this year to make way for our new project Kindful Kitchen.

We built a gorgeous new Edu-Kitchen in what used to be in the shop area. This has given us space to cook with up to 8 people at any one time. We run courses for Mindful Cookery, Budget Cookery and a support group for menopausal woman.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Christopher for using his super DIY skills to make our new kitchen area.

Other projects that continued this year include our Memory Cafe. Our collaboration with SEARCH ensures that customers with memory problems have a safe space to meet, socialise and enjoy a lunch together.

Inspire Youth ran the after-school youth club for approx. 30 local children each session who enjoyed learning cookery skills and crafting.

We enjoyed collaborating with Get Online Newcastle this year and supported 12 people to get online through our free tablet course.



With more visitors than ever this year I would like to take the opportunity to thank Michael for keeping the place in tip top shape and for his patience... he has to work with 4 women after all!

We also could not do without our amazing trustees and volunteers! A special mention to Carol and Christopher for putting in so many hours and thanks as always to Chris and Richard completing our accounts.

This year ended in style with a wedding at Cornerstone... mine!

I would like to thank everyone for all the messages of support and best wishes. It meant a lot to us.

I look forward to updating you next year with all the new projects we have added... I have a feeling it's going to be a noisy one!

With love and gratitude,

Amy



Major Contributors in the Last Year

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Northumbria Police | Westerhope Church |
| Joicey Trust | Ponteland Party in the Park |
| Vegan Society | Ponteland Methodist Church |
| LGA | Milbourne Church |
| Lottery Community Fund | All Saints Church |
| Barchester | St James at Riding Mill |
| Badur Foundation | Churches of Benwell and Scotswood |
| Stewardship | ASDA |
| Barbour | TESCO |
| Community Foundation | Morrisons |
| Benefact | Fareshare |
| WG Edwards | COOP Funeral Care |
| L&L Manning | Newcastle Cat and Dog Shelter |
| Newcastle Council | Peoples Kitchen |
| Inspire Youth | Feeding Families |
| Marsh Trust | Inkind Direct |
| Nathans Wastesavers | SEARCH Newcastle |

In addition, we have received a number of significant individual donations.
To all of these we send our huge thanks.



The following page shows a summary financial report for year ending 31st March 2024.
A full version of the accounts is available by request.

The accounts were prepared in accordance with the Charity Commission Statement of Recommended Practice (Revised 2000) with reference to the exemptions provided for small charities in paragraphs 344-358, paragraphs 353 & 354.

Chris Carr
Cornerstone Treasurer
December 2024

I agree that this is a true and fair reflection of the Cornerstone accounts
Richard McAllister
December 2024

Reserves Policy
The policy is to have between 6 and 12 months running costs in reserve.

| | Year ending 31-Mar-24 | Year ending 31-Mar-23 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| INCOME | | |
| INCOME-GENERAL | | 589.23 |
| Cafe sales | 5,110.00 | 9,516.00 |
| Interest | 1,901.31 | 745.62 |
| Other income | 436.85 | |
| Rent rooms | 3,476.02 | 2,376.00 |
| Friends of Cornerstone | 2,332.00 | 2,187.00 |
| Donations: unrestricted | 1,809.86 | 2,931.13 |
| GRANTS | 17,350.00 | 21,140.21 |
| Grants groups | 36,680.00 | |
| INCOME - RESTRICTED | | 24,838.08 |
| Total Income | 69,096.04 | 64,323.27 |
| STAFF COSTS | | |
| Salaries | 52,006.28 | 51,920.85 |
| Total Staff costs | 52,006.28 | 51,920.85 |
| MANAGEMENT & RUNNING COSTS | | |
| Cleaning & decorating | 6,105.63 | 878.19 |
| Heat and light | 4,443.96 | 3,474.00 |
| Security and losses | 2,319.85 | 2,324.61 |
| MANAGEMENT COSTS | 93.60 | 305.00 |
| Cafe supplies | 997.23 | 1,406.52 |
| Sundry expenses | 529.94 | 879.22 |
| Postage | 30.00 | 86.61 |
| Contents insurance | 1,567.15 | 2,309.51 |
| Office telephones | 1,106.36 | 1,080.00 |
| Stationery&office sundri | 138.36 | 650.70 |
| Total Management & running costs | 17,332.08 | 13,394.36 |
| GROSS SURPLUS (DEFICIT) | -242.32 | -991.94 |
| USER COSTS | | |
| Group Activities | 2,150.53 | 2,150.39 |
| Total User costs | 2,150.53 | 2,150.39 |
| DEPRECIATION | | |
| Furniture, fittings, equipment | 117.86 | 157.14 |
| Total Depreciation | 117.86 | 157.14 |
| TOTAL OPERATING COSTS | <u>2,268.39</u> | <u>2,307.53</u> |
| NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT) | <u>-2,510.71</u> | <u>-3,299.47</u> |
| I&E Account Bt Fwd | 69,312.07 | 72,611.54 |
| I&E ACCOUNT | <u>66,801.36</u> | <u>69,312.07</u> |

