

**Christian Ecology Link Ltd**  
**Report of the Trustees**

The Trustees submit their report and accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014

**Governing Document**

Memorandum and Articles of Association

**Company Status**

The Company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. Each member undertakes to contribute up to £10 if, on winding up the company has a deficit. The company is a registered charity under the Charities Act 1960.

Charity number: 328744

Company number: 2445198

Registered Office Address: 76 Old Eign Hill, Hereford, HR1 1UA

**Advisors**

Bankers: The Cooperative Bank, P O Box 101, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester M60 4EP

Accountants: Stewardship, 1 Lambs Passage, London EC1Y 8AB

**Principal Activities and Public Benefit Statement**

The company works for the benefit of Christians, the general public and the created world by propagating among the churches and to the general population a better understanding of the integrity of creation and the proper role of humankind as stewards of that creation. It works to further this aim by educating people in churches and elsewhere on subjects relating to stewardship and the creation and encouraging practical actions for the benefit of the created world and of the humans and other creatures for whom it is home.

In planning the activities the Directors have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission in December 2008 on Public benefit.

**Patrons**

The following have served as patrons during the period under review –

Fr Sean McDonagh  
Jonathon Porritt  
Prof Sir Ghillean Prance  
Dr Elaine Storkey  
Rt Revd James Jones

**Directors and Trustees**

The following have served as Directors of the company and Trustees of the Charity during the period under review

Paul Bodenham  
Dr Tim Cooper  
George Dow  
Barbara Echlin  
Tony Emerson  
Peter Grimwood (appointed 5 July 2014)  
Ruth Jarman  
Deirdre Munro  
Eleanor Orr  
Poppy Pickard  
Ashley Ralston  
Chris Walton

### **Steering Committee**

The Steering Committee is the executive body which manages the affairs of the company on behalf of the Trustees and for the benefit of members of the organisation.

The following members of the steering committee served throughout the period unless otherwise stated. –

Dr Judith Allinson  
Paul Bodenham  
Barbara Echlin  
Tony Emerson  
George Dow  
Howard Gardner  
Ruth Jarman  
Eleanor Orr  
Poppy Pickard  
Ashley Ralston  
Deborah Tomkins  
Chris Walton

### **Trustees Review of the Year**

In 2014 we obtained permission from the Charity Commission to change our working name to Green Christian. Green Christian is now a registered trading name of Christian Ecology Link (CEL).

CEL seeks to encourage and resource churches and individual Christians to address environmental issues by providing regular mailings, producing resource materials and arranging events. When it is in line with our aims we seek to maximise the impact of our work by collaborating with other Christian bodies with environmental programmes. We are represented on the Environmental Issues Network of Churches Together in Britain & Ireland, and on the Board of Operation Noah.

During the year we held a workshop on 'Housing and energy – Fairness for all' for ecocell group members and others in London in January with Ann Morisy and Angus Hanton as key note speakers. A day conference was held in March in Birmingham, 'Joy in Enough, Awakening to a new economics', with Dan O'Neill of Leeds University as keynote speaker. In October we held a weekend retreat at Noddfa, North Wales, led by Prof Mary Grey on the theme: 'The Journey to Enough, Joy on the Holy Mountain'. CEL Annual Members' Meeting was held in November at St Aloysius Church, Euston, London, followed by a workshop led by Prof Ian Christie of the Sustainable Lifestyles Research Group on 'Changing Lives'.

We continue to produce a wide range of educational materials in print and on the website, including two issues of our magazine *Green Christian* and one issue of our annual *Storm of Hope* pamphlet.

We started detailed planning to use money from the legacy received in 2012 in an initiative called Xistence which aims to find ways of engaging more with younger people.

'Joy in Enough' is CEL's campaign to promote an alternative way of thinking about the economy. CEL, together with A Rocha, SPEAK and others, is seeking to empower ordinary people to take back the economy from the economic elite, understand the alternatives and seek a role the Church can play in the transformation. During 2014 we held the conference and retreat noted above and continued our work to study this issue.

The work of CEL is mainly carried out by volunteers, members of the steering committee and others from their own homes other than a few hours of paid administrative work each week. It is supported by around 850 people who pay membership subscriptions and donations.

## **Financial Review**

The balance of unrestricted cash and cash equivalents at the end of 2014 was £52,141 (2013: £55,711). This includes £4,893 in amounts taken for Life membership of CEL and held in a reserve to provide income in future years, and a designated fund representing a legacy received from a member of CEL of £19,513. The trustees applied £605 from this fund in 2014 to enable research and development of a pilot project for our Xistence initiative to engage with a younger generation of potential supporters.

It is a policy of the Trustees to keep a minimum of £6,000 in cash and cash equivalents in a general reserve to meet current commitments in furtherance of the aims of the charity, such as publications to which subscribers are entitled and the payment of conference expenses in the event of such a conference being under subscribed. In order to facilitate the employment of paid staff to meet growth objectives a further sum of £6,000 is identified to meet employment liabilities.

The majority of income is received as subscriptions and donations from members and other sympathetic individuals. The single largest area of expenditure is the production of a magazine twice yearly which is distributed free to members, occasionally sold at events and frequently distributed free of charge as a means of furthering the aims of the charity.

A complete report of events for the period October 2013 to October 2014 was presented to the membership at the Annual Members' Meeting held on Saturday 22 November at St Aloysius Church Hall, 20 Phoenix Road, Road, London. A report for the year October 2014 – October 2015 will be made at the Annual Members' Meeting on 6 November 2015.

### **Responsibilities of Directors (also known as Trustees)**

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare accounts 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 these accounts the Directors are required to –

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- Follow applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts
- Prepare the accounts on a 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 enable them to ensure that the accounts 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.

The major risks to which the charity is exposed, as identified by the Directors, have been reviewed and systems have been established to mitigate these risks.

In preparing the above report, the Directors have taken advantage of special exemptions available to small companies.

By order of the Board

Eleanor Orr – Director  
76 Old Eign Hill, Tupsley, Hereford HR1 1UA.

Approved by the Board - 31 August 2015