



Milton Keynes Hindu Association

To Preserve & Promote Hindu Culture

Registered Charity Number: 802344

Ferry Meadows Close
Milton Keynes
MK10 9QY
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Trustees' Annual Report

Trustees' Annual Report

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report along with the financial statements for the Milton Keynes Hindu Association (MKHA) for the year ending 31 March 2024.

Objectives and Activities

The charity organizes weekly events at our community centre to preserve and promote Hindu culture. These events are open to the community free of charge, fostering an inclusive and welcoming environment.

This year, we have significantly increased the number of events following the pandemic lockdown. Our centre remains a safe and healthy space for all. Additionally, we have been expanding our online presence through social media, with ongoing plans to enhance our website and digital platforms.

A major milestone this year has been the progress of Phase 2 of our Main Community Centre development, featuring the addition of the **Silver Lotus**—a luxury marquee that has exceeded expectations in quality and utility. Despite challenges such as planning permissions and building control requirements, we successfully completed this phase.

Infrastructure enhancements include groundworks, drainage, security, and a marquee capable of seating 500 people. This new structure helps address space limitations and serves as a vital resource for fundraising, advancing the next stage of our development.

Achievements and Performance

The centre continues to see increasing attendance at regular events. Our activities include:

- Educational classes in Hindi, Gujarati, and Bollywood dancing
- Wellbeing programs such as a lunch club for the elderly
- Health and wellbeing seminars
- Regular prayers and musical events

Key celebrations this year included **Ganesh Utsav, Holi, Ram Navami, Hanuman Jayanti, Jalaram Jayanti, Janmashtami, Mahashivratri, and Navratri**, with the new **Silver Lotus** marquee playing a central role. We also successfully hosted **Navratri 2024** in the marquee and a **Diwali show at Denbigh School**.

Our bereavement team has continued to provide essential support to families in difficult times. In line with our commitment to inclusivity, our facilities remain available for regular functions, irrespective of faith or background.

Additionally, MKHA has collaborated with **Arts and Heritage** on multiple community projects and has contributed to **food banks and international crisis appeals**.

We proudly celebrated the **6th anniversary** of our community centre with a well-attended event that highlighted our impact and achievements.

Financial Review

The charity concludes the financial year with a **negative balance of £4,078**. While we received generous donations and support, substantial investments were made in the **Silver Lotus** project. Additionally, we prepaid rent for the marquee for four years, securing a discounted rate savings in excess **£40,000**. These expenses have been anticipated as part of the project's initial setup.

MKHA relies primarily on volunteers, with the exception of educational class teachers, who are compensated for their services.

We are immensely grateful to patrons who provided **interest-free loans**, enabling the realisation of the **Silver Lotus** project.

Although a **RICS valuation** was not conducted this year, we estimate that the value of our premises remains stable. Our **cash reserves, including loans and donations, total approximately £137,000**, which will support Phase 2 development and day-to-day operations. Revenue generated from the **Silver Lotus** will be used primarily for loan repayments, complemented by ongoing fundraising efforts.

Structure, Governance, and Management

The charity continues to operate in accordance with its constitution. Our dedicated team of volunteers brings a diverse range of skills, including **first aid, health and safety, maintenance, event planning, management, and compliance**.

Future Plans

We intend to introduce a **new constitution** to our members, transitioning to a **Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)** model. This transition aligns with our long-term goals and will be proposed at our next **AGM in February 2025**.

We are confident that the **Silver Lotus marquee** will generate the necessary revenue to support **Phase 2** of our development. While the marquee remains a temporary structure with three years left in its term, it offers valuable experience in managing similar ventures. As attendance at the centre continues to grow, advancing the next phase of development has become a top priority.



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Reference and Administrative Details

- **Charity Name:** Milton Keynes Hindu Association
- **Charity Number:** 802344
- **Charity Address:** MKHA Community Centre, Ferry Meadows Close, Broughton, Milton Keynes, MK10 9QY

Trustees:

- **Satmesh Panchal (Chair)**
- **Nayana Tailor**
- **Manjula Korla**
- **Sunil Gandhi**

Accountants:

ACE Accounts & Tax Limited

Chartered Certified Accountants

2 Whittle Court, Knowhill, Milton Keynes, MK5 8FT

Exemptions from Disclosure

Due to unavoidable circumstances, our **AGM has been rescheduled to 9th February 2025.**

Satmesh Panchal

Trustee (Chair), Milton Keynes Hindu Association