

**COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 09832061**  
**CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1167825**

**Spark 21**  
(a company limited by guarantee)

**Unaudited Financial Statements**

**For the year ended 31 October 2020**

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**Spark 21**  
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## **Spark 21**

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

**As at 31 October 2020**

#### **Trustees**

Mrs C M Calder

Ms D L Denis-Smith

Mr D J Standish

Ms L Tremble

#### **Registered Office**

44 Southampton Buildings

London

WC2A 1AP

#### **Charity Registration Number**

1167825

#### **Company Registration Number**

09832061

#### **Other Working Names**

First 100 Years and Next 100 Years

#### **Independent Examiner**

Nina Rust FCCA

N. TRUST Accountancy Ltd

20 Clark Drive

St Ives

Cambridgeshire

PE27 6AD

#### **Bankers**

Lloyds Bank

1 Butler Place

Westminster

London

SW1H 0PR

**Spark 21**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report)**  
**Year ended 31 October 2020**

The Trustees (who are also directors of the charitable company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006) are pleased to present their annual Trustees Report, together with the unaudited financial statements for the year ending 31 October 2020, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

**Trustees**

All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity. The Trustees serving during the year and to the date of this report were as follows:

Daniela Denis-Smith (Dana Denis-Smith)  
Catherine Calder  
David Standish  
Lisa Tremble

**Structure, Governance and Management**

**Governing document**

Spark 21 is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 20 October 2015 and governed by its Articles of Association. Spark 21 is also a registered charity (1167825) - registration date being 23 June 2016.

**Appointment of new Trustees**

As set out in the Articles of Association any person who is willing to act as a Trustee, and who would not be disqualified from acting under the provisions of the Articles of Association, may be appointed to be a Trustee by a decision of the Trustees. The Board co-opts members during the year to ensure that the Board has a broad range of skills and experience; to facilitate trustee succession new trustees may be appointed annually by the members of the charitable company and serve for a period of three years but may be re-elected for a further 3 year term.

**Trustee recruitment and induction**

Trustees are recruited through professional, personal and member contacts. We aim to recruit people whose skills the Board have identified as needed. The Trustees endeavour to ensure there is an appropriate balance of skills, gender, age, race, disability, sexual orientation, culture, politics or religious belief.

New Trustees are given an induction pack on the Duties and Obligations of Charity Trustees to brief them on their legal obligations under the charity and company law, the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and inform them of the content of the Articles of Association. We also regularly share trustee advice from law firms that can benefit the trustees in understanding their continuous obligations. Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external events and meetings where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

**Governance and organisational structure**

The Board of Trustees hold regular meetings either by conference call or in person. They are responsible for governing the affairs of Spark 21. The Trustees are also in regular contact between the meetings to agree on priorities to be addressed and, if needed, to organise ad hoc briefing calls for expediency. The Board agrees the strategic direction to ensure the organisation fulfills its objectives. It takes overall responsibility for ensuring that the financial, legal and contractual obligations of the Charity are met and that there are satisfactory systems and controls in place.

**Management**

Day to day management and decision making of the Charity is delegated to specific Trustees in order for the Charity's objectives to be met and ensure the smooth and effective running of the organisation. The Board may delegate specific actions and decisions to any of the Trustees, acting alone or together (and usually 2 trustees would be instructed), who will then report to the full Board.

**Related parties and co-operation with other organisations**

None of our Trustees receive remuneration or other benefit from their work with the Charity. Any connection between a trustee or senior manager of the Charity with service user, external contractor or supplier of services must be disclosed to the full Board of Trustees in the same way as any other contractual relationship with a related party. In the current year any such related party transactions have been fully disclosed to the full Board of Trustees.

All related party transactions are managed in accordance with the Charity's Articles of Association. All transactions and activities involving organisations in which a Trustee may have an interest are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Charity's financial and procurement procedures.

## **Spark 21**

### **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report)**

**Year ended 31 October 2020**

#### **Use of volunteers**

Due to the small size of the charity, volunteers are recruited on a rolling-basis. Our volunteers are made up of different groups from university students to professionals. Similarly, we appoint professional champions to volunteer on a number of thematic committees relevant to the charity's objectives and they are provided with information packs, as well as ongoing communication.

#### **Objectives and activities**

##### **Achieving delivery of the charity's aims and public benefit**

The Trustees have given due consideration to the Charity Commission's published guidance on the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2011. We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. We believe that we have complied with this, and seek to demonstrate this within this report.

