



Together in Barnet

SHELTER FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

Together in Barnet

Annual Report and Financial Statements

1st June 2020 - 31st May 2021

31st March 2022

Registered UK charity 1157192

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisers

Together in Barnet also known as TiB

Trustees	Office <i>if any</i>	Dates acted <i>if not for whole year</i>
Darren Haringman	Co-Chair	
Laura Fox	Co-Chair	
Lisa Nicole Bard	Secretary	From 28/09/20
Matthew Malyali	Treasurer	
Elliott Karstadt		
Simon Rubinsohn		
A Jeremy Shapiro		
Dr Jacqueline Megitt		

Staff	
Amanda Weiss	Charity Operations Manager
Tom Rusted	Project Officer

Registered / Principal office c/o Homeless Action in Barnet
36b Woodhouse Road
London
N12 0RG

Office phone 020 8446 8400
Email admin@togetherinbarnet.org
Website www.togetherinbarnet.org

Charity registration number 1157192

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisers

Independent examiner	Julian Trevelyan 9 Holmwood Gardens, Finchley, London N3 3NS	ACA
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Bankers	CAF Bank Limited 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ
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TiB Vision

Together in Barnet's vision is that no one should spend a night on the streets in Barnet. The night shelter in Barnet began in 2003 and Together in Barnet became a formal charity in 2014 offering Barnet's only emergency night shelter provision. Its purpose is defined as:

- The Prevention or Relief Of Poverty
- Accommodation/housing

These objectives have not changed since Together in Barnet was founded. We support people who find themselves homeless with emergency accommodation. Traditionally in the form of a rolling night shelter engaging the support of and partnership with a coalition of interfaith volunteers from 32 multi-faith communities across the Borough of Barnet. We provide 17 men and women with low-medium needs a warm, welcoming, safe place to sleep, dinner and breakfast. Our partners and sole referrer are Homeless Action in Barnet; a day centre providing case work and practical services for people experiencing homelessness.

Co-Chairs' Report May 2021

Looking back over the twelve months covered by this annual report, it is impossible not to view the work of the Together in Barnet (TiB) in the context of the wider disruption resulting from the spread of the Covid virus. Critically, the charity was able to demonstrate its flexibility by accessing public funding to maintain emergency support for rough sleepers across the borough working in conjunction with Homeless Action in Barnet (HAB) and Barnet Homes. This is something we, as co-chairs and the wider group of trustees, are extremely proud of.

Significantly, the government directive to not use communal facilities because of the associated risks forced TiB to seek out alternative accommodation to house our guests. The success in doing so, a hotel in Golders Green, and the subsequent support provided for the guests at this venue was largely down to the hard work put in by our Charity Operations Manager and her team. We would like to thank them for their exceptional efforts in sustaining the provision through this very difficult period. We would also like to thank the network of volunteers from the various faith-based institutions who ensured that those housed in the hotel had a hot meal and breakfast every single day during which the charity had guests residing in the accommodation.

Alongside this, TiB worked closely with HAB in ensuring that there were consistent food deliveries to those homeless guests placed in private sector rental accommodation over the period, many of whom were out of the borough. Once again, volunteers played an absolutely critical role in maintaining this support through the darkest days of the pandemic.

Fundraising over the period was inevitably constrained by the circumstances although generous donations continued to help bolster the grants the charity was able to access. As we move forward, TiB hope to build up its income stream to support our guests as they look to move into more permanent housing while also attempting to equip them with the skills to manage the transition to more mainstream society. In this regard, we are intending to initiate a mentoring and befriending project with the express aim of assisting in achieving these objectives. And as in the other work that the charity is involved in, we very much plan that our network of volunteers will play a key role in delivering the programme.

Hopefully in conjunction with the increased focus of government on the issue of homelessness, our work will prevent anyone from having to sleep on the streets of Barnet in the future and if that's not possible, the experience of rough sleeping is a brief and singular occurrence.

