

The Trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their Annual Report together with the audited financial statements of Green Lane Masjid and Community Centre (the charitable company and the group) for the year ended 31 December 2013.

The trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the charitable company and the group comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company and the group's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005.

Structure, Governance and Management

a. Constitution

Green Lane Masjid and Community Centre (GLMCC) is a company limited by guarantee and is constituted under a Memorandum of Association dated 2nd April 2008 as amended by Special Resolution(s) dated 19th March 2012 and 20th April 2012 and was registered with the Charity Commission on 10th September 2008.

b. Method of appointment or election of Trustees

New trustees are elected by the membership of the charity and appointed for a term of three years. The serving board of trustees can co-opt further Trustees for a term of one year under the terms of the Articles of Association.

c. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New trustees undergo a briefing on their legal obligations under charity law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Management Committee and decision making processes, the business plan and recent financial performance of the charity. New trustees also meet key employees and other trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

d. Organisational structure and decision making

The overall management and control of the charity is the responsibility of the trustees who give their time freely and receive no remuneration or other benefits for carrying out their role.

The trustees meet on a monthly basis to make operational decisions relating to administration and management of the mosque and community centre.

Day to day responsibilities of the mosque and community centre have been delegated to the Centre Manager. To assist in the smooth running of the charity, the trustees have further delegated the responsibility of various functions and activities of the charity to a number of sub-committees. The heads of each of the sub-committees form the Management Committee and meet on a monthly basis to report feedback and make operational decisions.

e. Risk management

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charitable company and the group is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charitable company and the group, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

Objectives and Activities

a. Policies and objectives

Our objectives and aims

The objective of the charity as set out in the Memorandum of Association is to advance the Islamic Faith for the public benefit.

Our aims are to provide facilities for the Muslim population of Birmingham to worship their Creator and to educate them about their faith based upon the teachings of the Qur'an and the Sunnah as understood by the companions of the Prophet (may peace and blessings be upon him) and by those that followed them. We also wish to develop the self-confidence of the Muslim community in their faith through our events and activities and to encourage them to make a positive contribution to the wider society.

Public benefit

The trustees frequently review the activities of the charity to ensure they continue to reflect the objectives and aims of the charity and provide an overall benefit to the public. In carrying out this review the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular its supplementary public guidance on the advancement of religion for the public benefit.

b. Strategies for achieving objectives

GLMCC welcomes all Muslims to come and worship their Creator and to learn about their faith. In particular we are proud to be one of the very few mosques in Birmingham that has a truly diverse congregation from various ethnic backgrounds including those from the Sub-Continent, Middle East, Africa and Europe.

GLMCC offers many services geared towards all facets of society, crossing cultural / ethnic / racial / age / gender / religious divides. This has been evident in the growth of the Adult Education Department particularly for women, Young Ummah - targeted at children and young people, and the expansion of the Social and Welfare provision.

GLMCC has listened to and built a strategy to meet the spiritual, social and educational needs of the community. Regular consultations and invitations for suggestions and feedback utilising media such as GLMCC survey, social media including Twitter and Facebook, post event questionnaires, and suggestions boxes have all been valuable tools in exchanging information and communications.

The services that we currently operate are aimed towards enriching the GLMCC community which will in turn have a positive impact upon our society. Furthermore it will encourage participative contributions and social cohesion between Muslims and non-Muslims alike to achieve greater understanding and a common sense of community.

The services GLMCC provide are to meet common needs, these are delivered by the various departments (please refer to section 'Internal Departments').

Use of volunteers

The vast majority of the work undertaken by GLMCC is by a dedicated and indispensable team of volunteers. Except for our administration, support staff and teachers within the Madrassah, all other work is carried out by volunteers and we greatly appreciate the time and effort dedicated by all volunteers.

c. Activities for achieving objectives

How our activities deliver public benefit

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Fundamental to Green Lane Masjid and Community Centre is the worshipping of Allah Almighty; the Lord of the Worlds. Religious services such as daily prayers, Friday prayers and Tarawih prayers

during Ramadan helped thousands of Muslims within the local community to fulfil a fundamental obligation within the Islamic faith.

