



Annual Report and Financial Statement 2024-25

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1. Introduction

Water Works is committed to reducing the prevalence of waterborne disease in rural Malawi by supporting communities gain access to safe drinking water, hygienic sanitation facilities and improved hygiene practices. Our approach is not to give handouts, but to empower people to meet their needs. We do this by: promoting improved hygiene awareness and practice; assisting households to construct latrines and hand-washing systems, and supporting communities to install, manage and maintain simple, innovative and sustainable water pump technologies. In addition, we have introduced tree planting; distributing fruit trees to individual households and forestry trees to the village community.

Water Works focuses its programmes in the Traditional Authority (TA) of Mbwatalika (formerly demarcated as TA Malili), about 20km west of Malawi's capital city of Lilongwe. The area receives little assistance from the government or other NGOs despite, prior to our intervention, over half of the villages not having access to safe drinking water and most households not having a latrine.

Since 2009, we have assisted over 150 Malawian villages to construct and maintain water points, provided safe drinking water for over 25,000 people, supported over 6,000 families to build hygienic latrines and run hygiene awareness sessions for over 10,000 people. In the past two years, we have revisited 31 villages with 980 households to support the renewal of the sanitation and handwashing facilities. Our household surveys have found that projects have helped to dramatically reduce the percentage of children under five suffering from diarrhoea within the previous week from 15.1% to 3.5%.

The programme for this year consisted of the following four components:

- 1. Assisting four new villages meet their water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) needs.
- 2. Running a water point repair service to maintain the functionality of previously constructed water points
- Revisiting previously assisted villages to renew the sanitation and handwashing facilities and encourage the villagers to maintain good hygiene practice and prevent any relapse into open defecation.
- 4. Tree planting

We completed this programme in 5 months between May and September 2024.

2. The New Villages

The four new villages consist of 114 households with a population of 436.

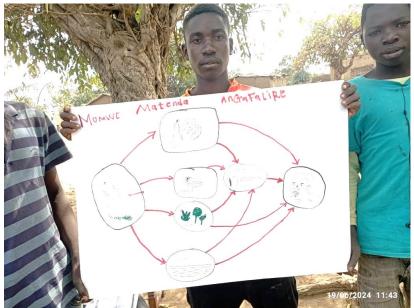
2.1 Hygiene Programme

The programme begins with hygiene training, which runs for 6 days, one of which involves a CLTS (Community Led Total Sanitation) programme, which aims to shock the village communities into realising the terrible impact of open defecation on their health and the environment and to trigger improved hygiene behaviours. The training continues with the PHAST (Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation) course, which facilitates the communities to discover the faecal oral transmissions routes of disease, analyse their hygiene behaviours in the light of this information and plan how to block the contamination routes, culminating in the

development of a community action plan. We also introduced a session on women's health, which focuses on issues to do with menstruation.



Villagers highlighting bad and good hygiene behaviours with the use of pictures



Villagers draw diagram showing faecal - oral routes of disease

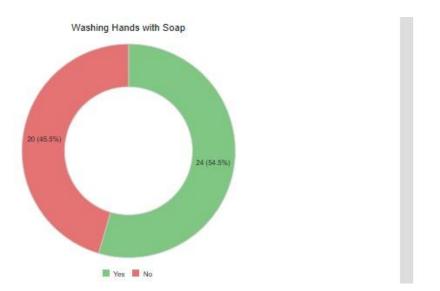


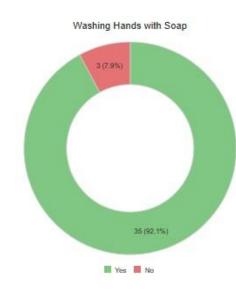
Planning for change activities

Our household survey, which we conducted in one third of households (44 baseline and 38 endline) in the 4 new villages, showed an improvement in the knowledge on the prevention of diarrhoea and hand-washing practice.

		Hygiene in new vil	lages		
Hygiene					
Knowledge on the Prevention of Diarrhoea	Defecating in Latrine	Washing Hands	Treating and Storing Water Safely	Washing and Storing Food Safely	Disposing Refuse Safely
Baseline	27%	32%	36%	36%	5%
Endline	84%	95%	95%	84%	47%
Hand Washing Practice	After Defecation	After Changing Babies	Before Preparing Food	Before Eating	Never Wash Hands
Baseline	89%	30%	43%	82%	0%
Endline	100%	74%	87%	82%	3%

92% washed their hands with soap at endline compared to 54% at baseline.