All our charitable activities focus on the advancement of education in the subject of women in the legal and other professions, to promote equality and diversity and in particular the elimination of discrimination on the ground of gender, and advance the arts, in particular but without limitation by commissioning, establishing, maintaining, publishing and performing (as applicable) works of art.

Our main activities and our beneficiaries are described below.

##### **Charitable activities in 2019/20**

The Covid19 pandemic has made fundraising more challenging during 2020 due to the restrictions around events and other gatherings at which the Charity would have had a presence. This has not, however, prevented the Charity from pursuing its objectives generally in the year, and it is hoped that fundraising will pick up again as the Covid19 restrictions are eased.

The charity has taken the following activities in the financial year to 31 October 2020:

1. Events: we have hosted a series of events including film premieres of the biographical videos recorded of pioneering women in the profession, and 'centenary parties', created as a year-long festival in 2019, hosted by law firms and professional organisations, with the last taking place online in September 2020.
2. Podcast: Created and released a series of podcasts that explore the centenary decade-by-decade featuring practitioners and academics.
3. Book: Commissioned, produced and published a book: **FIRST: 100 Years of Women in Law** telling the stories of the pioneering women who shaped the legal profession, sold or donated nearly 2000 copies. A further book, **In Her Words**, was commissioned during 2020 and scheduled to be published in the next financial year (June 2021) with a print run of 1,000 copies.
4. Research: Surveyed over 850 women in the profession about their experience as a woman in the legal sector and how the pandemic affected them and publicised the findings.
5. Commissioned the first piece of artwork to feature women other than the Queen for the Supreme Court, for Courtroom 2, which saw the first female majority sitting in October 2018. Whilst the majority of the work was carried out in 2019, the unveiling was hosted in this financial year (December 2019).
6. Commissioned a piece of music, composed by Charlotte Bray, to celebrate the centenary. The premiere of the piece was also planned for this financial year (December 2019).
7. Photography: Photographed over 1500 women and men in 23 locations around the world to capture the face of women in the profession 100 years on from the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act 1919.
8. Maintained the digital platform: **The First 100 Years** and launched **Next 100 Years** in March 2020, as a new platform and campaign.
9. Maintained **First 100 Years/ Next 100 Years** social media presence and very strong media presence with a clear communications strategy, which performed very well.
10. Organised a number of social media campaigns to promote the **First 100 Years** digital archive and in particular, the stories of legal pioneers through the **#legallyhers** campaign.

##### **Achievements and performance**

The Charity has achieved a number of landmarks – the main being that it has succeeded in reframing the conversation around women in law by focusing the celebration of their achievements around the period 1919-2019. Individually and through our supporting organisations – Bar Council, Law Society, CILEx and so on – we have reached an audience of thousands of legal professionals and students.

In the financial year 2019-20 the charity:

1. Hosted our fourth edition of the **Inspirational Woman in Law** award for women leaders, bringing a younger generation into the project;
2. Hosted a unique and very high profile event unveiling the artwork commissioned to be donated to the UK Supreme Court in the presence of senior members of the legal profession as well as the media;
3. Delivered event presentations on various topics, including the power of role models as well as about the importance of recording female lives
4. Hosted numerous film premiers as part of the centenary celebrations of women in law during 2019 and the early part of 2020
5. Our print & display exhibition 1919-2019 toured across the UK during 2019-20 with over 2,000,000 visits achieved

**Spark 21**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report)**  
**Year ended 31 October 2020**

**Financial review**

**Financial statements**

The Financial statements, including the notes, have been prepared in compliance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and reporting by Charities" 2015 (FRS 102). The analysis of income and expenditure reflects the classification of activities, together with costs relating to administration.

**Statement of Financial Activities**

The Statement of Financial Activities is shown on page 7 with a more detailed analysis of income and expenditure within the notes to the financial statements. The total income for the year was £82,416. The total expenditure for the year was £130,695.

**Principal funding sources**

The Charity is dependent upon grants, donations from individual donors and institutions.

**Balance Sheet**

The above result led to a deficit of £48,279, which has produced a combined fund balance of £37,274 at the year-end. An analysis of the funds can be found in note 7.

