Friends of Sabeel UK (FOSUK) Ltd

Annual Report 2021

Company Information

Name: Friends of Sabeel UK (FOSUK)

Registered charity: No. 1116817

Company registration: No. 5595112

Address: PO Box 18336

Birmingham B31 9FY

Directors/Trustees for 2021

Kate Aspinwall

Warren Bardsley (Resigned September 2021) Mark Battison (Resigned September 2021) Lesley Dawson (Appointed September 2021)

Karen Fairfax-Cholmeley

Enid Gordon (Resigned September 2021) Garth Hewitt (Appointed September 2021) John Howard (Appointed September 2021)

Lynn McAllister Miranda Pinch Jenny Richardson Stephen Sizer

Jeremy Tear (Resigned September 2021)

Peter Woodall

Company Secretary for 2021

Peter Woodall

Day to day management was entrusted to Charlotte Marshall and Phoebe Rison, the Sabeel-Kairos advocacy workers

Bankers: The Cooperative Bank NatWest Bank plc

PO Box 250 Formby Branch
Delf House 25 Brow's Lane

Southway Formby
Skelmersdale Liverpool
WN8 6WT L37 4DZ

Independent examiner Nick Westbury BSc(Hons) FCCA

Trustees' Report

The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 December 2021 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Achievements and Performance

During 2021 the organisation has:

- Successfully lobbied the Methodist Church to revise their investment policy concerning Israel/Palestine, resulting in a new policy being issued in September 2021
- Successfully campaigned for the Methodist Church to divest from Caterpillar Inc due to their provision of weaponised bulldozers which demolish Palestinian homes.
- Oversaw the submission and passing of a resolution at Methodist Conference 2021 commending our partner Kairos Palestine's advocacy document 'Cry for Hope' to be read and prayerfully considered by Methodist Churches across the UK.
- Successfully aided and assisted senior members of the United Reformed Church to submit (and pass in favour) 10 resolutions concerning Israel/Palestine at the 2021 General Assembly including two supporting the aims of our investing for peace campaign.
- Successfully brought on board a new partner in the campaign (Christian Aid) who have since recommended our investing for peace campaign as the lead action for Churches in a new report on Palestine released in October 2021.
- Supported and promoted the passing of a resolution at the Carlisle Diocesan Synod meeting in Oct 2021 concerning the plight of Palestinian Christians which will now proceed to the Church of England's General Synod in the next 4 years.
- Successfully launched several fundraising appeals, raising more funds for our work here in the UK and the work of our partners in Jerusalem and the West Bank.
- Launched several public statements in coalition with other organisations in the UK challenging UK policy on Israel/Palestine and calling for accountability and international law to be upheld.
- Successfully recruited several new under 35s to our Young Advocates Forum, helping to establish our work with young Christians and raise up a new generation of campaigners in the UK Churches.
- Lobbied and campaigned successfully for the release of Palestinian Christian student Layan Nassir, gaining over 2,700 responses on social media channels and signatures to a petition for her release.
- Raised the profile of our Palestinian partners and brought their voice into the UK
 Churches through a number of online events, including our national conference and
 AGM, 3 more seminars on Cry for Hope, an Easter service linked with the Palestinian
 Christian community, an event on Palestine during the Pandemic, and a theological
 event with Friends of Sabeel groups around the world.

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- Promoted documents and reports written by our partners including Easter and Advent Alerts by Kairos Palestine, and the Cornerstone magazine from Sabeel Jerusalem.
- Worked in partnership with the Unreached Network to put on an advent series (online videos) about Bethlehem and the plight of Palestinian Christians, reaching over 2,000 new people unconnected to Sabeel-Kairos.
- Successfully raised awareness of the culture, heritage and history of Palestine through several Palestinian cookalongs in partnership with local Sabeel-Kairos groups across the UK.

Structure, governance and management

Friends of Sabeel UK (FOSUK) is governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association, constituted as a company limited by guarantee. The Trustees are duly elected at the Annual General Meeting, on a rolling basis, as agreed by the Board at its meeting on 8 March 2006 and approved at the AGM of 8 April 2006. The Advocacy Workers are ex officio members of the Board, and responsible to it for the day-to-day management of the charity, assisted by a part-time Administrator. The Advocacy Workers receive a consultancy fee plus expenses.

The Treasurer is also ex officio.

In May 2017 Friends of Sabeel UK and Kairos Britain merged. The working name for the new organisation has become Sabeel-Kairos and works to support both the Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Centre in Jerusalem and Kairos Palestine.

Friends of Sabeel UK (FOSUK) has active regional groups in the North West and Yorkshire and many other active members around the UK.

