

**Charity number: 1124195**

**Dolen Ffermio (Farming Link)**  
**Trustees' report and financial statements**  
**For the year ended 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

## **Dolen Ffermio (Farming Link)**

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## **Dolen Ffermio (Farming Link)**

### **Legal and administrative information**

#### Trustees

Lorna Brown  
Valerie Talbot  
Emyr Owen  
Barbara Maycock  
Codelia Weedon  
Nick Christoforou

#### Bankers

HSBC Bank Plc  
23 Broad Street  
Welshpool  
Powys  
SY21 7RN

#### Independent Examiner

Thomas Ojo  
PPS Accountants  
11 Farnes Court  
Worksop  
Nottinghamshire  
S81 0LZ

#### Registered Address

10 Regent Court  
Roft Street  
Owerstry  
SY11 2BU

#### Charity Number

1124195

## **Dolen Ffermio (Farming Link)**

### **Report of the trustees For the year ended 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

The trustees present their report and the financial statement for the year ended 28 February 2019. The trustees who served during the year and up to the date in this report are set out on page 1.

#### **Structure, Governance and Management**

Dolen Ffermio is a registered charity with 7 trustees making up the management committee.

Potential trustees are members who have had a substantial involvement in Dolen Ffermio already. They are invited to become co-opted members of the Executive committee for 12 months before putting their name forward at the AGM. Induction would take place at a meeting of trustees.

Trustee selection is by members at the AGM (with 3 weeks' notice given before the date of the AGM). Post holders are similarly elected at the AGM.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

The first objective of the organisation is the relief of poverty in two rural areas of Eastern Uganda (Kamuli and Ngora) in particular, but not exclusively, by the provision of education and training and other such services so that they may become self-supporting and their conditions of life improved. The second objective is raising awareness in the UK of world food and farming issues.

The main activities for the relief of poverty in Kamuli, working with the Dolen Ffermio Environmental Farming and Health Organisation (DFEFHO) are:

- Goat breeding programme
- Agro-forestry programme

The main activities for the relief of poverty in Ngora, working with Farming Link Uganda (FARLU) are:

- Goat and sheep breeding programme
- Project to support orphaned and vulnerable children in the care of their extended families
- Solar energy project
- Energy and construction social enterprise company
- Agro forestry project
- Income generating projects

The main activities for awareness raising in the UK are:

- Conference for sixth formers
- Public meeting for the farming and wider community
- Stands at agricultural shows, exhibitions

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### **Report of the trustees For the year ended 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

- Press releases to local newspapers, publicity and twice yearly newsletters to all supporters

#### **Goat Breeding Project**

- A pedigree Boer goat breeding project was moved to Kamuli in 2017 under Moses Kitimbo's care and in his compound.
- The aim is to improve productivity of local goats by cross breeding with Boer breeds, which will benefit the local community.
- A community Artificial Insemination programme, in September, using one of our Boer bucks on local females, was successful at nearly 60% conception, and produced very good kids
- Unfortunately we lost several Boer goats, owing to complications in late pregnancy and suspected plant poisoning. We hope to build up the herd with Mubende or good crossbreeds and continue the embryo transfer programme.
- We still have frozen South African embryos to increase numbers and the compound is large enough to hold some recipient females for embryo transfer and AI.
- There are very few reliable sources of pedigree Boer goats in Uganda and, when fully established, this unit will be a demonstration centre for Boer goat breeding and a source of stock for other farmers.
- Local herdsman are employed to take care of the goats.

#### **Agro forestry project with DFEFHO**

- The project began as a small agro forestry project in 2012 in Kamuli but could not expand because of lack of land for a mother nursery. In 2018, thanks to very generous donations from individuals, we were able to acquire 28 acres of land at Nakyaka, outside Kamuli and on the banks of the River Nile.
- This land will become a demonstration and training resource for good methods of agro forestry, emphasising organic, sustainable permaculture principles as well as a source of good quality, appropriate planting material. This will be a great benefit to the local community and beyond when it is fully developed.
- There are six team members, all of whom are volunteers and have been heavily involved from the very start.
- Three workers from the local community are employed on the land and act as security, living in a small house which came with the land and in other small houses constructed by Judith Howells, a specialist in low impact building methods, during her visit to Kamuli in December.
- The land is slowly recovering from the severe and prolonged drought of 2016-17. There have been harvests of maize, cabbages, aubergines, coffee (small at first because of drastic pruning on the old bushes), oranges (which are recovering from drought and black spot disease). The cassava looks

