

CUBE Report – Extra details

Financials

The Bowden's Charity funding ran out in August last year, but despite that we have managed to keep on top of the books and not run out of funds. This has been in large part due to the generous support of the Friends of the CUBE, individual donations and the support of Churches Together, which has exceeded our expectations. We have also been blessed by some new projects and the funding that has gone alongside them, in particular a project to encourage unemployed youngsters into work in cooperation with Hothorpe Hall.

We have received grants to cover our work in the coming months, but the reality is that we will not be able to sustain the work without more generalised funding in the short term, and an ability to generate our own revenue in the long term. We continue to apply for grants to support our ongoing work, and we will be returning to The Bowdens Charity for help to see us into a sustainable future. In the meantime we would ask Churches Together members to consider especially the specialist volunteer roles advertised in the Newsletter as these will crucially help us to deliver this vision.

Governance

HYACT continue to run under the guidance of its three Trustees – Dawn O'Connell, Jean Molcher and Nick Cook – although we rearranged the roles to suit our skills and life situations better. Dawn has proved an effective new chair and has led the charity to a new vision with purposefulness and drive. We continue to seek additional Trustees to help share the load, particularly as Jean's health remains fragile.

The Trustees are ably supported by the two staff – Gary and Jenny – who often have to be reminded to spend time away from the CUBE, and by the Supervisory Board who are taking on an increased role in setting and monitoring targets for the organisation.

Future

HYACT wish to continue with their core Friday night drop-in café work, but funding for this type of venture is fast drying up, so we need to support this part of our work from our own resources. Currently we get about 25% of our income from friends, donations and income generation, which is tremendous. Over the next few years we need to increase the revenue we generate as part of our drive for a long term future. Current grant applications are focussing on projects to encourage young people into work and in providing counselling and mentoring services. In addition we are starting to generate a willingness from many of our 'clients' to contribute towards some of the work we do with or for them.

In all these things we remain grateful to God who has given us so much already, and who has always provided what we need when we need it, although not as much as we would *like*, and often not as *far in advance* as we would find helpful. We covet, above all, your prayers for the current and future operation of HYACT, and thank you for all your support.

Nick Cook