The numbers attending the daily congregational prayers averaged 600. In addition, the Friday prayers averaged at 3,500. During holiday periods the masjid was full beyond capacity, accommodating over 5,000 worshippers, utilising every space possible including the car park.

Ramadan 2013 was undoubtedly an amazing experience for all at GLMCC. The convening of a Ramadan Committee and innovative approach saw a change in format from previous years to include more variation and enhance the experience for the congregation at large.

Eid prayer has traditionally been held in three services to accommodate the growing congregation wishing to pray at Green Lane Masjid. The success of Eid prayer in the park in 2012 opened the gates for bigger and better Eid prayers in line with Prophetic tradition. Eid ul Fitr and Eid ul Adha prayers took place in Small Heath Park and were attended by 18,000 and 12,000 worshippers respectively.

EDUCATION

Education is fundamental to GLMCC. Using the recently purpose built space and modern technology, GLMCC is able to hold regular classes on site such as languages, various Islamic education courses, seminars and lectures. The aim is to educate Muslims so they understand and practice Islam away from any form of extremism. Islamic education is also extended to non-Muslims such as regular Open Days and Dawah Stalls to help people increase their understanding of the Islamic creed without any prejudices.

Education is key to building a self-confident Muslim community who not only contribute to the wider society but also to embrace their British identity without feeling isolated or ostracised by negative attitudes held by some.

GLMCC's remodelling efforts came into fruition. The new structure to education has offered a consistent and stronger approach to learning. It has also enabled GLMCC to make further developments and enhancements based upon the changes.

Madrasah Salafiyah

2013 saw the 2012 initiatives come into fruition. The change in curriculum, the teacher training programmes and the administrative changes saw a more professional approach in the development of Madrasah Salafiyah. Adding to the new space this has proven to be a conducive learning environment for the children.

Teacher–parent relationships and Teacher–pupil relationships have been nurtured through more consultative evenings, parent evenings, and increased feedback mechanisms. This has been reflected in intra-communications between teachers, support staff and governors.

The year saw a number of events which highlighted the ongoing progression and success of the Madrasah. The beginning of the year started with a national competition where 5 Madrasah Salafiyah students were recognised for their outstanding performances and were presented with prizes by Prince Naif of Saudi Arabia. During Ramadan, a number of students also led portions of the evening Prayer. November then saw its first Graduation Ceremony in the newly refurbished site.

The Madrasah also held Fun Days for students inviting parents to join the fun!

Adult Education Courses

The renovation works at GLMCC enabled the classrooms to be utilised throughout the day providing adult education classes. The language courses offered are Arabic, Tajweed, Tilawah, Hifdh and

Qaida classes have been open to Muslim men and women. The number of students enrolling on the language courses in 2013 exceeded 400. Each subject comprises different levels to suit all abilities. This included adult Quran classes for new Muslims and Qaida classes for women who did not speak English as a first language, all offered at a pace that suited them.

The Tarbiyah Department developed structured courses such as Islam Essentials aimed at Revert Muslims and Muslims new to practicing Islam. In addition, courses such as Journey through the Quran and weekly Friday Study Circles were revamped into structured programmes.

Ghusl & Shroud workshops have become a main feature at GLMCC. Workshops in 2013 were delivered on site and off site. A special workshop was held by the Sisters Team to 'Train the Trainer' enabling other mosques and Muslims outside Birmingham to benefit from the workshops

GLMCC continued to review and extend its education delivery. Salah courses – teaching New Muslims how to pray - were offered to people born into Muslim families who wished to learn how to pray.

Weekly evening classes also continued throughout the course of the year using well known key texts to enhance knowledge. The numbers attending were consistently 30 – 80 were session.