Objectives and Activities

The objectives are:

- 1) to support the Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Centre in Jerusalem in its work for the promotion of religion for the benefit of the community;
- to support and encourage the Christian community in the Holy Land (Israel and the Palestinian areas of Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem) in their life and witness;
- 3) to raise awareness in the United Kingdom concerning Christians in the Holy Land and to promote links with them.

In pursuit of these objectives we have:

• Continued to promote Palestinian-led initiatives and campaigns focussed on ending the occupation through non-violent means.

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- Continued to organise, promote and run our Investing for Peace campaign in the UK, working with members from the UK Church denominations and other organisations that partner with us in the campaign.
- Continued to raise awareness in the UK Churches about the situation in Israel and Palestine, promoting justice, peace, equality and dignity for all who live there through online events, producing promotional materials and information, answering queries and sharing a platform with other organisations working on the same issues.
- Continued to promote and support the work of our partner organisations in Israel/Palestine, Sabeel Jerusalem and Kairos Palestine through regular enewsletters, website, social media and postal mailings (including the quarterly Cornerstone magazine from Sabeel Jerusalem).
- Continued to organise a number of online events to raise the profile of our Palestinian partners in the UK, including organising a successful conference and AGM (online) for our members with international speakers, workshops and resources.
- Continued to work in coalition with other like-minded organisations, attending joint meetings and taking part in joint advocacy activities such as letters to parliamentarians, briefings, events and conferences.
- Continued to communicate and support our regional Sabeel-Kairos community groups, providing help with events, resources and assistance when needed.
- Continued to promote our key messages and campaigns through our website, email newsletters, postal mailings and social media platforms including facebook, twitter and instagram.
- Continued to promote the weekly Sabeel prayer initiative 'the Wave of Prayer' and the campaigning initiative 'Kumi Now'.
- Started to focus more time on reaching a younger audience, particularly the under 35s in UK Churches.

Signed:	
	Karen Fairfax-Chomeley, Chair
Date:	

Financial Review 2021

The main income during 2021 came from subscriptions and donations amounting to £39,343, (2020:£46,641). Total income from all sources for 2021 was £39,343 (2020:£47,219). Total expenditure for the year was £33,591 (2020:£26,553). It includes donations to Sabeel Jerusalem of £5,485 (2020:£150). The majority of expenditure focuses on supporting the objectives and aims of Friends of Sabeel UK (FOSUK) in the UK. This includes the provision of the magazine Cornerstone, other publications and books, activities of the UK Advocacy workers in support of the objects of Friends of Sabeel UK (FOSUK) around the country, administration and support, rent and office costs. Administrative staff costs were £Nil (2020:£Nil).

Net Assets at the end of the year are £49,183 (2020: £43,431).

The trustees continue to work to ensure a solid financial foundation to support the objectives and aims of the organisation by encouraging new members and to ensure that the generous stream of regular donations is maintained. We are grateful to all those who donate to the work of Friends of Sabeel UK(FOSUK) and are particularly grateful to all those who make donations above the minimum rate of membership, and to those who make one-off donations to support special activities. Gift Aid remains an important source of income and we are grateful to all those who have signed Gift Aid declarations. It is always our intention to use wisely the resources given to us and expenditure will continue to be monitored to make sure that money is used in the most effective ways to further the objectives of Friends of Sabeel UK (FOSUK).

Public Benefit

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

Signed:	P M Woodall	
	Peter Woodall, Treasurer	
Date:		

Income and Expenditure Account

		Unrestricted Funds 2021	Designated Funds 2021	Unrestricted Funds 2020	Designated Funds 2020
Incoming resources:					
	Notes				
Incoming resources from					
generated funds:					
Voluntary income:					
Donations, Subscriptions, Appeal	2	34,983	4,360	40,564	6,077
Activities for generating funds:					
Income from books and					
educational materials		0		25	
Conference		0		553	
Total Incoming Resources		34,983	4,360	41,142	6.077
Resources Expended:					
Support to Sabeel Jerusalem	3		5,485		150
Support to Kairos Palestine	3		1,365		0
Information and Publications	3	1,239		0	
Other activities Directly Related					
to the work of Sabeel	3	18,945		19,483	
Administration and Support	3	5,660		5,741	
Governance Costs	3, 5	897		1,179	
Total resources expended		26,741	6,850	26,404	150
			3,000		
Net incoming/(outgoing)					
resources before other		8,242	(2,490)	14,738	5,927
recognised gains					
Transfer between Funds		348	(348)	0	0
Net movement in funds		9,066	(2,838)	14,738	5,927
Reconciliation of funds					
Opening Balances		36,970	6,461	22,232	533
Total Funds Carried Forward		45,560	3,623	36,970	6,461

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derived from continuing activities.