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particularly healthy but will not be harvested for a year. Beans have not done well but soil tests have been done to find out why. Most of the

- revenue from the crops is still being returned to the land for clearing new areas, buying seeds, etc. Paul Musenero, the crop and forestry lead for DFEFHO, has started off the livestock plan by building some pig pens and has donated a young sow from his own herd.
- A 5 year development plan has been made by the DFEFHO team with the help of permaculture consultant, .Charles Mugarura.
- A valley dam and swales (ditches) have been constructed on the land, thanks to fundraising by members. The dam has constantly retained water and we are now raising funds for a pump, storage tank and piping for irrigation for the tree and bamboo nursery.
- In January we were successful in a bid for a small grant of £4868 to establish a tree and bamboo nursery and a target planting programme of 40,000 trees and bamboos. This project involves 9 schools (7 primary and 2 secondary) and the 5 Kamuli teachers whom we funded to attend a Permaculture Design course in December 2018 will play a large part. It also involves 300 local community households, where a youth group has been formed to facilitate this. All these individuals, the schools and the wider community will greatly benefit from the project, along with considerable benefits to the environment in the whole area.
- Volunteer workers and researchers from Uganda and overseas will be able to benefit from the facilities for work and study, with living accommodation available.
  
- Four members of the Young Farmers Club of Wales visited in November 2018. They helped to plant some crops, visited schools, farms, hospitals and some family homes of the NOVC children. Nia Lloyd, the national organiser for the Wales YFC, was pleased with the success of the visit and hopes that the collaboration will continue.
- Lloyd Davies, former head boy of Llanfyllin High School, also visited. He was involved in work on the ground, visited many schools and helped to prepare for the Permaculture Design course which took place in December. The benefits to all these visitors is great, as testified by them in reports.

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### **In Ngora:**

#### **Goat and sheep breeding project**

- A goat breeding project was set up in 2007 under the leadership of Moses Ekoi, a livestock specialist, on his land at Kobwin, outside the small town of Ngora.
- The aim is to improve the productivity of local goats by cross breeding with Mubende Elite or Boer breeds. Improved bucks are distributed to the communities as well as surplus females. Households build up their herds to enable them to become self-supporting and improve their quality of life.
- There are two local herdsmen employed at the unit.
- The goat unit has the advantage of solar power and piped water from an underground rainwater catchment tank, thanks to a grant from the Welsh Assembly.
- The breeding stock comprises 50 adult and 5 maiden does either cross breeds, (local x Boer, or local x Mubende) or pure Mubende Elite. There are 4 young Mubende Elite bucks. The unit structure is presently being improved, with a new female house, and a dividing fence so that fodder plants and pasture can be grown. When this is complete we will acquire new Mubende breeding stock to replace ageing crossbreds.
- We have invested in a Dorper ram, which has been joined by 11 local breed females and we now have several 25% Dorper cross lambs.

#### **Orphan and Vulnerable Children Project**

- The project was set up in 2012 by Moses Ekoi and a committee of 6 people. They drew up the terms of the project, using a holistic approach. Funds are raised through gift catalogues and donations from individuals and organisations, particularly churches, chapel and schools.
- Children in this part of Uganda do not go into orphanages but are cared for by members of their extended families.
- For the first 2 years 40 children were chosen for one year of support from the “poorest of the poor”, as Moses described them. In 2008 the committee asked us to extend the period of support to 3 years, which meant that we had to reduce the number of new children recruited each year to 30.
- Detailed budgets are submitted twice a year, which sometimes have to be adapted to fit the amounts raised in a particular year.
- The Christmas 2018 catalogue raised enough to recruit a further 30 children, bringing the total to 230 and providing great benefit to the children and the families who care for them.
- As with their predecessors they have been given uniforms, shoes and stationery to keep them in school, a mosquito net to protect them from malaria, tree seedlings, a solar lamp (for homework), maize seed and a female goat, together with skills training in a wide range of household and income generating skills. All of these gifts are of great benefit to the children and their carer families. In particular, the skills training helps them to become self-supporting in the future.
- Moses, his daughter Ruth and the committee work extremely hard to administer the project, organise the activities and monitor the children’s progress in their homes and at the centre, which is Moses’ house and