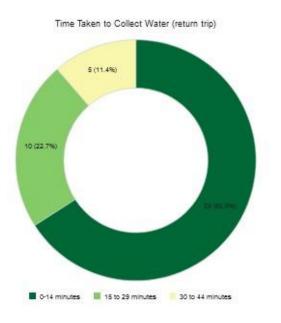
At baseline, 15.9% (7) of households had a member with diarrhoea in the previous week compared to 7.9% (3) at endline. Two out of 23 children under five had diarrhoea in the previous week and only one at endline.

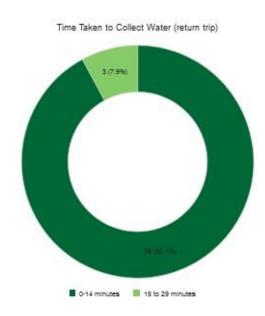
2.2 Construction of a Water Point

It was not possible to use our mechanical borehole digger as the ground was too stoney. Consequently, our team of well diggers, supported by the villagers, hand dug a well to a 3 or 4m water column depth., which minimises the risk of the wells drying in times of drought. After the well is dug, we construct a well apron and drain to provide a strong foundation, protect the well from surface run off and direct used water away from the well. We install a rope pump, using locally available and low cost materials. The villagers appreciate how easy it is to use and maintain. The villagers construct a fence to protect the well from animals.

The time taken to collect water for all households in the 4 villages was reduced to less than 15 minutes for 92% of households at endline compared to 55% at baseline.







We collect stories of how the lives of a village family have been improved by our intervention.

Manessi, a 48 year old woman, was born in the village of Gome. She is married, having known her husband throughout her childhood. She has five children and 5 grandchildren all of whom still live in Gome. Family members live by farming for themselves and they sometimes take on extra work for money. Manessi spends much of her day doing domestic chores and looking after her grandchildren. She is happy in her village where people are friendly and she feels safe.

Manessi previously collected water from a river or a borehole in a nearby school. Having safe water in the village through the Water Works' project means she will have to spend far less time collecting water, which makes her happy.



Manessi with her grandchildren alongside a health surveillance assistant.

2.3 Construction of Latrine and Handwashing Facility

Only 32 of the 114 households had a traditional latrine (I.e. a pit in the ground without any slab) and just one had an improved latrine (i.e. with a cement slab floor). Our builders spent three weeks in each of the 4 villages to ensure that every household had an improved latrine. We taught the communities to erect a simple hand washing facility with locally available materials.

This video clip shows our senior water point technician, Maxwell Khombe, demonstrating the tippy tap hand washing system with a villager from Chapanikiza. We built a raised pedestal for his latrine, because of his restricted mobility.

https://www.facebook.com/WaterWorksCharity/videos/871680601108515





2.4 Celebrations

On completion of the project, the villages are awarded Open Defecation Free status. A certificate is presented to the village chief.





The villages celebrate by singing, dancing, drama and a chicken meal. The drama often features a rebellious villager, who continues to defecate in the bush and is summoned to appear before the village chief, where the punishment can range from being told to change his behaviour to being banned from the village.

Drama depicting a village actor defecating in the bush about to be summoned to answer to the village chief and chair of water committee.



The highlight of the celebration is the launch of the water point, which ends up with people being splashed with water.

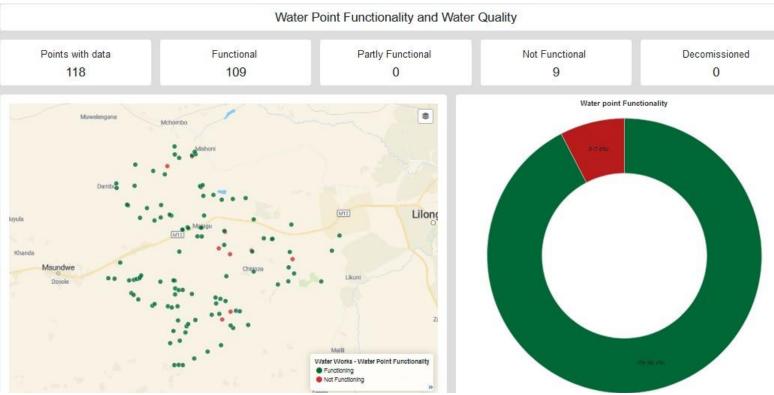


3. Water Point Functionality

Water Works is committed to enhance the sustainability of the water points. Each year, we carry out a functionality survey of water points installed by Water Works since 2010. WW pump technicians then work

and support villages to ensure, as far as possible, that the previously water points (not otherwise decommissioned) are functioning.

