Charity Number: Company Number:

1148572 07573755

# THE FAITHFUL NEIGHBOURHOODS CENTRE (Known as FNC)

## TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 MARCH 2022



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## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The directors of The Faithful Neighbourhoods Centre Ltd ("the charitable company") are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as its Trustees. The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, 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 (FRS102) (updated 1 January 2019).

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting the charitable company's report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

## **Objectives and activities**

## **Objectives:**

- To promote the advancement of religion
- To develop the capacity and skills of socially and economically disadvantaged communities to help them meet their needs such that they are better able to participate more fully in society
- The prevention of or relief from poverty
- The advancement of education in relation to faith and interfaith matters, all for the public benefit
- To promote equality and diversity by raising awareness in equality and diversity, promoting activities to foster understanding between people from diverse backgrounds and cultivating a sentiment of equality and diversity

## **Activities:**

We achieve our objectives through building relationships for stronger communities by:

- Providing a space where people of different faiths (and cultures) can meet one another and work together
- Resourcing Christians living in a multi-faith society and supporting people as they discover ways of working together to improve and strengthen their local areas

## **Public benefit**

The directors confirm that in planning and undertaking their activities they have at all times had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on the provision of public benefit.

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

#### Achievements and performance

During the year we gradually moved out of the lockdown restrictions that defined all the activities of the previous year and were gradually able to start meeting in person and picking up some activities that had been postponed due to the pandemic, most notably the Faithful Friends and Women First trip to Israel – Palestine.

The other significant achievements were the completing of the SAVI project and the on-going development of The Birmingham Conversations.

#### The Birmingham Conversations

We continued to develop the on-line work of The Birmingham Conversations with a series on Business, Law and Politics, inviting speakers from across the faith traditions to reflect on their experiences in these fields which led to informed and creative discussions.

We received a grant from the Westhill foundation to undertake some academic research into on-line interfaith dialogue, to explore the theological and philosophical implications of this model of activity. This was a collaboration with the Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations at Coventry University and The Dialogue Society.

We also worked with students from LSE who undertook some of the research and writing as part of their course module. The research has produced rich data which will be written up as academic articles and practical guides.

At the start of March 2022, we held our first in-person event since 2019. This was a day conference called 'One Life or Many?' and was held at the Shree Geeta Bhawan in Handsworth. With five key speakers from different faiths, it was a well-attended event which prompted good discussion and on-going relationships with new partners.

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

#### Visit to Israel and Palestine

An interfaith group comprising Faithful Friends and Women First and representing four faiths travelled to Israel and Palestine 19th to 26th February 2022. We were led by Rev Jessica Foster and Canon Dr Andrew Smith, and locally by the Holy Land Trust. Together we experienced both Israeli and Palestinian hospitality and were given eye-opening opportunities to gain insight into the life experiences of the people of these lands.

Visits included to Hebron, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Jaffa, a settler site, a Palestinian farm and family home and a family whose home had been bulldozed by the Israeli government and rebuilt under the auspices of the Holy Land Trust.

Travelling under the banner of FNC was helpful for border crossings. Time for reflection together was an important part of the unfolding story of the visit. It was also noteworthy that we were among the first people travelling to the places we visited that had been hit very hard by the pandemic and not received anything like the sustaining support offered to UK businesses.

## SAVI

The SAVI projects on Anti-Violence and Supporting Smethwick through the Winter Covid Pandemic ended in March but some transactional business was completed in April.

In May, FNC was contracted again by WMVRU to deliver a bridging arrangement that would maintain the SAVI partnership and produce materials for communication and websites. A partnership arrangement was established with RUDA, a Romanian led community based organisation to deliver this work, whilst FNC appointed BowmanWright CIC to continue to convene and develop the SAVI project until further WMVRU funding became available.

A change in priorities at WMVRU during 2021/22 prevented any further work beyond the bridging arrangement from being agreed. The SAVI partnership is proceeding, led by EWA CIC and RUDA, and negotiations for a violence reduction programme funded by National Lottery are progressing.

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

#### Financial review

Income of £22,994 was down on the previous year following completion of the WMVRU SAVI funding as explained on the previous page. This was also reflected in reduced activity and consequently a reduction in expenditure to £28,628. The financial year ended with restricted funds of £8,589 for projects to be completed in 2023 and general funds of £5,544 to fund future core costs.

#### Reserves

It is the trustees' intention that the Company should hold reserves to allow it to maintain its activities for six to nine months. At present the reserves, of £5,544, exceed this level since core costs are very low and the majority of income received is for specific projects. However the directors do not intend taking action to reduce the reserves levels significantly.

## Risk management

The systems of internal control are designed to provide reasonable but not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss. Where necessary further systems and procedures will be introduced as and when new risks are identified. Risks will be reexamined on at least an annual basis.

