

Project Agora

(a charitable company limited by guarantee)

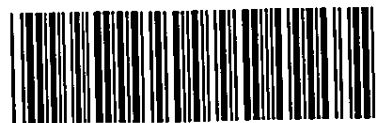
Report and Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2011

Company Number 4430518

Charity Registration Number 1110788

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Project Agora

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Structure, governance and management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee incorporated on the 1 May 2002 and registered as a charity on 9th August 2005. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established its objects and powers and is governed under its Articles of Association. Under those articles the Trustees are elected at the Annual General Meeting for a period of three years. New trustees are identified through existing networks or by advertisement and may be invited to attend a board meeting on an exploratory basis prior to co-optation, followed by formal election at the following Annual General Meeting. Their induction is managed by the Chair in accordance with their previous experience. The Board welcomes enquiries from people interested in serving as Trustees.

The Board of Trustees (from 1 April 2010 until 31 March 2011)

Mr Alan Baker Chair

Ms Amy Robinson (Treasurer)

Rev Canon Tim Higgins

Mr Mike Roberts

Ms Joy Carey (from Feb 2011)

Company Secretary

Rev Dr Chris Sunderland

Co-ordinator

Rev Dr Chris Sunderland

Registered Office and operation address

50 Guest Avenue, Emersons Green, Bristol BS16 7GA

Independent Examiner

Mr Philip Hodges, former Chief Accountant, Bristol City Council

Bankers

HSBC, 24 College Green, Bristol BS1 5TD

Solicitors

Wngleys, 19 Cookridge Street, Leeds LS2 3AG

Report of the Trustees of Project Agora for the year ended March 31st 2011

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2011

Constitution and Objects

Project Agora, which is also known as Agora, is constituted as a charitable company limited by guarantee whose objects are:

- 1 The promotion of civic responsibility and good citizenship
- 2 The advancement of religion
3. The advancement of education

Principal activities to achieve objectives

Project Agora has enjoyed a year of unparalleled fruitfulness. Our local currency project, originally pursued in partnership with Transition Bristol, delivered its feasibility study in January 2011 and the project has now formed into its own Community Interest Company known as The Bristol and Bath Local Currency Scheme. The currency is currently set to launch in Feb/March 2012.

Meanwhile the national growing campaign, known as *Grow Zones*, was brought to the attention of a broad spectrum of people through a dynamic media campaign, which included a strong affirmation by celebrity TV presenter, Alys Fowler. Early estimations of the 'on the ground' results of this campaign are mixed, but there is little doubt of its impact in terms of awareness raising. The *Grow Zones* project will end its funding period in February 2012.

In Bristol, Agora's work this year has centred on our own growing project in a tower block estate called Barton Hill. The Church of England have granted Agora a licence to use a substantial former vicarage garden in this multiply-deprived area as a neighbourhood growing project. It is known as *The Walled Garden Project* and works in partnership with several local organisations and other community allotments. The team developing this project have a particular interest in engaging with asylum seekers and refugees and using the garden as a place for community building across social and cultural boundaries around the theme of 'Soil, Soul and Society'. A consortium is currently being formed between Project Agora, Bristol Hospitality Network and the Somali Resource Centre to take the work with refugees and asylum seekers forward. The work has benefited from a number of small grants in this establishment phase and is developing strategic local partnerships with the aim of securing funding in the medium term.

The Agora Coordinator has continued his work with Bible Society through the year including the provision of editorial support to the *Transmission* magazine.

Our *EarthAbbey* community project has benefited from a revision to its website and simplification of its membership system, through voluntary assistance and the work of a part-time editor.

The multi-faceted nature of our work this year has been achieved through a substantial number of small grants and a team of people larger and more varied than ever before. Our total income this year exceeded all previous years and has resulted in the restoration of our intended reserve position.

Risk management

The Trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the company faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks

Responsibilities of the Trustees

Company law requires the board of Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements the Trustees should follow best practice and

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue on that basis.