88 water points were functioning when we carried out our water point functionality survey in May, 2024. Our senior water point technician completed repairs in 34 villages between May and September, leaving 109 functioning water points.



Villages contributed 596,000 mwk (£240) to cover the cost of the spare parts. There are still 9 repairable water pumps where we have been unable to persuade the villages to pay for the spare parts, even a small amount to cover the cost of a replacement rope. These water points will be decommissioned next year, if they remain uncooperative. There is estimated to be another 46 water points, which have been decommissioned, mostly because the villages have access to a piped water supply or an alternative source of clean water.

4. Sanitation Renewal Programme

A further aspect of our sustainability drive is an initiative to revisit villages we have assisted over the previous 10 years to renew the sanitation and handwashing facilities. A grant of £15,000 from The Waterloo Foundation was awarded towards the cost of a two year programme to revisit 40 villages.

Last year, we assisted 17 villages with 462 households and a population of 1,980. This year we assisted a further 14 villages consisting of 518 households with a population of 2,108. (One village, Nathamanga Ntchefu, was very large with 101 households).

We engaged two Health Surveillance Assistants for 3 days to run a hygiene refresher programme which, this time, focused on encouraging the villagers to adopt all the elements of a healthy home and including a session on women's health.

Two builders spent two weeks in each village constructing replacement slabs and assisting the villagers build new latrine shelters. Each household was also provided with a tippy tap handwashing facility, which consisted of a 5 litre bottle, string and a bar of soap.

Over one third of households (187) had already moved existing slabs to new locations. We constructed foundations and housing for 331 latrine slabs, 284 of which were newly made.

Villagers were expected to contribute 5,000 mwk (£2) for each new slab constructed, with vulnerable households exempted. There was no charge where an existing slab could be relocated.

No. of house- holds	Slabs already moved	WW moved slabs	New slabs constr ucted	Vulner -able house -holds	Money collected
518	187	47	284	64	1,100,000 mwk (£440)



5. Tree Planting

In the week commencing 7th October, we distributed 723 trees to 460 households in 17 villages. A fruit tree sapling (banana, pawpaw, orange, avocado) was allocated to individual households, asking them to plant it in a disused latrine pit to be fertilised by the faecal matter left there. We distributed banana trees and bamboo (for fuel) to be located at the bottom of the water point to be irrigated by the run off water. We also allocated 15 acacia trees to each village for a small copse to be used for fuel. The run-off was redesigned into a two pronged fork to allow more trees to be irrigated by the run-off water.









In the previous three years, we have planted 510 forestry trees and 960 fruit trees in 36 villages. We visited a sample of 14 villages in July and found a survival rate of 47%, varying between villages from 30% to 74%, Forestry survival rate was 65% with banana 51% and pawpaw 52% doing best among the fruit trees with guava, mango, citrus and avocado not so successful.

4. Planned Activities for 2025 and beyond

Having worked in the area served by the Chitedze and the neighbouring Mbwatalika Health Centres, where there is a total of 263 villages, for over 10 years, we are nearing completion of our programme to assist new villages. Over half these villages, prior to Water Works intervention, did not have a safe source of drinking water. There are now about 10 villages within the catchment area, which require assistance to meet their water and sanitation needs. Depending on the level of funding we obtain, we will assist a limited cohort of villages from within this number over the next two years. In 2025, we plan to assist 4 villages construct a new water point.

We will continue to focus on keeping previously constructed water points in good repair for as long as we remain operational in the area. As part of our exit strategy, we will investigate means of maintaining the functionality of the water pumps for the foreseeable future. Our assistant water point technician, lives in the catchment area, and might be able to conduct repairs, if the villages were agreeable to pay for his time as well as the spare parts.