## Structure, governance and management

## **Governing Document**

The Faithful Neighbourhoods Centre is a company limited by guarantee and was registered as a charity on 13 August 2012. The Charitable Company is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association which were adopted by the Board of Trustees on 13 August 2012.

## Appointment of Trustees, induction & training

The members of the Charitable Company are the Bishop of Birmingham and Birmingham Churches Together who are able to appoint up to six and five Trustees respectively.

New Trustees are appointed by invitation to join the Board given that they have the necessary skills and experience to contribute to the Charity's activities and to be able to discharge their obligations as Trustees. Prospective new Trustees meet initially with the Chair and are then invited to observe a meeting of the Board of Trustees, at which they are given all relevant papers, including financial reports. A document produced by

## REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

the Charity Commission on the responsibilities of Trustees is also provided. Subject to the prospective Trustee and the Board of Trustees being in favour of membership a Resolution is issued and voted on at a Board Meeting.

## Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name:

The Faithful Neighbourhoods Centre

**Charity number** 

1148572

Company registration number

07573755

Registered Office:

The Church of England

The Citadel

190 Corporation Street

Birmingham B4 6QD

**Trustees** 

J Appleton G Bowman Rev D Gould Rev M Sermon Canon Dr A Smith

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc

68 High St, Harborne, Birmingham B17 9NJ

Independent Examiner

Karen Hanlan

Karen Hanlan Independent Examiner Ltd

1 Saracen Close

Ettington CV37 7SZ

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

Ju LA

**J** Appleton

Trustee

Date: 15 September 2022

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

## Statement of trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity 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 proper accounting records which 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 Charities Act 1993 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. 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.

## Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Faithful Neighbourhoods Centre ('the Company')

I report to the charitable company's Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2022 as set out on pages 10 to 16.

## Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Charitable Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

## Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

- 1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3) the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- 4) the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

I have no concerns and have come across no matters 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.

Karen Hanlan,

Date: 15/9/22

Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants England & Wales

Karen Hanlan Independent Examiner Ltd

1 Saracen Close

Ettington, CV37 7SZ

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED

## 31 MARCH 2022 (including an Income & Expenditure Account)

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Income from: Charitable activities	2	•	22,994	22,994	67,973
Total income			22,994	22,994	67,973
Expenditure on: Charitable activities	3	1,106	27,522	28,628	59,795
Total expenditure		1,106	27,522	28,628	59,795
Net (expenditure)/income and net movement in funds		(1,106)	(4,528)	(5,634)	8,178
Transfers between funds		3,447	(3,447)		-
Total funds brought forward	•	3,203	16,564	19,767	11,589
Total funds carried forward		5,544	8,589	14,133	19,767

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

#### **BALANCE SHEET**

#### **AS AT 31 MARCH 2022**

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Current assets		· .	
Cash at bank and in hand		19,393	20,577
	•		20,577
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	4	(5,260)	(810)
Total Net Assets		14,133	19,767
		·	
Funds of the charity			
Restricted Funds		8,589	16,564
Unrestricted Funds		5,544	3,203
Total charity Funds		14,133	19,767

Company number 07573755

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form part of these financial statements.

For the year ended 31 March 2022 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Responsibilities of directors/Trustees:

- (a) The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 however, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 the financial statements have been examined by an independent examiner whose report appears on page  $\mathbf{\Phi}$ .
- (b) The directors/Trustees acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

J Appleton

Trustee

Date: 15 September 2022

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

#### 1. Accounting policies

#### Status of the company

The charitable company is limited by guarantee and does not have share capital. The liability of members is limited to £1 per member.

#### **Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS102) (updated 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The Faithful Neighbourhoods Centre meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

#### Going concern statement

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes that the Charitable Company will continue to operate. The validity of this assumption is dependent upon the continuance of support from the Charitable Company's key funders and in response to the progress made by the Charitable Company in pursuing a viable budget including the obtaining of further grants and other funds. The Charitable Company's current plans along with reserves in place & funding anticipated, demonstrate that it will be able to operate for the foreseeable future. Based on this understanding, the directors believe that it remains appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis. The financial statements do not include any adjustments, which would result from the basis of preparation being inappropriate.

#### Income

All income is included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable. Grants where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.

Gifts donated for resale are included as incoming resources within activities for generating funds when they are sold.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Grants, including grants for the purchase of fixed assets, are recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are receivable.

#### **Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Costs of raising funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature to support them.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management.

Governance costs are those costs incurred not directly related to charitable expenditure or support costs (e.g. finance support).

## Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at bank and in hand and short term deposits repayable on within a three month notice period.