**Investment Policy**

Under the Articles of Association, the Charity has the power to invest in any way the Trustees shall think fit. In conjunction with its reserve policies, the aim of the Charity, the Trustees can borrow or raise and secure the payment of money for any purpose including for the purposes of investment or of raising funds, including charging property as security for the repayment of money borrowed or as security for a grant or the discharge of an obligation. The Trustees can also set aside funds for special purposes or as reserves against future expenditure. The Trustees can invest the Charity's money not immediately required for its objects in or upon any investments, securities, or property; arrange for investments or other property of the Charity to be held in the name of a nominee or nominees and pay any reasonable fee required. The Trustees can also delegate decisions in respect of investments to an external financial advisor.

**Risk Management**

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Charity is exposed, in particular those relating to the operation and finances of the Charity. Systems are in place to minimise exposure to the major risks, with a risk management register being in place and reviewed at least annually by the Trustees.

**Reserves**

Funds are normally being built up for ongoing and future activities.

**Plans for future periods**

The Charity's plans for 2020/21 continue to focus on the delivery of the First 100 Years project, which is a five-year project. Our main areas of focus are:

1. Continuing to organise events and champion the role of women in law, including the flagship one day conference Spark21;
2. Continue to collaborate with partner organisations to advance the charity's objectives;
3. Deliver the anniversary year 2022 through the Next 100 Years, including ensuring wide exposure for our print & display exhibition, our podcast series and our books and films;
4. Filming and editing more videos of stories of women in law under the Next 100 Years Leadership Talks video series;
5. Running the Inspirational Women in Law awards;
6. Support and collaborate with other arts projects that promote women artists;
7. Continue to run the Next 100 Years campaign.

**Spark 21**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Trustees' Annual Report (Incorporating the Directors' Report)**  
**Year ended 31 October 2020**

**Statement of Trustees Responsibilities**

The Trustees (who are also the directors of Spark 21 for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company 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 of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to

- \* select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- \* observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP 2015 FRS102;
- \* 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, and;
- \* prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable 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 charitable company 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 Charity and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:



Mr D.J. Standish  
Trustee

19 July 2021

## **Spark 21**

### **Company Limited by Guarantee**

#### **Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Spark 21**

I report on the accounts for the company for the year ended 31 October 2020, which are set out on pages 7 to 12.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors 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 Company are not required to be audited 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)

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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
4. The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.



**Nina Rust**  
**N.TRUST Accountancy Limited**  
**20 Clark Drive**  
**St Ives**  
**Cambridgeshire**  
**PE27 6AD**

**19 July 2021**



**Spark 21**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**(incorporating income and expenditure account)**  
**Year ended 31 October 2020**

		<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>
	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2020 £</b>	<b>2020 £</b>	<b>2020 £</b>	<b>2019 £</b>
<b>Income</b>	<b>3</b>				
Donations and legacies		13,772	-	13,772	50,704
Charitable activities		14,573	-	14,573	9,421
Other trading activities		54,050	-	54,050	109,200
Investment		21	-	21	43
<b>Total income</b>		<b>82,416</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>82,416</b>	<b>169,368</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>4</b>				
Raising funds		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities		129,445	-	129,445	133,307
Other		1,250	-	1,250	1,250
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>130,695</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>130,695</b>	<b>134,557</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(48,279)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(48,279)</b>	<b>34,811</b>
Balances at 1 November 2019		85,553	-	85,553	50,742
<b>Balances at 31 October 2020</b>		<b>37,274</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>37,274</b>	<b>85,553</b>

The notes on pages 9 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

**Spark 21**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**as at 31 October 2020**

	Notes	£	2020 £	£	2019 £
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stock		9,016		21,826	
Debtors	5	4,684		19,616	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>29,453</u>		<u>89,007</u>	
		43,153		130,449	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	6	<u>(5,880)</u>		<u>(44,896)</u>	
			37,274		85,553
<b>Net assets</b>			<u>37,274</u>		<u>85,553</u>
<b>Funds</b>					
Restricted	7		-		-
Unrestricted			37,274		85,553
			<u>37,274</u>		<u>85,553</u>

For the year ending 31 October 2020 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.


The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS 102 SORP.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 19 July 2021 and signed on behalf of the board by:

**Ms D L Dents-Smith**  
Trustee



**Company Number 09832061**

The notes on pages 9 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

## **Spark 21**

### **Company Limited by Guarantee**

### **Notes to the Accounts**

**Year ended 31 October 2020**

#### **1 Accounting policies**

##### **Accounting convention**

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost for transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note to these accounts.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland and with the Charities Act 2011.