We will continue to follow up on the village sanitation status and hygiene practice. Having revisited 31 villages in 2023 and 2024, we will add a further nine in 2025 in order to complete the current programme of refreshing hygiene knowledge and renewing sanitation and handwashing facilities partly funded by The Waterloo Foundation.

We will also continue to distribute Fruit trees to individual households for them to consider locating them in disused latrine pits exploiting the nutrients left there and banana and bamboo saplings to be planted at the base of the water point to be irrigated by the run-off water.

5. Structure, Governance & Management

Charity Name: Water Works

Charity Number: Charity Commission (England and Wales) - 1158206

NGO Board of Malawi – NGO/1/16/002

Registration Address: 4 Elmswood Gardens,

Nottingham NG5 4AW

Management Committee

Chair: Suzanna van Schaick – extensive clinical experience as a doctor, varied educational and teaching experience and insights from Voluntary Service Overseas.

Treasurer: Samuel Riley – a heritage professional and masters student at the University of Cambridge. He has extensive experience of organisational governance and works with charities in the UK and abroad; most notably in Ghana where he was involved with education in rural regions.

Secretary: Lesley Cohen – has visited the project in Malawi several times. Retired from working as a forensic clinical psychologist.

Board Member: Michael Lee – Head of Service for County Council, specialising in research, evaluation and data processing, before taking early retirement.

Board Member: Linda Wooldridge (formerly Chisale) – from Malawi, where she worked as project assistant for Water Works for two years. She is now based in California. She has founded the Umbani Project, empowering single mothers in Malawi.

Board Member: Ian Smout – a chartered civil engineer with more than 40 years' experience working on water engineering and management in developing countries - before retirement, was at Loughborough University since 1987, where he became director of the Water Engineering and Development Centre.

Board Member: Amanda Henning – co-opted onto the Board in April 2019 - has been working in Malawi for over 3 years, leading and supporting public health initiatives.

Board Member: Peter Phiri – a local Malawian and Water Works Programme Manager in 2019 and 20, is now Water Aid's country director.

Board Member: Eunice Nafere - from Malawi and Water Works Programme Manager in 2021 and 22, is now based in the UK, having joined the British Army.

Attendees of Management Committee Meetings

Charity Director: Jeffrey Cohen – has assisted on a voluntary basis in managing the programme in Malawi since 2013 and has wide experience of managing projects in the health service and voluntary sector.

Governing Document

The charity is an unincorporated association whose purposes and administration arrangements are set out in its constitution, which was adopted on 08th May 2009 (and amended 21st July 2014). The charity was granted charitable status by OSCR on 20th May 2009 and became registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 11th August 2014. It registered with the NGO Board of Malawi on 30th May 2016.

Appointment of Trustees and Management

Membership of the management committee is open to any person who wishes to support the aims and activities of the association. Under the constitution, there must be a minimum of three and no more than eight elected trustees. The current trustees were elected at the Annual General Meeting held on 23rd July 2024 in Nottingham.

The trustees are responsible for the strategic direction and governance of the charity, whilst the charity's projects are developed and implemented by the charity director, programme manager and field officers. The charity director and programme manager attend the trustee meetings to discuss progress and development.

Public benefit statement

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'. Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf:



Suzanna Van Schaick

Chair Date: 12/07/2025

Independent examiner's report

to the trustees of Water Works

for the year ending 31 March 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Water Works (the Charity) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 that in any material respect:

- 1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- 2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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. 7 de Sain

16/07/2025

John O'Brien MSc, FAIA, FCIE, employee of Community Accounting Plus Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners

Units 1 & 2 North West 41 Talbot Street Nottingham NG1 5GL

Date:



Financial Statements

for the year ending 31st March 2025

Financial Review

We received a grant of £6,000, from Kitchen Table, to assist four more villages meet their need for clean water and improved hygiene practices and to maintain the functionality of water points previously constructed by Water Works. Some of the remaining funding from the Waterloo Foundation received in 2023 were earmarked for the 2024/5 sanitation renewal programme. The villagers themselves contributed £711 towards the cost of the rehabilitation and repair of the water points, which was raised by households in the 2024 project villages (excluding vulnerable households) paying a small affordable amount of approximately £2.20 and payments for the costs of spare parts of any repairs.