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compound. The children attend “Centre Days” once a month (each group in turn) and this is when the skills training takes place in carpentry, tailoring, sewing, knitting, repairing shoes, cooking, weaving and others. Items produced are sold in the community, local markets and each year some are brought here to sell. This not only provides income but also increases the children’s confidence and self-esteem.

- Moses and the committee are exploring ways in which to adapt the project in order to benefit more primary school children in view of the large number of families who ask for places and who have to be disappointed. The Ngora team is also very keen to offer support to youngsters at secondary school who have dropped out because their families cannot afford the fees. Moses is consulting on plans to build a Resource and Training Centre which will be open to all members of the community and this has the potential to be of great benefit to everyone.

## **Ngora Community Solar Project**

- This is part of TECCO (Teso Energy and Construction Company), set up as a social enterprise in 2017.
- The aim of the solar project is to light up as many community homes as possible to replace smoky, dangerous, kerosene lanterns and candles, and to install solar power in local institutions. Ugandan national grid power is extremely expensive.
- The solar lanterns for school students (many of which are given to the children on the NOVC project) are extremely popular, enabling them to work when the sun goes down early in the evening.
- In the 2 years since the solar project started, 1755 lanterns have been sold and 100 home installations completed for lighting, refrigeration, radio, TV and phone charging. So nearly 2000 households have some form of safe lighting now. A remarkable achievement by our colleagues and which is making a big difference to the quality of life in the whole community and also opening up opportunities for starting small enterprises.
- The climate change campaign is raising awareness in schools and the wider community and attracts buyers, as does the showroom and advice centre.
- Everything is offered at the lowest price possible and those who cannot afford to pay straight off are given hire purchase terms.
- 5 young people are employed on sales, installation and marketing, in addition to 2 electricians and Ruth, who deals with management and accounting.
- The construction side of the company started well with small contracts for solar panels in 5 health centres, 11 schools and 4 government houses. It now has a tipper truck, but faces an obstacle in its pursuit of larger government contracts as the government has stipulated that there has to be £20,000 deposited in the bank before it can bid for these larger contracts. This is clearly beyond their means, as well as ours to help.
- This is already providing much needed employment in the area and, as it grows, will provide more, though it will have to be on a smaller scale than was hoped.



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### **Ngora Agro forestry project**

- The project in Ngora has progressed slowly due to lack of funding and the demands of the other projects here, but it is nevertheless very important to our partners and to us.
- We were very disappointed that a bid for funding from the Welsh Assembly was unsuccessful but we have been fortunate in a generous donation recently which will support a tree and bamboo nursery beside the Goat Unit, to develop animal fodder trees as well as all the varieties fruit and timber seedlings needed by the community. Moses has planted a field of forage sweet potatoes for the goats, on his own land. He has also raised hundreds of orange tree seedlings for the children's gifts on the NOVC project.
- 3 teachers from Ngora attended the permaculture design course in Western Uganda last year, led by our permaculture consultant Charles Mugarura. They will be involved in introducing permaculture to their schools and the tree nursery development, and are presently making preparations, with Charles, for a permaculture training course in Ngora district in December this year.

### **School Links**

- School links are of great mutual benefit to pupils and teachers both in Uganda and in Wales.
- Links between schools in Wales and Uganda have been formed since Easter 2008. Trustee Barbara Maycock obtained funding from the British Council for teacher exchange visits to Llanfyllin High, Llanfechain Primary and Llansantffraid Primary Schools.
- We continue to encourage links between Llanfyllin and Busoga High Schools, and 6 local primary schools with 6 in Kamuli district. In Kamuli, Connie Kauma our DFEFHO member and teacher at Busoga High School continues to lead on school linking and is also developing a wonderful permaculture food forest with help of a student team.