Benwell Christian Shop Project

(A company Limited By Guarantee and not having share capital)

Annual Accounts

For the Year Ending 31 March 2024

Company Number 2349218
Registered Charity Number 701263

Benwell Christian Shop Project

Management Council

David Kirkwood (Chairman)

Peter Michell (Secretary)

Carol Davison

Tim Woolley

Shirley Irving

Claire Lewis

Rachel Turner

Treasurer

Mr C M Carr

Secretary

Peter Michell

Registered Office

Cornerstone

Armstrong Road

Benwell

Newcastle Upon Tyne

NE4 7TU

Bankers

TSB

104 West Road

Milvain

Newcastle Upon Tyne

NE4 9QA

Independent Examiners Report:

TO THE TRUSTEES OF BENWELL CHRISTIAN SHOP PROJECT

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities act 1993 (the act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF THE EXAMINERS REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and any 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

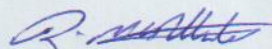
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS STATEMENT

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 41 of the Act, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act. These are also in line with standards set by FRS102.

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.



Name:

Mr Richard McAllister

Relevant Professional body:

Chartered Institute Accountants
England & Wales

Address:

40 Moycraig Road
Bushmills

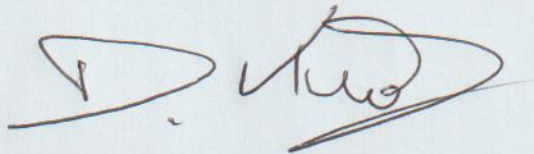
Benwell Christian Shop Project

STATEMENT BY THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

The company was entitled to exemption under the Companies Act 2006 from the requirement to have its accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 audited. No notice has been deposited under that Act requiring an audit in relation to the company's accounts for that financial year. The members of the council acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with the Companies Act 2006, and
- preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of that Act, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of that Act relating to the accounts, as far as applicable to the company.

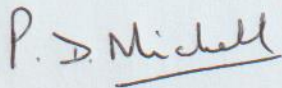
These accounts were approved by the Management Council on Friday 13th December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



David Kirkwood (Chairman)



Mr C M Carr (Treasurer)



Peter Michel (Secretary)

Benwell Christian Shop Project

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31 March 2024.

1. Accounting Policies:

The following accounting policies have been used consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the company's annual accounts:-

- **Accounting convention**

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention. We have applied the new principals set out in FRS102.

- **Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation**

Fixed Assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation

Depreciation is provided at 25% annually

- **Revenue Grants**

Income by way of charitable grants is accounted for on a cash receipts basis.

- **Capital Grants**

Material Capital Grants received are shown as income in advance and taken to income and expenditure over the expected life of the asset.

- **Gifts & Donations**

Gifts & donations are included in the income & expenditure account in the year which they are received.

2. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (see Asset Depreciation page)

3. DEBTORS & CREDITORS

- **Debtors:**

We expect to receive £2000 from Inland Revenue relating to Gift Aid donation for 2022/23 & 2023/24

4. NET LOSS FOR THE YEAR

Primarily relates to timing in receipt of grant funding versus the continued controlled approach to managing centre and group running costs.

5. CASH FLOW STATEMENT

See attached cash flow document.

6. EMPLOYEES

The average number of persons employed during the year:

| | | | |
|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|
| 2023/2024 | 4.5 | 2023/2022 | 3.4 |
|------------------|------------|------------------|------------|

The members of the management council received no remuneration in the year (2022/23– nil)

7. BALANCE SHEET

The accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small/medium companies.

