# The Buddhist Society Trust (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Report of the Trustees and unaudited financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2020

Registered Company number 00854151 Registered Charity number 294198

COMPANIES HOUSE

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### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2020

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Acts 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 April 2020. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable accounting standards. The accounts have been prepared on an ongoing basis. The Charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. No restatement was required in making the transition to FRS102. The date of transition was 1st January 2015.

#### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

### Registered Company number

00854151 (England and Wales)

### Registered Charity number

294198

### Registered office

33 Kenway Road London SW5 0RP

### Trustees

L Ding (Chair) resigned: 3 September 2019

Dr D R Biddulph CBE

J Montgomery

M O'Neill resigned: 17 September 2019
J Watt CVO resigned: 9 November 2019
E Muirhead appointed: 23 June 2020
R Campbell appointed: 23 June 2020

### **Company Secretary**

P A Williams

### Accountants

Independent Examiners Ltd Wessex Manor Satchell Lane Southampton SO31 4HS

### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing documents, a deed of trust and its Memorandum and Articles of Association and constitutes a company limited by guarantee as defined by the Companies Acts 2006.

### Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Any new appointments are at the recommendation of the board.

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2020

### Induction and training of new trustees

All new trustees are given, in the view of the board, sufficient training and have enough knowledge of their specific field to understand the nature of the charity and fully comply with the charities current views of its progression. They are required to be aware of both legal and professional responsibilities under charity and company law.

#### Organizational structure

The charity is run by the board of directors and has no full time employees.

### Related parties

D R Biddulph and J Montgomery are directors of The Buddhist Society. P A Williams, Company Secretary of The Buddhist Society Trust is the Company Secretary of The Buddhist Society. The Buddhist Society Trust provides financial assistance to The Buddhist Society, charity number 1113705.

#### Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

### **OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES AND PUBLIC BENEFIT**

### Charitable Objects

The charity exists to advance the education of the public in the principles of Buddhism and to encourage and promote the study and application of those principles.

### Aims and Strategies to Achieve Objects and Extend Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard for the public benefit. Over the year, the trustees set out their plans to increase and maximise the value of the charity's work and assets for this purpose, identifying a number of streams of work intended to achieve that increase. The public benefits delivered by the charity's work and plans for current and future operations are as laid down in the following section, Achievement and Performance.

### ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

### **Grant making Activities**

The Trust made payments totalling £101,083 (2019: £75,301) in the reporting year. This total was made up of:

1. £101,083 (2019: £75,301) to the Buddhist Society.

### **Publishing Activities**

Publishing Advisor Jonathan Earl, Chairman Dr Desmond Biddulph

The Trust received royalties during the year of £5,580 (2019:£6,378), donations/subventions of £16,300 (2019: £17,000) and book sales of £8,855 (2019: £19,353). It spent a total of £40,713 (2019: £65,509) on publishing activities.

Following the launch of the Buddhist Society Trust's branded publishing imprint in late 2017, and a further three titles published in spring 2018, Myokyo-ni's *Towards Wholeness*, and two titles published in collaboration with the Trevor Leggett Adhyatma Yoga Trust: Leggett's *First Zen Reader* and *Second Zen Reader*. Each of the three reissues followed the same elegant, simple design of their predecessors. A further title is under discussion and review for the future.

After launching the imprint with reissues of significant works, we published our first wholly original titles: Living with Thanks, Prof. Kemmyo Taira Sato's major new edition of the five-fascicle version of Rennyo Shōnin's letters, and The Haiku of Basho: 5-7-5, a new translation of 300 haiku by Prof. John White and Prof. Sato. Both of these titles have received substantial financial support for their

publication. In the case of *Living with Thanks*, Prof. Sato's temple in Japan is acquiring 180 copies at a modest discount, while Prof. White supported the publication of *The Haiku of Basho* with a generous grant of £12,000. This year we published a further two volumes in the elegant 575 series, *The Haiku Of Issa* and *The Haiku Of Buson*, and these books were again acquired by Japan and continue to sell here in the UK.

Prof. Sato's new book, Living In Nenbutsu, is scheduled for part of our original publishing programme and is currently in the design stage of production. There are expected sales to Japan in support of this publication. The new series 'Buddhism and....' is also in the design production stage, the first volume, Buddhism and Women, with source material from The Middle Way archives, Journal Of The Buddhist Society established in 1924. The rich and varied selected writings are expected to produce sales from general readership, Buddhists and women, an historic collection for university study and religious education. There are other volumes in the series under discussion to follow.

Finally, in partnership with The Zen Trust we are reissuing two popular titles, *The Zen Way* and *The Great Wisdom Gone Beyond* (formerly titled *The Daily Devotional Chants of the Zen Centre*). These are due to be published towards the end of this year.

All book trade sales *outside North America* are being handled by Kodansha Europe, the London-based division of the well-known Japanese publishing and distribution business, until December 2020. Thereafter a new distributor will be considered. We are pleased to report that we continue with a highly-regarded North American distributor, Consortium Books, which serves the biggest book market in the world, and in the English language. Consortium has handled the trade distribution since January 2019, and staggered the release of all titles published since late 2017.