##### **Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included in the statements of financial activities when entitlement has passed to the charity; it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the charity and the amount can be reliably measured. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Income from donations or grants is recognised when there is evidence of entitlement to the gift, receipt is probable and its amount can be measured reliably.

Legacy income is recognised when receipt is probable and entitlement is established.

Income from donated goods is measured at the fair value of the goods unless this is impractical to measure reliably, in which case the value is derived from the cost to the donor or the estimated resale value. Donated facilities and services are recognised in the accounts when received if the value can be reliably measured. No amounts are included for the contribution of general volunteers.

Income from contracts for the supply of services is recognised with the delivery of the contracted services. This is classified as unrestricted funds unless there is a contractual requirement for it to be spent on a particular purpose and returned if unspent, in which case it may be regarded as restricted.

##### **Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

Expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities and the sale of donated goods.

Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by the charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

Other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

##### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

##### **Governance and support costs**

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

##### **Stock**

Stocks held are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

##### **Debtors and Creditors**

Debtors and creditors are recognised at their settlement value and are all receivable/payable within one year.

##### **Financial instruments**

The company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

**Spark 21**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Accounts Continued**  
**Year ended 31 October 2020**

**2 Directors' Remuneration and Expenses**

The directors received no remuneration during the year and were not reimbursed for any expenses.  
The company has no employees.

**3 Income**

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 £	2019 Unrestricted £
<b>Donations and legacies</b>				
Donations including Gift Aid	9,932	-	9,932	46,864
Notional rent	3,840	-	3,840	3,840
	<u>13,772</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,772</u>	<u>50,704</u>
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Conferences	-	-	-	5,608
Other activities	14,573	-	14,573	3,813
	<u>14,573</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,573</u>	<u>9,421</u>
<b>Other trading activities</b>				
Sponsorship	<u>54,050</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>54,050</u>	<u>109,200</u>
<b>Investment</b>				
Interest received	<u>21</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>43</u>

**4 Total expenses**

	Basis of allocation	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Other £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
<b>Costs directly allocated to activities</b>						
Charity objectives	Direct	-	116,248	-	116,248	123,670
Other/governance costs	Direct	-	13,197	1,250	14,447	10,887
		<u>-</u>	<u>129,445</u>	<u>1,250</u>	<u>130,695</u>	<u>134,557</u>

An accrual of £600 has been included in the accounts for the year in respect of the independent examiner's fee (2019, £600).

**Spark 21**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Accounts Continued**  
**Year ended 31 October 2020**

**4 Total expenses (continued)**

<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages, salaries and staffing costs	6,681	11,850
Notional rent	3,840	3,840
Insurance	151	147
General expenses	566	85
Other motor and travel	1,986	3,040
Bank charges and currency costs	181	284
Consulting and legal	5,450	4,614
Film production and other event costs	104,117	107,416
Postage freight and courier	938	260
Donations	1,000	315
IT software and consumables	4,535	1,456
	<b>129,445</b>	<b>133,307</b>

**Other expenses**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Accountancy fees	650	650
Independent Examination	600	600
	<b>1,250</b>	<b>1,250</b>

**5 Debtors**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	-	8,640
Social security and other taxes	399	1,811
Other debtors and prepayments	4,285	9,165
	<b>4,684</b>	<b>19,616</b>

**6 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade creditors	3,339	21,136
Social security and other taxes	-	-
Accruals & other creditors	2,541	23,760
	<b>5,880</b>	<b>44,896</b>

**7 Unrestricted funds**

	<b>Movement in Resources</b>		
	<b>Balance 1 November 2019 £</b>	<b>Incoming £</b>	<b>Outgoings £</b>
General fund	<b>85,553</b>	<b>82,416</b>	<b>130,695</b>
			<b>37,274</b>

**8 Legal status**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

**Spark 21**  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**  
**Notes to the Accounts Continued**  
**Year ended 31 October 2020**

**9 Related party transactions**

During the year the charity paid £9,335 (2020: £20,565) to Obelisk Legal Support Solutions Limited by way of reimbursement of charity costs paid on behalf of the charity by Obelisk Legal Support Solutions Limited. One of the directors of the company is a Trustee of the charity. There was no outstanding balance at the year end.