Dawah

The Dawah activities focused around giving basic information and understanding to non – Muslims and Muslims.

Regular training programmes were delivered to support staff to deliver effective workshops and enable them to disseminate information to non-Muslims, especially at Open Days and the newly introduced Dawah Stalls. Further, it gave non-Muslims the opportunity to ask questions about Islam, facilitate information flow and foster stronger relations with the local communities. Using different platforms to provide information about Islam was continued through arranging school visits to GLMCC and holding workshops at schools.

Since inception; the GLMTV channel by the end of 2013 had over 900 videos provided easy access to Muslims globally to benefit from GLMCC lectures and events. The GLMCC YouTube channel received over 4 million hits; more than any masjid in the world. The global impact has been very encouraging as the reputation is built upon the quality of the dawah GLMCC provides opposing to any commercial gain.

GLMCC has invested in in-house production of videos for dawah and events. This has given the Department more control of its strategy and delivery performance.

Key to providing dawah to non-Muslims is establishing a programme to educate the many new Muslims through emotional and social support.

The Dawah department continued its weekly lectures with a consistent number attending. Monthly lectures in the Pasto language were introduced to reach a larger, and older audience to assist them in their pursuit of knowledge.

The department hosted a series of seminars and workshops outside of the two annual summer and Winter Conferences. Number of attendees fluctuated at these events. The topics covered varied and included social, political, theoretical and emotional education.

YOUTH

Youth are a massive focal point for GLMCC. We do our utmost to provide secular and non – secular activities that are relevant to the younger age group. More so, we want to instil Islamic and British values in our youth so they grow up to be responsible adults to the betterment of the entire community. Youth Clubs, sports and workshops are among the regular activities. These regular activities are supported by events especially catered for youth such as SRE workshops, overnight stay and Real Talk which encourages interactive discussions and workshops that are pertinent to this age group.

The youth are addressed at the annual conferences with Youth Sessions coinciding with lectures, The Masjid has held an annual mini-Muslimah Day for primary school age girls. In 2013, The Budding Believers monthly sessions were introduced for youngsters up to age 11 and was inclusive for boys and girls.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Social and welfare has been recognised as a growing need within the Muslim Community specific to their needs and cultural sensitivities. Community services are offered to provide individual and social wellbeing. This has been achieved through building strong relationships with the community, professional and statutory agencies including the Police and Birmingham city Council.

Community

Raising the profile of Muslims as active members of society has been largely over looked. GLMCC has been fortunate to be involved in such projects through action and service provision. Activities such as distributing Eid gifts and making hospital visits to the sick has been important for children, young people and adults.

Welfare development has been important to GLMCC. Zakat is a pillar of Islam which is incumbent upon all Muslims. GLMCC has enabled people to pay their alms to the masjid for distribution to the community. This along with other initiatives such as Qurbani services has benefitted the community and has been encouraging for the future development of Social Welfare provisions.

GLMCC has also embarked upon an introductory matrimonial service, Purematch; to help people meet their future spouses. This was piloted in 2012 and received an overwhelming response. Pure Match now has an overwhelming 2800 subscribers achieving over 15 success stories of marriages. This is an increase of 2000 members in 2013 without any marketing except for word of mouth.

'Ask the Imam' service has expanded during 2013. The congregation can seek answers directly from the Masjid Imams via telephone or email. This enables them to seek answers or advice from a qualified person pertaining to religious issues.

Recreation

Social activities such as Coffee Mornings, New Muslim Gatherings and Sports serve a primary socialising function. However, the benefits on a wider scale such as combating loneliness, overcoming anxieties, engaging in physical well-being have been a great bonus. The well-being workshops at Coffee Mornings such as medical check-ups, life coaching and baking have all enriched personal lives.