Water Works received a donation in 2024 of £2,500 from McDuff International, raised from sales of Waterproof whisky. We also received generous donations from individuals. One such benefactor is Louise Sanderson, who, not only, has a monthly standing order to support Water Works, but is also raising donations from occasional violin concerts.

Water Works continues to offer excellent value for money with nearly 99% of funds being spent on project costs in Malawi. All our staff, including the programme manager are Malawian; thus avoiding the expense of international travel and subsistence involved in employing expatriates.

Direct project payments for the year accounted for 30% (£8,460) of total spend, which included the costs of the hygiene programme materials, construction materials, tools and transportation of the tools and materials. The remuneration of the Water Works team accounted for 46% (£12,830), which was used to hire the programme manager, the project officer, team leader, senior water point technician, 5 members of the construction team, 4 members of well digging teams and allowances for the health surveillance assistants who form the hygiene team. This includes £2,250 paid to the charity director for subsistence while managing the project, which was donated back to the charity. The indirect project payments totalled 19% (£5,281), which included costs associated with in-country travel, international travel for the charity director, office rent and accommodation and office supplies. Just £142 was spent this year within the project asset budget, which was for the purchase of a mobile phone. Non-project administrative costs totalled under 4% (£824), which included website hosting and financial services.

Receipts and Payments for the year ending 31st March 2025

Receipts	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Year Ended 31/03/2025 (£)	Year Ended 31/03/2024 (£)
Grants	0	6,000	6,000	0
Donations	12,957	0	12,957	13,437
Water point repair fund	0	711	711	935
Gift Aid	3,043	0	3,043	1,933
Sales	61	0	61	3,105
Online shopping	671	0	671	30
Interest	338	0	338	319
Total Receipts	£17,070	£6,711	£23,781	£19,759

• Sale of Hilux pick-up truck and old bicycles

Payments	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Year Ended 31/03/2025 (£)	Year Ended 31/03/2024 (£)
Direct Project	2,908	5,462	8,370	11,078
Hand Washing Facilities	84	167	251	468
Hygiene Programme Materials	62	307	369	330
Latrine Construction	2,293	2,603	4,896	6,729
Tools and Equipment	324	0	324	484
Transportation of Tools and Materials		778	778	1,262
Well Construction	83	843	926	1,290
Well Reparation	0	398	398	185
Tree planting	62	366	428	330
Indirect Project	4,200	1,081	5,281	8,255
Charity Registration and Insurance	0	0	0	462
Communication	312	0	312	350

In Country Travel	967	1,081	2,048	4,099
International Travel and Freight	1,399	0	1,399	1,539
Office supplies	265	0	265	145
Office Rent and Accommodation	838	0	838	928
Visibility	145	0	145	37
Workshops and Meetings	274	0	274	695
Project Asset	142	0	142	1,224
Bicycles	0	0	0	145
Motor Vehicles	0	0	0	549
Office Equipment	142	0	142	151
Tools and Machinery	0	0	0	278
Remuneration	9,023	3,807	12,830	15,723
Construction Team	1,426	1,624	3,050	4,126
Well digging	156	258	414	700
Hygiene Team	108	959	1,067	1,328
Management Team	7,333	966	8,299	9,569
Organisational Development	824	0	824	698
Communications	20	0	20	20
Banking	78	0	78	60
Independent Examination	726	0	726	618
Grand Total	£17,097	£10,350	£27,447	£36,978

Statement of Balances as of 31st March 2024

Balances	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Year Ended 31/03/2025 (£)	Year Ended 31/03/2024 (£)
Opening Balance	13,440	11,654	25,094	42,424
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	(27)	(3,639)	(3,666)	(17,309)
Currency exchange fluctuation	0	0	0	(21)
Closing Balance	£13,413	£8,015	£21,428	£25,094

Bank and Cash Balances

	Year Ended 31/03/2025 (£)	Year Ended 31/03/2024 (£)
Charities Aid Foundation – Cash Account	7,708	7,463
Charities Aid Foundation – Savings Account	12,425	12,446
Cash in hand (GBP)	1,000	2000
Cash in hand (MWK)	295	3,185
Closing Balance	£21,428	£25,094

Assets (with a value of over £400)

	FY 2024	1/2025	Purchas	sed < 2024/2025		
Assets	Units	Total Purchase Value (£)	Units	Total Purchase Value (£)	Disposal	Accumulated Depreciation
Bicycles			9	680	2	(320)
Motorcycles			2	2,713		(1,650)
Closing Balance	0	0	14	14 £3,393		(£1,970)

The value of Water Works assets taking account of depreciation is £1,423.

