

TRUSTEES REPORT for 2020

TWC was about to hold its AGM and all reports had been circulated when lockdown was imposed in March 2020. A deferment until June also proved impossible. It was therefore unanimously agreed by the Trustees and Committee that in the circumstances of the time and in the best interests of the Council all those currently holding office should continue in office until further notice. The Trustees Report was, however, submitted to the Charity Commission, as were details of changes during the year. Virtual Meetings of the Committee were arranged on the Zoom platform and decisions later ratified by the Trustees by electronic circulation, enabling the work of the Council to continue as actively and effectively as possible.

The CII Course organised at the ADAPT Centre in Mumbai began in January, but before its completion several participants had to leave before all flights to their home countries were cancelled. Others remained at the Centre but in lockdown until local circumstances permitted travel. For those leaving early, certain aspects of the training were carried out by electronic means and the normal Evaluation Visit by TWC's Hon Advisers was cancelled, the evaluation of Action Plans being carried out, instead, by ADAPT's local professionals. A proposed alternative visit in the Autumn was also cancelled, as was any thought of a Course being held in 2021. Similarly, the possibility of holding a Course at the SETI Centre in Cairo was also out of the question.

Nevertheless, as the full impact of the pandemic could not be predicted in the early part of the year, it had to be assumed that TWC might be called upon for the financial support of one or more Courses. Alternative fundraising was introduced and, thanks to the ingenuity and generosity of members not only was this successful but it also brought members together in a beneficial way, at a very difficult time.

Pat Yaxley
Chairman