CUSTOMER SERVICES

Improving communication was high on the agenda for GLMCC in 2013. Information dissemination was not perceived to be as regular and open as the community expected. Taking this into consideration, use of email and an improved telephone system, social media were used to engage,

provide feedback and general communication. In 2013, GLMCC Facebook Page had over 105,000 followers; the biggest for any masjid with national and international followers. These media supported traditional methods such as notice boards, feedback and suggestion boxes, and improved monthly newsletters via email. The reception continues to offer face – to face information service. The masjid continues to handle daily email and telephone queries

EVENTS

GLMCC has organised many events throughout the year. In 2013, the number of people taking advantage of the activities and services exceeded expectation. Annual conferences and seminars served the purpose of educating Muslims in theoretical knowledge and practical implementation of Islam. Other events such as Community Fun Days were held during half term holidays for children and adults to have fun. 'Eid in the Park' enabled thousands of Muslims to come together and pray in a large, open space according to Prophetic tradition. These two prayers served a massive purpose in congregating the Muslims to collectively worship their Lord and an over-arching sense of community and brotherhood /sisterhood.

OUR WORK WITH OTHERS

Green Lane Masjid and Community Centre prides itself on its encompassing community approach. Working with other organisations in consultative, collaborative or simply information sharing has added to the depth and value we are able to offer to our community.

Literature is available in the reception lobby to raise awareness of issues and external organisations to provide the support and assistance people are searching. GLMCC is happy to work as a signposting and referral service.

Among the groups GLMCC has established links and working relationships have been charitable organisations, training centres and other external bodies. GLMCC would especially like to recognise the assistance provided by West Midlands Police, St Johns Ambulance Service and Birmingham City Council who were all instrumental in the 'Prayer in the Park' with invaluable advice and support to make the events a huge success. These organisations have also offered guidance and support in development of other areas at GLMCC.

GLMCC throughout 2013 responded to humanitarian disasters which the people felt especially aggrieved by. Charities on the ground such as Ar – Rahmah, Afghan Orphans and Islamic Relief were highly reputable and trust worthy organisations that were particularly active in response work. GLMCC entrusted these organisations to distribute funds globally in aid work.

The Zakat Service at GLMCC received a notable increase in number of applicants requiring assistance and access to additional financial support. GLMCC used the National Zakat Foundation as a secondary referral point for specialised support.

GLMCC was also a proud supporter of initiatives led by the West Midlands Fire Service, Stroke Association, and NHS to hold information stalls following Friday prayers. These organisations were providing free material, information and advice on site to raise personal safety, well-being and health awareness. Among the campaigns which took place in 2013 were Diabetes Workshops, Fire Safety Awareness, Quit Smoking and Stroke Awareness.

Relationships with external bodies has enabled GLMCC to reach out to more people within its community and has raised its profile among many Muslims who have not before frequented the masjid.

2013 HIGHLIGHTS

FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS

GLMCC as a charity organisation aims to deliver ease during hardships. This is primarily achieved using funds to acquire required resource. Donations from the congregation were greatly received following a number of events, appeals and regular donations.

Ramadan, a blessed month of the Islamic calendar saw a generous and significant response to appeals, especially during Tarawih Prayers. Inviting independent charities to access the GLMCC Community to raise awareness and funds for their causes was a significant element to the GLMCC fundraising ambition. Working collectively, much can be achieved to the benefit of the community.

GLMCC Services

Appeals are made and regular donations are received to fund the operations at GLMCC. This is not limited to services provided but also to the running and general upkeep of the facility. Funds raised at departmental level such as Education, are reinvested into the department. Each service is encouraged to become financially self – sufficient where possible.

2013 saw an on-going appeal to raise funds for the Funeral Service. This has been identified as a priority in establishing the correct rites and procedures as per authentic Islamic guidance. It is aimed to have the new service up and running by 2014.

£2000 raised through the May 2013 Community Fun Day organised by Sisters at GLMCC were given to the Green Lane Masjid Funeral Service

Humanitarian Aid

The community at Green Lane Masjid pulled together following the many crises that were a consequence of disasters including conflict and natural occurrences. GLMCC raised a substantial amount of funds for a variety of countries including Syria, Afghanistan, Burma, Palestine, Pakistan and Somalia.