(Note: as these are receipts and payments accounts, depreciation is not adjusted for in the financial statements)

Liabilities

	Year Ended 31/03/2025 (£)	Year Ended 31/03/2024 (£)
Independent examination fee	756	726
Closing Balance	756	726

Reserves Policy

Trustees have agreed that it is unnecessary to have funds in reserve before the start of the financial year as the programme can be modified according to the funds available. Furthermore, Jeffrey and Lesley Cohen have undertaken to guarantee to cover any shortfall in funding for the planned programme.

Fundraising Strategy

Water Works Trustees have formulated an exit strategy, in which, the charity will assist a limited number of new villages over the next two years, while concentrating on keeping the previously constructed water points in good repair and completing the sanitation renewal programme. The Trustees anticipate that the costs will be covered by a continuation of existing sources of funding, which includes a sponsorship from Macduff International, which realised £2,500 in 2024. We are signed up with "Give As You Live" and "Just Giving" platforms, whereby money is raised by supporters shopping online or making a direct donation. We also continue to receive money from generous benefactors and fund-raising activities. We will also approach the Jephcott Memorial Trust, who may look favourably on supporting the charity with one further grant.

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024

Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the England and Wales Charities Act 2011.

Grants Received

Donor	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Year Ended 31/03/2025 (£)	Year Ended 31/03/2024 (£)
Kitchen Table	0	6,000	6,000	0
Total	0	6,000	6,000	0

Other Funds received

	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Year Ended 31/03/2025 (£)	Year Ended 31/03/2024 (£)
Private Donations	10,457	0	10,457	7,037
Shopping Online	671	0	671	30
Gift Aid	3,043	0	3,043	1,933
Village Water fund	0	711	711	935
MacDuff International	2,500	0	2,500	6,200
Sales	61	0	61	3,015
Bank Interest	338	0	338	319
Total	£17,070	£711	£17,781	£19,669

Reserved Funding

A grant of £15,000 from the Waterloo Foundation, received in 2023, was reserved to contribute towards a two / three year programme to revisit 40 previously assisted villages, where we will provide refresher hygiene training, renovate the latrines and handwashing systems and distribute tree saplings. £11,992 of this has been spent to revisit 31 villages.

A grant of £6,000 from Kitchen Table, received in 2024, was reserved to contribute towards the provision of clean water, hygiene training and the provision of trees in 4 villages. £3,038 of this has been spent on 2 villages.

The Board of Trustees has identified a need to ringfence repair service funds (Village Water Fund). The repair service funds sole purpose is for the rehabilitation and repair of previously constructed waterpoints.

	Opening balance £	Receipts (Payments)		Closing balance
		£	£	£
Restricted funds				
Repair Service	3317	711	(1712)	2316
Waterloo Foundation	8608	-	(5600)	3008
Kitchen table		6000	(3038)	2962
	11925	6711	(10350)	8286

Nature and Purpose of Funding

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. The trustees maintain a single unrestricted fund for the running of the charity.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for a specific purpose.

Related Party Transactions

Charity Director, Mr. Jeffrey Cohen, received £2,250 to cover per diem expenses when providing programme management services between June 27^{th} – Sept 9^{th} inclusive - 75 days at £30/day. He has donated this back to the charity.

Trustee, Peter Phiri, received the following payments:

Programme management for 20 days	- f	2,400
Rental of office accommodation	-	£320
Hire of truck for 60 days	-	£798

Overseas expenditure

During the year, approximately £25,235 (92% of expenditure) was spent in Malawi on the charity's objectives.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf:

Samuel J. K. Riley

Treasurer Date: 14/07/2025

Glossary:

Restricted funds: These are funds given to the charity, subject to specific restrictions set by the donor, but still within the general objects of the charity.

Liabilities/Creditors: These are amounts owed by the charity, but not paid during the accounting period.