Short Strand Community Forum
TRUSTEES' REPORT
for the year ended 31 May 2019

The trustees present their Trustees' Report and the unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 May 2019.

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Trustees' Report contains the information required to be provided in the Trustees' Annual Report under the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) guidelines. The trustees of the company are also charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's constitution are known as members of the board of trustees.

In this report the trustees of Short Strand Community Forum present a summary of its purpose, governance, activities, achievements and finances for the financial year 31 May 2019.

The charity is a registered charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form which complies with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and, although not obliged to comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015), the organisation has implemented its recommendations where relevant in these financial statements.

Mission, Objectives and Strategy

Objectives
Short Strand Community Forums main objective is to operate a 'cradle to grave' approach of providing services and facilities to local residents. Community development is to the forefront of our work. We engage directly with the community making sense of the issues which affect their lives, setting goals for improvement and taking action through empowerment and participative processes. We work in partnership with local people and organisations: in conjunction with a number of voluntary, statutory and community organisations. We work to collectively bring about social change and improve the quality of life. Training and education is a big need within the community and we provide assistance to local people to enable them to apply for, and obtain suitable employment through a number of training initiatives. Local job club operates every Monday and we provide training and advice for those deemed economically active as well as providing help with application forms and interview techniques. We also provide training and apprenticeships for young people aged between 16-24. Within the community centre there are various groups aimed at providing care and support for the children in the local area. We also operate both a pre-school and after-school club, computer drop-in centre for 16-25 year olds and a very active senior citizens group which includes a weekly lunch club. A women's group provide services such as social training, aromatherapy, crafts, computer training, keep fit, essential skills and well as a number of other training initiatives.

Structure, Governance and Management

Structure
Key Staff and personnel:
Chairperson - Paul McCrory
Senior Developments Worker - Bernie McConnell

The Forum holds regular board meetings. All meetings of the Forum or of the committee shall be presided over by a Chairperson or Vice-chairperson, if elected. If either the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson are present, those present may elect one of their number to take the chair.

The committee may make such regulations as they consider appropriate for the efficient conduct of the business of the committee and the Forum.

The committee may appoint such staff as they consider necessary on such terms and conditions as they determine. Minutes are taken at all meetings in the Forum.

An AGM is held every year to discuss the accounts for the Forum and must be held within 15 months of the last AGM.

Review of Activities, Achievements and Performance
This year we have undertaken more partnership roles in terms of delivery of projects, these have been mainly with organisations such as Training for Women's Network and Belfast Interface Project. Further extensions of funding has also been offered through the Education Authority.

Our role in delivering the Education SIF Project has expanded our profile within East Belfast.
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Financial Review
With Brexit in progress, like many organisations we are unsure about the financial futures. European funding has played a huge part in our communities over the last few years. The absence of a local government has also put a strain on funding, and threats to Neighbourhood Renewal budgets cause a huge threat.

Results and Dividends
At the end of the year the company has assets of £16,943 (2018 - £16,556) and liabilities of £39,994 (2018 - £39,004). The net liabilities of the company have increased by £(603). In accordance with the Constitution, the trustees retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards
The charity engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. Short Strand Community Forum subscribes to and is compliant with the following:
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 27 November 2019 and signed on its behalf by:

Paul McCrory
Trustee
Short Strand Community Forum
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
for the year ended 31 May 2019

The trustees are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities in Northern Ireland requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the charity as at the financial year end date and of the surplus or deficit of the charity and otherwise comply with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; 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 confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

As explained in note 3, state whether the applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) has been followed;

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and 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 (Northern Ireland) 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.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 27 November 2019 and signed on its behalf by:

Paul McCrory
Trustee
Short Strand Community Forum
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER’S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SHORT STRAND COMMUNITY FORUM

We have examined the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 May 2019, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

This report is made solely to the charity’s members, as a body, in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. Our work has been undertaken so that we might compile the financial statements that we have been engaged to compile, report to the Board of Trustees that we have done so, and state those matters that we have agreed to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's members, as a body, for our work, or for this report.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner
The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and that an independent examination is required.

It is our responsibility to:
- examine the financial statements under section 65 of the Charities Act;
- follow the procedures laid down by the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report
We have examined your charity financial statements as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention which gives us cause to believe that in, any material respect:
- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
- the financial statements do not accord with those accounting records
- the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the 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)
- there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent examiner's statement
We have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

QUARTER
Chartered Accountants
St Anne's House
15 Church Street
Cathedral Quarter
Belfast
BT1 1PG

Date: 27 November 2019