Zakat Distribution

Zakat is a fundamental pillar of Islam. All Muslims with wealth and assets in excess of a base figure are obligated to pay alms. This is an opportunity for Muslims to share a tiny percentage of their wealth with those less fortunate. In 2013, GLMCC received over 40 applicants for zakat, 13 of which fell into the zakat categories (others fell outside of zakat legibility). GLMCC actively worked on these cases and also made referrals. A total of £11,126 was distributed.

CLAIMS	APPROVED	REJECTED	CLOSED	OPEN
42	13	16	8	5

Zakat al Fitr and Fidya were dealt with by the zakat team amounting to £14,773 and £5,093 respectively. These funds were given to feed the poorest in Afghanistan (£3,500) and Pakistan (£16,366).

DAWAH HIGHLIGHTS

The annual summer and winter conferences have been regular, and much anticipated events at GLMCC. They consist of awe-inspiring series of lectures on a given topic which are delivered by world renowned speakers. Also to add to the atmosphere a communal space is made available for people to relax between lectures, purchase food and to meet with other attendees. GLMCC endeavours to provide a space dedicated to mothers with young children.

Annual conferences are key to GLMCC's dawah and education services. They provide access to some of the most educated and experienced Muslim Scholars today. Bringing Scholars to the people makes the experience truly interactive and allows them to access knowledge from some of the most intellectual Muslim minds.

Annual Summer Conference: The Qur'an & I

The summer conference aimed at reflection and strengthening ties with the Quran. The series of lectures gave an insight into how the Qur'an can have a spiritual, physical and practical effect on Muslims in their daily lives. GLMCC also invited the world renowned reciter Shaykh Mishary Rashid al-Afasy, from Kuwait, who delighted the congregation in leading prayers throughout the Conference period. The conference was delivered in the English language by the following guest speakers: Shaykh Tawfique Chowdhury, Shaykh Abdul Barry Yahya, and Shaykh Yahya Ibrahim. Attendance at the conference was estimated in the region of 3,500 men and women.

Annual Winter Conference: The Chosen – Pearls from the Lives of the Prophets

GLMCC was blessed with the opportunity of hosting some of the most well-known scholars at 2013 Winter Conference. Over 4,000 people were estimated to have attended the event. The topics covered in the lectures gave many examples from the lives of the Prophets. The purpose was to use these examples as practical living in the modern age. The lessons learned are still applicable today and for Muslims to reconnect with the best men and women of Islam. The lectures were delivered in English and Arabic by guest speakers: Sh Faisal Jasim, Dr Abdul-Aziz as-Sadhan, Dr Sa'ad Shithri and Dr Khalid Mushayqih.

The conferences were very successful in terms of the attendance, topic, feedback and general organisation of the event. These annual conferences are very important to connect Muslims

EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS

Ramadan 2013

Ramadan is perhaps the most eventful time in GLMCC's calendar. Thousands of people, men women and children, come together to partake in Tarawih prayers each night. Following the success of Iftar, GLMCC introduced suhoor in the last ten nights which was a tremendous success. Tarawih prayers also were filled with inspirational reminders, short lectures and the opportunity to fundraise.

The usual iftar meals, combined with introduction of suhoor and water bottles added to the experience. On average over 600 people attended the iftar meals and a very large number stayed for suhoor, on average more than 400. This enabled those staying to benefit from praying Fajr prayers (sunrise prayers) in congregation.

Throughout the night short lecturers and reminders were delivered by the imams with question and answer sessions. I'tikaf (seclusion) was again offered for those wishing to observe the period at GLMCC. The number wishing to participate in i'tikaf far exceeded places available.

As a community organisation, GLMCC invited external charities to raise funds through donations and literature to enjoin closer ties within the community.

