

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL FOR PEACE STUDIES LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1969 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2019)

Objectives and activities

Our Vision, Mission and Values

The work of the International School for Peace Studies is to help build bridges and promote a peaceful and inclusive society for all in the island of Ireland.

Our Vision

We believe:-

- In a society where conflict can be resolved non violently
- That everyone has a voice and deserves to be listened to
- In a society where the humanity of everyone is respected and acknowledged

Our Mission

The International School for Peace Studies (I.S.P.S) is dedicated to the resolving of differences and conflict transformation through exclusively peaceful means, and rejects all forms of violence or intimidation as a means to creating change.

Our Values

All our work is driven by our purpose and core values:

- To promote conflict resolution, reconciliation and peace building for the public benefit, nationally and internationally so as to relieve suffering and distress
- To build and maintain social cohesion and trust within and between communities
- Promote understanding, respect, friendship, tolerance and peace between all communities
- Devise and deliver single identity and cross community programmes
- Advance community development through accredited and non accredited educational courses
- To encourage cultural development which support peace activities in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland
- To be a location for people to visit and participate in programmes
- To fulfil our aims through inclusivity, credibility, honesty and integrity and by working in partnership with others
- To apply the highest corporate governance standards to all projects/programmes in receipt of public funds
- Offer equal opportunities for all to benefit from what we have to offer
- To invite all people of Ireland to embrace the story of Messines and its spirit of brotherhood

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL FOR PEACE STUDIES LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Achievements and performance

Derry City and Strabane District Council – Good Relations Project Grant Aid

Through the allocation of DCSDC Good Relations Grant in July 2022 the International School for Peace Studies was able to deliver a series of workshops on "Exploring the Holocaust" to a group within the Waterside area. The workshops commenced in October 2022 and finished in March 2023.

A further application for grant aid 2023/2024 was submitted in 3rd February 2023 - the amount being sought was £3,997.40. A Letter of Offer was received on 4th August 2023 confirming that the organisation has been awarded £2000.00.

Derry City and Strabane District Council – Holocaust Memorial Workshop

An application was forwarded to DCSDC seeking funding to host a Holocaust memorial workshop on 23rd January 2023. The amount sought was £640.00.

Department of Foreign Affairs Reconciliation Fund

An application was submitted to the Department of Foreign Affairs to deliver an OCN Level 1 in Conflict Transformation and the Messines Story Homephase project. A Letter of Offer was received in July 2022 stating that a grant has been approved for €8,000 (£6,799.03). The project was delivered to a group in Sion Mills in February 2023.

Apex & Radius Housing

In October 2022 the Dungannon group progressed to an OCN Level 2 in "Conflict Transformation & The Messines Experience." As part of this programme they visited the sites in Belgium/France to extend their learning of the Battle of Messines and the First World War.

Apex/Radius/Clanmil Housing Association

The International School for Peace Studies was appointed in March 2023 to deliver its OCN Level 1 Holocaust Awareness workshops to groups within the East/South Belfast areas. Through the success of this programme the group travelled to Krakow in May 2023 to continue their understanding of the history of the Holocaust.

The above housing associations approved the delivery of an OCN Level 1 "Conflict Transformation & The Messines Story Homephase". The programme was extended to other groups within the East/South Belfast area and commenced in April 2023.

Radius Housing

Through the successful completion of our OCN Level 1 Messines programme the group from Ebrington Oaks progressed to OCN Level 2 "Conflict Transformation & The Messines Experience." This group also took part in our newly developed Flags & Emblems programme.

ISPS was appointed by Radius to deliver our Holocaust Programmes. Residents from the Burnvale area were selected to participate in the OCN level 1 "Holocaust Awareness" workshop and then travel to Krakow.

Amharclann Ghaoth Dobhair & Waterside Theatre (IFI Programme)

The International School for Peace Studies was asked to arrange and deliver a Messines Programme. A group of 30 people from North/South of Ireland travelled to visit the sites in Belgium/France in June 2023 as well as attending a "PEACE 25: Everyday Peacemakers" conference in Leuven to mark the 25th Anniversary of the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement.

Financial review

Total income for the year was £218,475, of which approximately 5% was generated from grants and 95% from other charitable activities. Total expenditure was £251,298 and 100% of this was expended on direct charitable activities. The balance on total funds at the year-end was £254,708, of which £253,865 was unrestricted in nature and £843 was restricted in nature.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL FOR PEACE STUDIES LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Reserves policy

The Trustees consider it prudent to hold monies in reserve in the event that unforeseen circumstances should lead to financial difficulties which might put the future of its employment capacity, users' well-being and general charitable work in jeopardy.

The Trustees have examined the charity's requirements for reserves in the light of the main risks to the organisation and established a formal policy which stipulates that free reserves be maintained at a level which ensures that the charity's core activity could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty. Free reserves are defined by the Trustees as unrestricted income funds freely available for use as the charity so determines and thereby excludes any funds committed, invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity and restricted or designated funds.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Plans for future periods

Our immediate plan for the future is to continue to work and secure the sustainability of the charity and the vital work of our Messines Project. We are currently focused on continuing to source funding from trusts, foundations and statutory agencies for programme and core costs to continue our vital projects and services.

The International School for Peace Studies is extending its portfolio of accredited and non-accredited programmes and is in the process of developing the following :-

- OCN Level 1 – Diversity & Good Relations, Prejudice, Discrimination
- OCN Level 1 – Diversity & Good Relations, Diversity in Society
- OCN Level 2 – Conflict Transformation The Balkans
- One Day Introductory Programme:-
 - Conflict Transformation
 - Flags, Identity, Culture & Tradition – Far more than “Two Traditions”
 - Genocide – A Warning from History
 - The Holocaust
 - War in Bosnia – Remembering Srebrenica
 - Women in War

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

International School for Peace Studies is a society limited by guarantee and accepted as charitable by HMRC under reference XT 40250. The society was established under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1969 which established the objects and powers of the society. The liability of members is limited in that every member of the society undertakes to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 in the event of the company being wound up.

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Mr SW Barr | (Resigned 27 November 2023) |
| Mrs D Martin | |
| Mr D Jenkins | |
| Mr D White | (Resigned 19 October 2023) |
| Mr P Craig | (Appointed 3 May 2023) |
| Mr D Woods | (Appointed 3 May 2023) |
| Mr M McCartney | (Appointed 23 October 2023) |
| Mrs K McLaughlin | (Appointed 23 October 2023) |

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL FOR PEACE STUDIES LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Under the requirements of the Industrial and Provident Society unless otherwise determined by the company in General Meeting the number of Trustees shall not be less than four. Trustees are elected to serve only until the next Annual General Meeting at which they shall then be eligible for re-election.

In the financial year two new Trustees were appointed. The Board as a whole was approved by the AGM and continues to monitor its membership.

Risk Management

The Trustees are aware of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the charity faces. Internal control are minimised through the procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations. These procedures are reviewed periodically to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the charity.

All members of the Board of Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

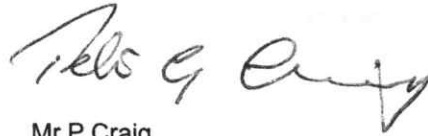
Auditor

In accordance with the charity's articles, a resolution proposing that Moore (NI) LLP be reappointed as auditor of the charity will be put at a General Meeting.

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Mrs D Martin
Trustee



Mr P Craig
Trustee

28 June 2024

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL FOR PEACE STUDIES LIMITED

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees, who are also the directors of International School For Peace Studies Limited for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.