This year has seen the further development of the publishing programme, despite Covid 19 limitations and a further broadening of its international reach and directors expect further expenditure in this field during the forthcoming year.

#### FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Financial Statements show a net increase in funds of £12,873 (2019: increase of £196,780) in the year after expending £223,491 (2019: £201,526), making total funds carried forward of £2,274,213 (2019: £2,261,340).

### Reserves policy

The Trust has set a reserves policy that provides financial stability and the means for the development of its principal activities and ongoing building maintenance. It requires maintaining free cash balances in the general fund amounting to six months normal expenditure which this year equates to approximately £105,000 (2019: £95,000). In addition, it has agreed that a sum of £550,000 be retained to cover necessary building repairs, renewals and maintenance required in the foreseeable future. Surplus funds will be invested to provide a regular ongoing income. The Trust regularly reviews the amount of reserves that are required to ensure that they are adequate to fulfill continuing obligations.

The Trust considers the present level of funding and reserves is adequate to support the charity's activities for the medium term, and the directors consider the financial position of the charity to be satisfactory.

### **Investment Review and Performance**

No authoritative external investment review has been conducted during the reporting period. The accounts show that the value of the investments has fallen to £261,501 (2019: £292,524). These have yielded distributions during the year of £9,960. (2019: £10,773). Since there is no need for the trustees to liquidate their investments in the near future, this figure represents a snapshot of their value at 30 April 2020. The trustees consider the investment performance for the year to be satisfactory under current market conditions and taking into account the effects of both Brexit and Covid-19.

### **Donations and Legacy income**

Legacy income received during the year amounted to £239,349 (2019: £680,882). £17,000 (2019: £7,500) was received in donations for publishing. The directors would like to offer their sincere thanks for all donations and legacies received over the year. These have enabled both the Buddhist Society and the Buddhist Society Trust to continue with their work.

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2020

### STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

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

The directors are responsible for keeping 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 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. In preparing this report the directors have taken advantage of the special provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

I approve the attached statement of financial activities and balance sheet for the year ended 30 April 2020 and confirm that I have made available all information necessary for its preparation.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Robert Campbell

Date: 25th November 2020

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2020 Total funds	2019 Total Funds
		£	£	£	£
INCOME					
Income from generated funds					
Donations and legacies		136,146	16,300	152,446	256,517
Income from investment	2	100,505	-	100,505	113,789
Income from charitable activities Book royalties and publishing donations			14,436	14,436	25,731
book royalities and publishing donations			14,430	14,430	23,731
Total income		236,651	30,736	367,387	396,037
TUDYING					
EXPENSES					
Expenditure on raising funds Investment management costs	3	74,203	_	74,203	54,774
Expenditure on charitable activities	3	, 1,203		71,203	
Publishing		9,977	30,736	40,713	65,329
Donations to The Buddhist Society		101,083	•	101,083	75,301
Charitable events		954	-	954	
Governance costs		6,538	-	6,538	6,122
Total expenses		192,755	30,736	223,491	201,526
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING)		43,896	-	43,896	194,511
Gains/(losses) on investment assets		(31,023)	-	(31,023)	2,269
Net movement in funds		12,873		12,873	196,780
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		2,261,340		2,261,340	2,064,560
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		2,274,213	-	2,274,213	2,261,340

### BALANCE SHEET AT 30 APRIL 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	funds	2020 Total funds	2019 Total funds
EIVED ACCETS		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS Tangible assets	6	4,896	_	4,896	7,404
Land and Buildings	6	675,000	-	675,000	675,000
Investments	7	261,501	-	261,501	292,524
		941,397		941,397	974,928
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors:	_				
amounts falling due within one year	8	57,023	-	57,023	3,838
Cash at bank		1,280,286	-	1,280,286	1,293,968
		1,337,309		1,337,309	1,297,806
CREDITORS		1,557,507		1,557,507	1,277,000
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(4,493)		(4,493)	(11,394)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		1,332,816	-	1,332,816	1,286,412
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		2,274,213	-	2,274,213	2,261,340
NET ASSETS		2,274,213	-	2,274,213	2,261,340
FUNDS	10				
	••				
Unrestricted funds Restricted funds				2,274,213	2,261,340
TOTAL FUNDS				2,274,213	2,261,340

The notes form part of these financial statements.

### BALANCE SHEET - CONTINUED AT 30 APRIL 2020

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 30 April 2020.

The trustees have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2020 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. However in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 the accounts have been examined by an Independent Examiner whose report is on page 15.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 25th November 2020 and were signed on its behalf by:

Robert Campbell

Not CIV

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2020

#### 1. **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by 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) - (Charities SORP - FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011.

#### Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

### Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

### Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Land and buildings

- in accordance with the property

Plant and machinery etc - 25% on cost and 10% on cost

### **Investment property**

Investment property is shown at the most recent valuation. Any aggregate surplus or deficit arising from changes in market value is transferred to a revaluation reserve.

### Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity.

Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

#### 2. **INCOME FROM INVESTMENT**

	2020	2019
,	£	£
Rents received	90,540	103,011
Bank interest	5	5
Investment income	9,960	10,773
	100,505	113,789

4.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2020

### 3. INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT COSTS

	2020	2019
	£	£
Letting expenses and ground rent	12,094	10,959
nsurance	9,290	8,592
Repairs and maintenance	8,471	19,582
Legal and professional	38,355	10,752
General office expenses	3,414	2,576
Bank charges	71	72
Depreciation	2,508	2,508
	74,203	54,774
		·
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES		
Net resources are stated after charging:		
5 5	2020	2019
		•
	£	£

### 5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 30 April 2020 nor for the year ended 30 April 2019.

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 30 April 2020 nor for the year ended 30 April 2019.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2020

### 6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land and buildings	Improvements to property	Furniture and fittings	Totals
	£	£	£	£
Cost At beginning of year	675,000	32,610	19,560	52,170
Additions	0/3,000	0	0	0
At end of year	675,000	32,610	19,560	52,170
		-		
Depreciation	ا	25 206	10 560	11.766
At beginning of year Charge for year	0	25,206 2,508	19,560 0	44,766 2,508
				<u> </u>
At end of year	0	27,714	19,560	47,274
Net book value				
At 30 April 2020	675,000	4,896	0	4,896
At 30 April 2019	675,000	7,404	0	7,404

### 7. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed
	Investments
	£
Market Value	
At start of year	292,524
Revaluations	(31,023)
At end of year	261,501
Net book value	
At 30 April 2020	261,501
At 30 April 2019	292,524

There were no investment assets outside the UK.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2020

### 8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

			2020	2019
			£	£
	Debtors		199	1,837
	Prepayments		56,824	2,001
			57,023	3,838
9.	CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALI	LING DUE WITHIN	ONE YEAR	
			2020	2019
			£	£
	Creditors		1,782	5,618
	Prepaid income		1,211	4,276
	Independent Examiner's fee		1,500	1,500
			4,483	11,394
			<del></del>	
10.	MOVEMENT IN FUNDS			•
		At 1 May	Net movement	At 30 April
		2019	in funds	2020
		£	£	£
	Unrestricted funds			
	General fund	2,261,340	12,873	2,274,213
	Restricted funds	•		
	Educational fund	•	_	_
	TOTAL FUNDS	2,261,340	12,873	2,274,213

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2020

### 10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Net movements in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	236,651	(192,755)	(31,023)	12,873
Restricted funds	•			
Educational fund	30,736	(30,736)	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS	267,387	(223,491)	(31,023)	12,873

### 11. TRUSTEES AND OTHER RELATED PARTIES

No payments were made to trustees or any persons connected with them during this financial year apart from reimbursement of costs incurred on behalf of the charity. No material transaction took place between the organization and a trustee or any person connected with them. During the year, the Buddhist Society Trust made funding donations of £101,083 to the Buddhist Society (2019: £75,301). In addition, £36,318 (2019: £239,349) was passed over from the Buddhist Society to the Buddhist Society Trust for safekeeping in line with its Articles of Association.

### 12. RISK ASSESSMENT

See Report of the Trustees

### 13. RESERVES POLICY

See Report of the Trustees

### 14. PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Charity acknowledges its requirement to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the public benefit. Details of how the charity has achieved this are provided in the Report of the Trustees. The trustees confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit before deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

<b>DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES</b>
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2020

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2020		
	2020	2019
	£	£
INCOME		
Donations and legacies		
Donations - Chaplaincy	198	168
Donations - Publishing	16,300	17,000
Legacies and bequests	135,948	239,349
	152,446	256,517
Income from investment	•	•
Rents received	90,540	103,011
Bank interest	5	5
Investment income	9,960	13,175
	100,505	113,789
Income from charitable activities	100,505	115,767
Royalties and grants	5,580	6,378
Book sales	8,856	19,353
	14,436	25,731
Total income	267,387	396,037
EXPENSES		
Investment management costs		
Letting expenses and ground rent	12,094	10,692
Insurance	9,290	8,592
Repairs and maintenance	8,471	19,582
Legal and professional	38,355	10,752
General office expenses	3,414	2,576
Bank charges	71	72
Depreciation	2,508	2,508
	74,203	54,774
Expenditure on charitable activities	0 < 200	40.701
Publishing: Books and publications	26,738	42,791
Publishing: Contract staff	13,975	22,538
Charitable events	954	75.201
Donations: The Buddhist Society	101,083	75,301
	142,750	140,630
Governance		
Accountancy and company secretarial	6,538	6,122
Total resources expended	223,491	201,526
NET INCOME	43,896	194,511

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements.

#### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Buddhist Society Trust for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the charitable company (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the charitable company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

The company's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a full member of The Association of Charity Independent Examiners.

### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that:

- · accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- · the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102). I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Name: J Irvinesmith FCIE

Date: 4th December 2020

Independent Examiners Ltd Wessex Manor Satchell Lane Southampton SO31 4HS