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2021

		20	21	20	20
	Notes				
Current Assets					
Debtors	9	8,775		4,814	
Cash at bank & in hand		41,688		39,897	
			50,463		44,711
Creditors: amounts falling due within one	10		(1,280)		(1,280)
year					
Net Current Assets			49,183		43,431
Unrestricted Funds					
General Funds	11		45,560		36,970
Restricted Funds					
Sabeel Jerusalem and Restricted Donation		1,038		3,927	
Conservative Conference stand		2,000		2,000	
Investment for Peace Campaign		31		31	
Regional Groups		553		503	
Total Restricted Funds	11		3,623		6,461
Total Funds			49,183		43,431

For the year ending 31/12/2021 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

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

Approved by the Board on 11th May 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Peter Woodall Treasurer

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021

1. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year.

a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the relevant Companies Act and the Statement of Recommended Practice together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP (Statement of Recommended Practice).

b) Funds

Unrestricted funds represent the funds of Friends of Sabeel (FOSUK) Ltd that are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

The designated funds are to be used for the purposes for which the money was donated.

c) Incoming resources

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

- Voluntary income is received by way of donations, gifts and subscriptions.
- Interest is included when received.

d) Resources expended

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

- Donations are accounted for when paid.
- Information and Publications are those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities to educate, inform and update members and others.
- Activities directly related to the work of Friends of Sabeel (FOSUK) Ltd include costs incurred
 by the UK Advocacy Workers in the carrying out of their work for the organisation and for
 attendance by Board Members and appointed representatives at relevant meetings and events
 which further the work of the charity.
- Administration & Support includes all office costs including salaries and direct office costs.
- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity.

e) Fixed Assets

Friends of Sabeel UK (FOSUK) hold no fixed assets.

2. Donations & Subscriptions

	Unrestricted	Designated	2021	2020
Donations & Subscriptions	32,144	4,360	36,504	43,120
Gift Aid	2,839		2,839	3,521
Total	34,983	4,360	39,343	46,641

3. Resources Expended included the following key items:

	2021	2020
Donations and support		
Sabeel Jerusalem	5,485	150
Kairos Palestine	1,365	0
Information & Publications		
Cornerstone Magazine, FOSUK Newsletter, books,		
leaflets, website & IT, postage	1,488	1,898
Activities Directly Related to the work of Sabeel		
Advocacy Expenses	287	741
Advocacy Consultancy	18,658	18,742
Administration & Support		
Employment Expenses inc recruitment costs	0	0
Premises Cost including: Rent, Services and Insurance	5,411	3,843
Governance Costs		
Board members' expenses	0	284
Other governance costs (mainly transaction costs)	897	1,179

4. Staff Costs and Numbers

Staff Costs were as follows:					
2021 202					
	£	£			
Salaries and Wages	0	0			
National Insurance Costs					
Total	0	0			

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of full time equivalents was Nil (2020: Nil). The charity does not operate any pension scheme.

5. Trustee Remuneration & Related Party Transactions

No members of the Board received any remuneration during the year. Expenses amounting to £Nil were paid for travel to Board Meetings and other relevant meetings. (2020: £284)

The office which was used for part of 2020 and is the charity's registered office is leased by a company in which one Trustee is a Director. The payments to this company in the year were £4,500 (2020: £2,900) No other trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

6. Taxation

As a charity, Friends of Sabeel (FOSUK) Ltd is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or s256 of the Taxation of Chargeable gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the Charity.

7. Tangible Fixed Assets

The charity has no tangible fixed assets.

8. Investments

The charity has no income from investments

9. Debtors

Debtors and Prepayments are £9,593 . (2020: £4,814)

10. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due within One Year

Accruals are £1,622 . (2020: Accruals £1,280)

11. Analysis of Net Assets

	General	Restricted	Total	Total
	Fund 2021	Funds 2021	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Current Assets	46,840	3,623	50,463	44,711
Current Liabilities	(1,280)	0	(1,280)	(1,280)
Net assets as at 31st				
December	45,560	3,623	49.183	43,431

12. Movements in Funds

	As at 1 st January 2020	Transfer between Funds	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	As at 31st December 2020
Restricted					
Funds	533	0	6,077	150	6,461
Unrestricted General Fund	22,232	0	41,142	26,404	36,970
Total Funds	22,766	0	47,219	26,554	43,431

	As at 1 st January 2021	Transfer between funds	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	As at 31 st December 2021
Restricted					
Funds	6,461	(348)	4,360	(6,850)	3,623
Unrestricted General Fund	36,970	348	34,983	(26,741)	45,560
Total Funds	43,431	0	39,343	(33,591)	49,183