Audit Exemption Statement

For the year ending 31/03/2024

the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- the directors 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.

8. RESERVES POLICY

The policy is to have between 6 and 12 months running costs in reserve.

| | Year ending 31-Mar-24 | Year ending 31-Mar-23 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| INCOME | | |
| INCOME-GENERAL | | 589.23 |
| Cafe sales | 5,110.00 | 9,516.00 |
| Interest | 1,901.31 | 745.62 |
| Other income | 436.85 | |
| Rent rooms | 3,476.02 | 2,376.00 |
| Friends of Cornerstone | 2,332.00 | 2,187.00 |
| Donations: unrestricted | 1,809.86 | 2,931.13 |
| GRANTS | 17,350.00 | 21,140.21 |
| Grants groups | 36,680.00 | |
| INCOME - RESTRICTED | | 24,838.08 |
| Total Income | 69,096.04 | 64,323.27 |
| STAFF COSTS | | |
| Salaries | 52,006.28 | 51,920.85 |
| Total Staff costs | 52,006.28 | 51,920.85 |
| MANAGEMENT & RUNNING COSTS | | |
| Cleaning & decorating | 6,105.63 | 878.19 |
| Heat and light | 4,443.96 | 3,474.00 |
| Security and losses | 2,319.85 | 2,324.61 |
| MANAGEMENT COSTS | 93.60 | 305.00 |
| Cafe supplies | 997.23 | 1,406.52 |
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| Postage | 30.00 | 86.61 |
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| Office telephones | 1,106.36 | 1,080.00 |
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| USER COSTS | | |
| Group Activities | 2,150.53 | 2,150.39 |
| Total User costs | 2,150.53 | 2,150.39 |
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| Furniture, fittings, equipment | 117.86 | 157.14 |
| Total Depreciation | 117.86 | 157.14 |
| TOTAL OPERATING COSTS | <u>2,268.39</u> | <u>2,307.53</u> |
| NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT) | <u>-2,510.71</u> | <u>-3,299.47</u> |
| I&E Account Bt Fwd | 69,312.07 | 72,611.54 |
| I&E ACCOUNT | <u>66,801.36</u> | <u>69,312.07</u> |

BALANCE SHEET

| | As At End of Mar-24 | As At End of Mar-23 |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| Fixed Assets | 353.57 | 471.43 |
| Current Assets | | |
| Stock | | |
| Debtors | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| Bank/Cash | 64,447.81 | 66,840.66 |
| Current Assets | <u>66,447.81</u> | <u>68,840.66</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS | <u>66,801.38</u> | <u>69,312.09</u> |
| LIABILITIES | | |
| Funds | | |
| Reserves | | |
| I&E ACCOUNT c/fwd | <u>66,801.36</u> | <u>69,312.07</u> |
| FUNDS EMPLOYED | <u>66,801.38</u> | <u>69,312.09</u> |
| Current Liabilities | | |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | <u>66,801.38</u> | <u>69,312.09</u> |

Audit Exemption Statement

For the year ending 31.3.2024

The company was entitled to exemption from the audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

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- the directors 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.

P. D. Michell

P. D. MICHELL

Company Secretary & Trustee

Benwell Christian Shop Project

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

| | Year ending 31-Mar-24 | Year ending 31-Mar-23 |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Surplus from P&L | -2,510.71 | -3,299.47 |
| Adjust for the following non-cash items: | | |
| Fixed Asset Depreciation | 117.86 | 157.14 |
| Net cash from operations | -2,392.85 | -3,142.33 |
| Reduction in cash | -2,392.85 | -3,142.33 |

ASSET DEPRICIATION

| | Furniture, fittings, | TOTAL |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| Cost: | | |
| Balance Brought Forward | 37,346.70 | 37,346.70 |
| Balance at End of Period | 37,346.70 | 37,346.70 |
| Depreciation: | | |
| Balance Brought Forward | 36,875.27 | 36,875.27 |
| Balance Brought Forward | 36,875.27 | 36,875.27 |
| Amount to Depreciate | 471.43 | 471.43 |
| Rate of Depreciation (%) | 25 | |
| Charge for Period | 117.86 | 117.86 |
| Balance at End of Period | 36,993.13 | 36,993.13 |
| Net Book Values: | | |
| At Start of Period | 471.43 | 471.43 |
| At End of Period | 353.57 | 353.57 |