Signed by the co-Chairs



Darren Haringman



Simon Rubinsohn

Date of Approval: 31st March 2022

Annual Report

Principal achievements in the year

This year has been one of challenge and transformation for Together in Barnet. We planned to extend the shelter from 8 months to 12 months of the year but were forced to close due to the pandemic at the end of March 2020. In response, we explored alternative accommodation options that would allow us to re-open in a 'Covid-safe' way. These options included: putting self-contained sleeping 'pods' on some land provided by one of our communities, renting a shared property, buying a property to be shared by guests, renting hotel/hostel rooms and buying a hotel/hostel building. After much deliberation, we pushed forward with the 'Pod Project' idea and made contact with Amazing Grace Spaces who manufacture the pods, got the backing and support of our wider community network, applied for funding and planning permission. We also sought the advice and support of planning consultants. Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful in obtaining planning permission and needed to find another way to provide vital emergency shelter for people during the height of a pandemic.

We devised a whole new project plan and applied and were successful in obtaining funding through Housing Justice, Homeless Link and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. We opened our 24/7 hotel project in January 2021 and closed on 1st June 2021. This project offered people who were rough sleeping, emergency shelter in the form of single occupancy, ensuite hotel rooms. It included wrap-around support, working in partnership with the local authority, case workers from our partner organisation, Homeless Action in Barnet and regular contact between the guests and Together in Barnet Operations Manager and Project Officer. In addition, food and other practical support was delivered by our network of volunteers from the communities who support the night shelter.

We accommodated 21 people in Covid-safe accommodation supported by our network of interfaith communities who provided daily meals. With the support of Public Health and the local authority, we put stringent safety protocols in place and had zero cases of Covid-19.

Pre-pandemic the night shelter offered a vital, life-saving service. It became even more critical with the impact of Covid-19. Rough sleeping endangered not only the people on the street but created significant associated public health concerns for the wider community.

Food deliveries

In addition to the Hotel Project, from the beginning of April 2020 until the end of December 2021 in partnership with our partner charity, Homeless Action in Barnet, Together in Barnet provided essential care packages every week to over 180 people who were thankfully been placed into temporary accommodation across eight London boroughs with the help of over 150 volunteers.

Impact

Together in Barnet play a significant role in keeping people off the streets of Barnet and plug a gap in provision that is desperately needed. According to the CHAIN database (CHAIN is a multi-agency database recording information about people sleeping rough and the wider street population in London), in Q4 Jan-March 2020, there were 51 people rough sleeping in Barnet, not including the 14 guests per night on average accommodated in the Together in Barnet (TiB) Night Shelter in the same period. After the shelter closed at the end of March, this figure jumped to 101, 47 higher than the same period in 2019.

Plans for 2021 - 2022 and beyond

We plan to repeat the hotel project this coming winter, opening in October 21 and closing in March 2022. This project will enable us to meet our guests' basic needs, connect them to the wider community, and provide them with the necessary stability to obtain secure housing.

We will also be able to support guests through engagement with our new Mentoring and Befriending project. The aim of this project is to tackle isolation and loneliness as well as offer guests an opportunity to gain from the breadth of experience in the community. The sessions will be tailored to each guest, who will set short, medium and long term goals. We expect these will include improving CV/interview skills, improving English language skills, learning from a volunteer who works in their desired field or simply having someone to talk to on a regular basis.

Part of this new project will also centre around 'micro-grants' enabling guests to access vital support to help their transformation out of homelessness. This would include phones and credit so they can be in touch with their support workers and statutory services which is critical in enabling our guests to move into more stable accommodation, help with transport to attend property viewings as well as support to apply for ID documents if necessary.

Independent examiner's report on the accounts for year ending 31st May 2021

We report on the financial statements of the charity for the period June 2020 to May 2021, which are set out on pages 9 - 11.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st May 2021.