#### **Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

#### **Creditors**

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

#### **Taxation**

As a registered charity no provision is considered necessary for taxation.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

## 2. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022 Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021 Total
	£	£	£	, <b>£</b>	£	£
Faithful Friends book sales	-		-	. 17	-	17
WMVRU PCC SAVI	_	• -	-		42,500	42,500
SAVI Winter Covid	-	3,750	3,750	-	11,250	11,250
SAVI Bridging		4,892	4,892	-	• -	<b>-</b> '
Thank You Day	<u>;</u> -	1,000	1,000	-	-	
Westhill	·. -	5,000	5,000	-	· -	-
Holy Land Trip	• -	4,262	4,262	· .·	6,014	6,014
Women First	· -	90	90	-	8,192	8,192
Heritage Trail Grant	-	4,000	4,000	-	-	·
	_	22,994	22,994	17	67,956	67,973

## 3. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds £	, 2022 Total	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total £
Direct charitable	. <b>£</b>		· £	E	Ľ	, <b>L</b>
activities:			•			
	•		: :		27 227	27 227
WMVRU PCC SAVI		2.550		-	37,327	37,327
SAVI	· -	2,650	2,650	-		-
SAVI Winter Covid	-	4,559	4,559		9,946	9,946
SAVI Bridging	-	4,396	4,396	· <u>-</u>	-	- ·
Thank You Day	-	. 721	721	-		-
Westhill	-	2,500	2,500	-	-	-
Holy Land Trip		10,817	10,817	•	5,259	5,259
Women First	· -	1,879	1,879	-	6,403	6,403
Support costs:						•
Insurance	387	•	387	-	347	347
Communication & IT	· 234	-	234	-	178	. 178
Governance costs:	,			•		
Independent	•	•	٠.			•
Examiner's fee	450	·	450	-	300	300
Office expenses	. 35	· •	· 35		35	35
·	1,106	27,522	27,522		59,795	59,795

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

## 4. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 Total F	2021 Total
	-	
Trade creditors	510	510
Other creditors	4,000	-
Accruals and deferred income	750	300
	•	4
•	5,260	810

## 5. Movements in Funds

	Balance b/f	Income-	Expenses	Transfers	Balance c/f
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	3,203	-	(1,106)	3,447	5,544
Restricted Funds:					
WMVRU PCC SAVI	5,106	_	(2,650)	(2,456)	· -
SAVI Winter Covid	1,304	3,750	(4,559)	(495)	• -
SAVI Bridging	-	4,892	(4,396)	(496)	· -
Holy Land Trip	8,365	4,262	(10,817)	•	1,810
Women First	1,789	90	(1,879)	-	
Thank You Day	· · · · -	1,000	(721)	·	279
Westhill	· <del>.</del> ;	5,000	(2,500)	· -	2,500
Heritage Trail Grant	<b>-</b>	4,000	·		4,000
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	16,564	22,994	(27,522)	(3,447)	8,589
Overall Funds	19,767	22,994	(28,628)	•	14,133

SAVI - a short project focused on Smethwick to prevent and reduce violence especially relating to young people. Funds fully spent including allocation to FNC for management and administration.

Savi Bridging Arrangement - a short project designed to sustain SAVI to prepare for a further application to WMVRU for funds when available. Ultimately funds were not made available.

Transfers to general funds relate to agreed allocations for FNC overheads for managing the project.

Holy Land Trip – Part of the Faithful Friends: On Tour Project and incorporating members of Women First, it promotes interfaith harmony in Smethwick through visits to places of significance. This

#### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

included meetings with significant peacebuilders, religious and civic leaders and interfaith activists across the Holy Land.

Women First- A small initiative in Smethwick building interfaith friendship and between women from different faith communities.

Thank you Day. A national initiative to promote friendship across communities. The remaining funds will be spent on a local project in keeping with the aims of Thank You Day.

Westhill. A project to research the online interfaith dialogue as pioneered by the Birmingham Conversations project. The fund enabled collaborative research with Coventry University and the Dialogue Society.

Heritage Trail. A fund from BCC as part of the Commonwealth Games legacy to develop a heritage trail in Lozells and Handsworth that takes in 10 places of worship from four different faiths. The trail will be accessed through the FNC website.

#### 6. Analysis of net assets between funds

2021/22				Un- restricted	Restricted	Total
. •	•			£	£	£
Cash at bank and	d in hand		٠.٠.	6,804	12,589	19,393
Creditors			· .	(1,260)	(4,000)	(5,260)
Funds				5,544	8,589	14,133
		•				

#### 7. Related party transactions

Expenses totalling £1,770 were reimbursed to two Trustees in relation to expenses incurred by them on behalf of the charity.

No trustee has received any remuneration from the charity.

There were no further related party transactions.

#### 8. Controlling Interests

The charity is controlled by the Trustees.