Benwell Christian Shop Project

Statement of Financial Activities

Income

| | Unrestricted | | Total |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | General | Total | |
| Salary | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Activities Furthering Objectives | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fundraising Activities | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Donations, Grants | 19160 | 19160 | 19160 |
| Other Income | 13256 | 13256 | 13256 |
| Specific Grant: Community Foundation | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Capital Taken to Income | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SubTotal Income | 0 | 32416 | 32416 |

| | Restricted | | | | Total |
|------------------------|---------------|----------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| | School-worker | Welcome | IT Project | Healthy Eating | |
| Groups | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| School-worker | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 24430 | 0 | 12250 | 0 | 0 | 36680 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SubTotal Income | 24430 | 0 | 12250 | 0 | 36680 |

| 2023 | |
|-------|-------|
| Total | 0 |
| | 48909 |
| | 15414 |
| | 0 |
| | 0 |
| | 0 |
| | 64323 |

| 2024 | |
|-------|-------|
| Total | 0 |
| | 55840 |
| | 13256 |
| | 0 |
| | 0 |
| | 0 |
| | 69096 |

Expenditure

| | Unrestricted | | Total |
|----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| | General | Total | |
| Salary | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Activities Furthering Objectives | 41608 | 10398 | 52006 |
| Support Costs | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cost of Generating Funds | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Management & Admin | 17332 | 17332 | 17332 |
| Depreciation | 0 | 117 | 117 |
| SubTotal Expenditure | 41608 | 27848 | 69456 |
| Net Incoming Resources | -41608 | 4568 | -37040 |

| | Restricted | | | | Total |
|-------------------------------|---------------|----------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| | School-worker | Welcome | IT Project | Healthy Eating | |
| Groups | 561 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2151 |
| School-worker | 0 | 1590 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SubTotal Expenditure | 561 | 0 | 1590 | 0 | 2151 |
| Net Incoming Resources | 23869 | 0 | 10660 | 0 | 34529 |

| 2023 | |
|-------|-------|
| Total | 2151 |
| | 51920 |
| | 0 |
| | 13394 |
| | 157 |
| | 67622 |
| | -3299 |

| 2024 | |
|-------|-------|
| Total | 2151 |
| | 52006 |
| | 0 |
| | 17332 |
| | 117 |
| | 71607 |
| | -2511 |

Movement of Funds During Year

| | Unrestricted | | Total |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------|--------|
| | General | Total | |
| Salary | -111183 | 146455 | 35272 |
| Balances b/f 01/04/23 | -41608 | 4568 | -37040 |
| Change During Year | 0 | 4314 | 4314 |
| Fund Transfers | -152791 | 155337 | 2546 |
| Balances c/f 31/03/2024 | | | |

| | Restricted | | | | Total |
|---------------|---------------|---------|------------|----------------|-------|
| | School-worker | Welcome | IT Project | Healthy Eating | |
| Groups | 61722 | 2084 | 0 | 0 | 34041 |
| School-worker | 23869 | -21551 | -10444 | 2230 | 34529 |
| 0 | 0 | 10660 | 0 | 0 | -4314 |
| 0 | -2084 | 0 | 0 | -2230 | 0 |
| 85591 | 0 | -10891 | -10444 | 0 | 64256 |

| 2023 | |
|-------|-------|
| Total | 72612 |
| | -3299 |
| | 0 |
| | 69313 |
| | -2511 |
| | 66802 |
| | 69313 |

| 2024 | |
|-------|-------|
| Total | 69313 |
| | -2511 |
| | 0 |
| | 66802 |

Independent Examiners Report:

TO THE TRUSTEES OF BENWELL CHRISTIAN SHOP PROJECT

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43(2) of the Charities act 1993 (the act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43(7)(b) of the act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF THE EXAMINERS REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and any 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS 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 41 of the Act, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act. These are also in line with standards set by FRS102.

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.



Name:

Mr Richard McAllister

Relevant Professional body:

Chartered Institute Accountants
England & Wales

Address:

40 Moycraig Road
Bushmills