Responsibilities and Basis for Report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Independent Examiner's Statement

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Julian Trevelyan ACA

9 Holmwood Gardens,
Finchley, London N3 3NS

8 June 2021

Statements of Financial Activities

1st June 2020 to 31st May 2021

Charity Name: Together in Barnet		Charity number: 1157192		CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts				
For the period from:	Period start date: 1 June 2020	To	Period end date: 31 May 2021	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations from organisations	3,630			3,630	15,934
Donations from individuals	24,009			24,009	11,057
Government donations		102,816		102,816	14,900
Fundraising income - comedy store	-			-	6,581
Fundraising income - sleep out				-	
Starter packs - restricted		-		-	
Travel - restricted		-		-	
Coordinator - restricted		-		-	
Bedding - restricted		-		-	
Course - restricted		-		-	
Non coordinator costs - restricted		-		-	
Insurance - restricted		-		-	
Interest	32			32	100
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	27,671	102,816	-	130,487	48,572
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	27,671	102,816	-	130,487	48,572

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

A3 Payments					
Consumables, mainly bedding	2,387	-		2,387	3,945
Insurance	1,140			1,140	1,108
Mileage	-	-		-	150
Stationery				-	54
Guest travel/ phone		-		-	3,172
Stationery and adverts		-		-	
IT and recruitment	573			573	770
Starter packs				-	295
Staff salaries	32,400	6,829		39,229	17,848
Staff expenses	1,749			1,749	
Coordinators phone	339	-		339	383
Fundraising course	334			334	52
Bank charges	117			117	73
Marketing/advertising	225			225	360
Website costs	48			48	48
Subscriptions and conferences	507	-		507	
Planning application and connected costs	1,967			1,967	
Temporary accommodation					2,120
Hotel costs		97,737		97,737	
Other expenses	-	-		-	100
Fundraising expenses					151
Sub total	41,786	104,566		146,351	30,629
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Shed					
Sub total					
Total payments	41,786	104,566	-	146,351	30,629
Net of receipts/(payments)	-14,115	-1,750	-	-15,864	17,943
A5 Transfers between funds					
A6 Cash funds last year end	82,680	1,750		84,430	66,487
Cash funds this year end	68,565	0		68,566	84,431

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	CAF account	81,228	0	
	PayPal account	1,868		
	Owed to Homeless Action in Barnet	-14,634		
	Total cash funds	68,462	0	
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Coordinator expense float	103	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature




Print Name

Darren Haringman

Simon Rubisohn

Date of approval

31 March 2022

31 March 2022

Finance Commentary for 2021 Annual Report

This financial year was Together in Barnet's most challenging to date. The effect of the Covid pandemic meant that fundraising from individuals and organisations almost entirely dried up. A large portion of the fundraising from individuals that appears in these accounts were in fact donated in the previous financial year as part of the Big Barnet Sleep Out 2019, and appear here only because it took some time for the funds to be transferred into our account from Homeless Action in Barnet. Two other notable income events were the online book event, and the GoFundMe page that brought in a considerable amount from individuals. Other than these fundraising events, the vast majority of our funding in this cycle came from government donations, which were used entirely to fund the Hotel Project. This money was largely spent on rent for the hotel, but was also put towards the costs of staffing the project, and to consumables.

In terms of expenditure, we were able to naturally reduce spending in some areas that were no longer prioritised during the pandemic, such as guest travel. However, our other core costs increased, partly because our Operations Manager went to full-time hours – a move that reflected the work that was needed to keep Together in Barnet operational during the pandemic – and because we took on a new part-time Project Officer. This new role allowed us to run the Hotel Project without overwhelming our Operations Manager, as well as develop new projects.

This drop in unrestricted income and increase in core costs resulted in a considerable loss this financial year, as is reflected in the accounts. With the opening up and the easing of Covid restrictions in the second half of 2021, we can hope that next year's accounts will reflect a healthier state, as we are able to increase our fundraising events. This increase in fundraising should mean that we do not need to reduce expenditure in order to minimise our deficit. Together in Barnet will not rest on its laurels. We spent a great deal of time and effort to get to the state of financial security in which we began this year, and we will continue to be vigilant and ensure that we continue to work towards that security in an increasingly uncertain world.

I would like to thank my predecessor as treasurer, Matthew Malyali, for his work in putting these accounts together in the first instance, and to Julian Trevelyan, for acting as our Independent Examiner once again.

Elliott Karstadt, Treasurer (since June 2021)



Approved by Co-chair Simon Rubisohn

Date of Approval: 31st March 2022