The Board of Trustees is responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. The Board are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. Having become a charity in August 2005, the Trustees have also prepared this report and accounts in the light of SORP 2005 and its requirements for small charitable companies

Members of the Board of Trustees

Members of the Board of Trustees who served during the year up to the date of this report are set out on page 3.

Members of the Board guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the company in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantees was three as at 31 March 2010

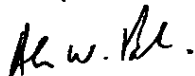
Independent Examiner

Philip Hodges has been appointed by the board as independent examiner for the year up to 31 March 2012

Public Benefit

Trustees hereby declare that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

This report has been approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by



Alan Baker (Chair)

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Project Agora

I report on the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2011

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to

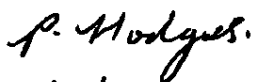
- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, 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 my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Acthave not been met ; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Signed



Date:

21/11/11

Philip Hodges,
Former Chief Accountant, Bristol City Council

Statement of Financial activities for the year ending 31st March 2011

Incoming Resources

	Agora Core £	Earth Abbey £	Earth Abbey Publishing	Walled Garden	Faith in Action Walled Garden	Earth Abbey Grow Zones	Total 1011 £	09/10 £
Donations	8,418	1,923	0	17,424	5,032	28,549	61,345	28,668
Fees	13,773	90	0	230		613	14,707	7,725
Sales	0	0	586	19		842	1,447	1,138
Other Income	8	150	0	0		0	158	75
Bank Interest	6	0	0	0		0	6	1
Total Incoming Resources	22,204	2,163	586	17,673	5,032	30,004	77,662	37,608

Resources Expended

Staff Costs	10,809	0	0	4,583		8,580	23,972	23,539
Project Workers	0	0	0	7,459	4,532	0	11,991	
Supplies	0	0	0	3,349	500	0	3,849	
Cost of Sales	0	0	312	0		0	312	593
Travel Costs	198	19	0	0		734	950	143
Office Costs	1,883	0	0	20		1,298	3,201	2,381
Conferences	366	344	0	0		285	995	65
Legal & Professional	3,130	1,800	0	2,262		19,108	26,299	11,595
Depreciation	0	0	0	0		0	0	0
Total Resources Expended	16,386	2,163	312	17,673	5,032	30,004	71,569	38,316
Net incoming resources	5,818	0	275	0	0	0	6,093	-708

Notes to the Accounts for 2010/11

Fixed Assets

There were no fixed assets at 31/3/10

Staff Costs

	£
Salaries	21,900 00
National Insurance	<u>2,072 04</u>
	23,972 04

Cash In Hand

Current Account	19 68
Deposit Account	7,984 78
Petty Cash	<u>17 95</u>
	8,022 41

Stock

330 Rule of Life at 1 52	501 60
311 Dream at 3 66	<u>1,138 26</u>
	1,639 86

Debtors

Tax refund re Gift Aid	771 50
Pay Pal for Book Sales	253 23
Local Food Fund	3,319 90
Grow Zones matched funding	183 30
Consultancy for Bible Society	2,500 00
Consultancy Bristol Bath £	<u>2,000 00</u>
	9,027 93

Creditors

Bruce Stanley Consultant Grow Zones	<u>682 00</u>
	682 00

Income in Advance

Community Challenge Fund	1,900 00
Sovereign Housing	2,909 52
Walled Gdn funding - Earth Abbey	1,800 00
Earth Abbey	<u>1,298 74</u>
	7,908 26

Balance Sheet at 31/3/2011

Current Assets

Fixed Assets 0

Cash in Hand	8,022
Stock	1,640
Debtors	9,028

Current Liabilities

Income in advance	-7,908
Creditors	-682

Net current assets	<u>10,100</u>
Total assets	<u>10,100</u>

Financed by

Surplus c/f	4,007
Surplus 1011	6,093
	<u>10,100</u>

Accounting Policies

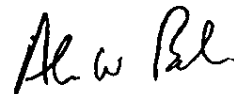
The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards

For the year ending 31st March 2011 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies

Directors' responsibilities

- the members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- the directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and 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 Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Alan Baker (Chair)