EID 2013

The success of the outdoor Eid prayers has been a remarkable experience in bringing the Muslim community together and has continued to be a talking point. 2013 saw both Eid ul Fitr and Eid ul Adha prayers performed in Small Heath Park. The estimated number of attendees was approximately 18,000 and 12,000 respectively. The Volunteer Teams worked tirelessly throughout the night and into the morning preparing for the prayers. Following the prayers, many volunteer stewards stayed behind to clean up.

Due to the sheer number of people expected, designated teams were setup with support and assistance from Birmingham City Council, West Midlands Police and Ambulance Service. The collaborative efforts helped to strengthen an already prospering relationship.

Feedback received from the congregation was extremely positive and GLMCC was truly proud and grateful to be able to host such a special act of worship for the Muslim community. Eid presents were customarily gifted to the children and were happily received!

Achievements and Performance

a. Investment policy and performance

The charity has a number of rooms available to let with shared kitchen and WC facilities. The charity on occasion also hires out its community hall and other areas of its property. Rental income from these sources for the period amounted to £31,050 (2012: £32,046) and was used to fund the charity's activities.

b. Factors relevant to achieve objectives

Due to continued support from the community in the form of volunteering as well as financial and moral support, the charity was able to meet its objective. The Trustees would like to thank all those who have contributed their time and wealth in helping the charity achieve its objective.

Plans for the future

Plans for the future of GLMCC are very important in keeping the organisation focussed and also to ensure that goals and objectives are realistic to the essence and purpose of GLMCC.

GLMCC expects to maintain its existing range of faith and community activities whilst building and improving on areas identified for further developments.

Internal developments and changes have been identified at departmental and management level. These future developments will restructure the organisation of GLMCC and allow GLMCC to grow with the aim of realising its mission statement. It is imperative that the Trustees take a proactive approach to develop and improve current services and introduce new services. Through strong leadership and guidance, staff will be empowered to implement and positively contribute.

As a charitable organisation, it is important that GLMCC fulfils its legal and statutory obligations. GLMCC is also responsible and accountable to the GLMCC congregation. The Congregation is the core of GLMCC without which it would not exist. Establishing stronger communication networks and utilising different media has provided a strong communication tool. However, GLMCC recognises the need to develop this link further by more frequent input in future developments in service provision and structure feedback.

In 2013, GLMCC took the initiative to strengthen ties with other charitable organisations such as Islamic Relief, Ar – Rahma, and Afghan Orphans. The benefits of collaborative working and partnerships are innumerable. Sharing resources has enabled a mutually beneficial relationship resulting in improved services to the betterment of the community. GLMCC actively started its

'Sponsor an Orphan' programme. It also was able to entrust reputable organisations to distribute humanitarian aid on the ground to the people who need it most.

GLMCC has also worked with the National Zakat Foundation to refer Muslims in need to funds that would not otherwise be available. The economic benefits have been evident in the numbers and distribution. However, the knowledge has been indispensable. This has highlighted to the GLMCC management the usefulness of pursuing collaborative work and partnerships.

GLMCC aims to build on these initiatives and establish stronger links within the Birmingham community with both Muslim and non – Muslim organisations.

GLMCC has a number of projects in the pipeline that are currently in planning stages. It is the aim of the organisation to launch these services in 2014. These new services will strengthen the current Social and Welfare provision, stronger community links and relationships, more educational programmes, more inclusion of smaller and minority groups and bringing the society closer together.

Voluntary staff have made and will continue to make delivery possible. Key training has been identified and this will develop further at central and departmental levels.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Green Lane Masjid and Community Centre for the purposes 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 and charity 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 charitable company and the group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable group for that period. 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 judgments 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;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable group will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable group and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable group's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Provision of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are trustees at the time when this trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable group's auditors are unaware, and
- that trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a trustee in order to be aware of any information needed by the charitable group's auditors in connection with preparing their report and to establish that the charitable group's auditors are aware of that information.