# COS AGM MINUTES

# City of Sanctuary UK (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) Registered charity number 1184613

# Annual General Meeting Wednesday 22 September 2021

## 1. Welcome and Introductions:

Jonathan Ellis, Chair of Trustees, welcomed everyone to the meeting, which was held online, via Zoom.

## 2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Paul Wordsworth, York City of Sanctuary

## 3. Minutes of previous AGM 24th June 2020

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record

## 4. Chair’s Report

Jonathan referred to the Trustee report in the 2020 Accounts & Reflections Document 2020 and underlined Trustees’ pride in the staff team’s creative response to the pandemic, starting with the provision of the Zoom facility to groups. He commended Sian, the staff team and Herbert, Vice Chair on their work with people lived experience, which was based on building human relationships.

He pointed to the unprecedented cross-party work with Local Authorities, which allowed the leverage of local political power to create welcome. He commended Sian for her vision of introducing the Sanctuary in Politics course for people with lived experience of seeking sanctuary.

## 5. Treasurer’s Report

Andrew White, Treasurer, presenting the accounts for the period 26 July 2019 to 31 December 2020, explained that the first accounts of a new charity must cover the period from the date it was registered.

It had been an unusual year and the deficit originally anticipated for the year had been turned around to a surplus of £67,000. The Asylum Matters budget had been almost fully funded at the beginning the year. Funding had been received from Tudor Trust and SHED to combat the effects of the pandemic. Margaret Fingerhut had agreed that some of the money she had raised with her concert tour could be transferred into reserves.

For information Andrew updated the members that the New Asylum Matters charity had taken over the assets, liabilities and activities of the Asylum Matters project on 1 March 2021.

Andrew thanked Joanna Spooner for her skill in maintaining the accounts and Sian Summers-Rees for raising funds so successfully, without which the organisation would not exist.

## 6. Election of trustees

It was noted that Jonathan Ellis and Pam Inder had retired from the Board at this meeting.

Sian Summers-Rees explained the process for recruiting new Trustees via advertising for applications, underlining the Board’s desire for gender balance and an increased share of people with lived experience.

**Resolution One: To re-elect Andrew White as a Trustee**

Andrew White was duly re-elected as a Trustee.

**Resolution Two: To elect Yusuf Ciftci and Rebecca Novell as a Trustee**

Yusuf Ciftci and Rebecca Novell were duly elected as Trustees.

## Other Business

There was no other business.