### **Awareness Raising of World Food and Farming Issues**

- This is the second objective in our Constitution and a very important part of our work.
- We were not able to organise a conference last year but Llanfyllin High School is keen for us to organise another and we shall combine it, as always, with a public meeting.
- We again attended the agricultural shows in Llanfyllin and Llanfair Caereinion.
- Trustee Cordelia Weedon regularly exhibits her own photographs and the photodiaries of the children at a number of venues.
- Regular articles about our work have been printed in local newspapers and our twice yearly newsletter is distributed to all our supporters.
- Treasurer, Nick Christoforou keeps our website up-to-date ([www.dolenffermio.org.uk](http://www.dolenffermio.org.uk)) as well as our Facebook page (Dolen Ffermio) and Twitter feed (@dolenffermio)

## **Dolen Ffermio (Farming Link)**

### **Financial Review**

The financial position of the charity remains stable and consistent with previous years.

Total income for the year was £63,253 and total expenditure £62,625.

We are completely volunteer managed have a very low base of costs and have modest funding commitments in Uganda.

### **Reserves Policy**

We do not hold reserves as such as our policy is to send the funds we raise to Uganda to support the projects there and to remit small allowances to some partners. We hold small amounts back to meet essential expenses in the UK. We have enough to cover the commitments made, both on project spending and other expenses.

### **Risk Management**

The trustees have conducted a review of the major risks the charity is exposed to. Where appropriate, procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the charity faces.

### **Statement as to disclosure of information to the Independent Examiner**

In so far as the trustees are aware:

There is no relevant information which the charity's Independent Examiner is unaware of; and

The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the Independent Examiner is aware of that information.

### **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year. In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;  
observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;  
make judgements 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

## **Dolen Ffermio (Farming Link)**

prepare the financial statements on the ongoing concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time of the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with section 130 Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the Board

.....  
Val Talbot  
20/12/2019

## **Dolen Ffermio (Farming Link)**

### **Independent examiner's report to the trustees on the unaudited financial statements of Dolen Ffermio (Farming Link).**

I report on the accounts of Dolen Ffermio for the year ended 28th February 2019 set out on pages 13 to 14.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and independent examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2)

Of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act, as amended;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

#### **Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission and Regulations 11 of the 2006 Regulation. An examination includes a review of the Accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records.

It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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 as proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

.....  
**Thomas Ojo ( BA, BSc, FCPA)**  
**Independent examiner**  
**27/12/2019**

**Dolen Ffermio (Farming Link)****Receipts and Payments Account for Year Ended 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

		£	£	£	£
<b>Total Receipts</b>			<b>63,253</b>		<b>52,521</b>
<b>Direct Charitable Expenditure</b>					
DFEFH	<b>6</b>	12,501		13,948	
NOVC		10,502		10,220	
Sponsorship		2,600		2,550	
WHOVC		2,477		3,220	
Tailoring		-		683	
FARLU		16,741		9,160	
Agro- Forestry		-		504	
Solar		-		2,342	
Goat Project		4,149		660	
Permaculture		5,261		200	
Tilling		350			
General Expenses		-		1,759	
Mt Elgon Coffee		4,518		-	
Printing and other running costs		2,305		-	
			<b>61,404</b>		<b>45,246</b>
<b>Other Expenditure</b>					
Accountancy and Bookkeeping		469		658	
Bank Charges and Interest		752		735	
			<b>1,221</b>		<b>1,393</b>
			<b>-</b>		<b>-</b>
<b>Total Payments</b>			<b>62,625</b>		<b>46,640</b>
Net Receipts for the year			628		5,882
Bank Balance at 28/02/2019			8,636		6,529
Net Surplus / (Deficit for Year)			9,264		12,411

## **Dolen Ffermio (Farming Link)**

### **Notes to the account for the year ended 28th February 2019**

**1 Accounting Conventions**

The financial statements have been prepared using the historical cost convention on a receipts and payments basis.

**2** Income is made up of mainly donations and is completely unrestricted.

**3** All receipts and payments relate to general unrestricted funds.

**4** Charity Trustees are only paid to cover out of pocket expenses.

**5** There is no reason to suggest that the charity will not continue as a going concern.