



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1.4.2024 **Period start date** **To** 31.3.2025 **Period end date**

Charity name: RIVERSIDE FAMILY CHURCH

Charity registration number: 1003598

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The advancement of the Christian religion either in the United Kingdom or overseas.2. The advancement for the public benefit of religious or other education3. The relief of the aged, poor, sick, deprived, disabled or homeless.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>TO PROMOTE AND UPHOLD THE CHRISTIAN FAITH THROUGH CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS, COMMUNITY SERVICE AND SOCIAL ACTION, BY SUPPORTING THE UNDERPRIVILEGED AND WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE WIDER CHRISTIAN CHURCHES WITHIN SOUTHAMPTON.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children's and Youth Activities - providing games, crafts and activities, and learning life values in line with Christian principles.• Regular Christian services which are open to the public providing a place of welcome, acceptance, support and friendship irrespective of ethnicity, race, background or gender.• We started a midweek bible study – tackling social isolation by seeking to build relationships locally.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We provided prayer support to local people seeking help from us. • Special support for those in need at Christmas through Christmas hampers for the community. We partnered with Compassion and One by one to help those in need internationally. • A Community Café provided in half term school holidays. Helping tackle social isolation and provide activities for families.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	In planning our activities for the year, we kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit at our trustee meetings.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citywide engagement with other charitable organisations to make a difference to many people in the city in areas of homelessness, food poverty, evangelistic initiatives • Summer Community events and 'Christmas at Riverside', which served many from the immediate community by providing free food, refreshments, activities for children etc. • As a church we also actively connect with One Body Southampton. We connected with other churches and begun discussion to look at a shared city vision for collaboration. • We continued to give over 10% of our income to support other charitable organisations which varied from protecting children, to sharing the Christian message around the world. We supported the following organisations: One By One, Martis Productions (formerly, E-quip Arts) and Compassion UK. • We worked in partnership with the local community centre helping develop stronger community links and started planning joint projects together. • We have around 40 active members
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	

Other		
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Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The income for the year was £78,476.69 against expenditure of £77,460.99.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Riverside Family Church has a commitment to holding 3 months priority costs in reserve. This includes funds to cover staffing costs, insurance and utilities as well as covering costs for unforeseen circumstances.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	At the end of March 2024, we had unrestricted reserves of £16,873.63 which is in line with our reserves policy
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	n/a

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	All income is through the giving and generosity of the members of Riverside Family Church and is used to fulfil the objectives and vision of the charity.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed , royal charter)	Para 1.25	Trust deed
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association , CIO)	Para 1.25	By Charitable Trust
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Nominated and appointed by the existing trustees

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	Our operational governance is in accordance with the constitution of Assemblies of God GB (AOG GB) with whom we are fully affiliated members
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Riverside Family Church
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1003598
Charity's principal address	131A Northam Road Southampton Hampshire SO14 0QH

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Clayton Betteridge	Chair of Trustees		
2	Julia Maddock	Trustee		
3	Philippa Robertson	Trustee		
5	Laurence Brackpool	Lead Minister and Trustee		
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19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
The Official Custodian for charities as holding trustee on behalf of the Trustees of Riverside Family Church		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	n/a
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	n/a
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	n/a

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Laurence Brackpool (Lead Minister)

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Other optional information


The church changed its name from Riverside Family Church to RIVER CHURCH.

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

	
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Full name(s)

Clayton Betteridge	Julia Maddock
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Position (eg Secretary,
Chair, etc)

Chair of Trustees	Trustee
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Date

18/01/2026



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Riverside Family Church

On accounts for the year
ended

31 March 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1003598

Set out on pages

2-3

Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner

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

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 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 general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 the 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

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

J. Robertson

Date:

19 December 2025

Name:

J Robertson FMAAT

Address:

JSR Management & HR Consultancy Services Ltd

37A Victoria Road

Southampton SO19 9DY

River Church
Income & Expense
Account
Basis: Cash
From 01/04/2024 To 31/03/2025

Account	Total
Operating Income	
General Income	30.01
Gift Aid	13,581.97
Grants	1,500.00
Sales	400.00
Tithes & Offering	60,594.71
Income for specific purpose	0.00
Buildings	1,000.00
Specific activity	570.00
Total for Income for specific purpose	1,570.00
Total for Operating Income	77,676.69
Cost of Goods Sold	
Total for Cost of Goods Sold	0.00
Gross Profit	77,676.69
Operating Expense	
Bank Fees and Charges	72.42
Buildings Maintenance	2,900.17
Childrens	296.77
Cleaning supplies	125.55
Conference and training	2,184.16
Gifts out	1,060.00
One off giving	2,235.94
Regular giving	6,000.00
Total for Gifts out	9,295.94
Insurance	6,019.41
IT and Internet Expenses	27.00

Account	Total
Meals and Entertainment	607.18
Riverside Community Café	41.62
Welcome Team	1,007.41
Courses / Conferences	13.30
Total for Meals and Entertainment	1,669.51
Office Supplies	474.34
Other Expenses	1,070.70
Repairs and Maintenance	4,837.37
Salaries and Employee Wages	5,107.00
Seasonal mission	33.78
Summer events	23.75
Christmas @ Riverside	450.37
Christmas Hampers	623.09
Easter @ Riverside	97.75
Total for Seasonal mission	1,228.74
Subscriptions	1,053.10
Urban Saints	84.00
Accountants	685.00
DBS	176.16
Membership	3,099.00
Total for Subscriptions	5,097.26
Worship	15.38
Youth	171.43
Travel	0.00
Automobile Expense	568.34
Fuel/Mileage Expenses	260.87
Parking	73.48
Total for Travel	902.69
Utilities	0.00
Broadband	576.00
Electricity	1,519.36
Gas	1,008.86

Account	Total
Water	299.94
Total for Utilities	3,404.16
Employee Costs	0.00
HMRC Employee tax	4,015.87
Pension	2,772.98
Salaries	26,111.25
Total for Employee Costs	32,900.10
Total for Operating Expense	77,800.10
Operating Profit	-123.41
Non Operating Income	
Total for Non Operating Income	0.00
Non Operating Expense	
Total for Non Operating Expense	0.00
Net Profit/Loss	-123.41

River Church

Cash Flow Statement

From 01/04/2024 To 31/03/2025

Account	Account Description	Total	Year To Date 01/04/2024 - 31/03/2025
Beginning Cash Balance		17,450.75	17,450.75
Cash Flow from Operating Activities			
Accounts Receivable	.	-800.00	-800.00
Employee Reimbursements		92.88	92.88
Net Income		676.59	676.59
Non-cash adjustments			
Non-cash adjustments Total		0.00	0.00
Net cash provided by Operating Activities		-30.53	-30.53
Cash Flow from Investing Activities			
Furniture and Equipment	.	-389.00	-389.00
Gift Aid Receivable		-496.70	-496.70
Net cash provided by Investing Activities		-885.70	-885.70
Cash Flow from Financing Activities			
Net cash provided by Financing Activities		0.00	0.00
Net Change in cash		-916.23	-916.23
Ending Cash Balance		16,534.52	16,534.52

Signed by one or two trustees on
Behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of Approval



Financial Management

Accountancy Bookkeeping & HR Consultancy Services Ltd



Client:	Riverside Family Church	
Client Manager:		
Bookkeeper:		
Year End:	31.03.2025	
VAT:		
PAYE:	YES	
Capium User	YES	
Reviewed By:	John Robertson FMAAT	
Review Dated:	10/12/2024	

Summary:

In line with our recommendations of previous years the church has invested in bookkeeping software to carry out the day-to-day transactions thus negating common accounting errors.

Not all expense incurred has a purchase invoice uploaded to zoho, Kingdom Coffee for example.

General Point: -

- Section B4 of the Independent report has NOT been updated as no current figures have been supplied.

As has been the case in previous reviews the accounts for Riverside Family Church have been presented in good order.

A cross section of transactions from each month were reviewed and consisted of: -

- A check on Nominal to ensure correct data entry
- Reconciliation of expenses to cheques raised by treasurer to reimburse personnel.
- Bank Reconciliation
- Fixed Assets

There are only a few minor observations as listed below.

- Not all transactions in the Nominal "One off Giving" has supporting documentation to facilitate cross checking.
- As above for "Regular Giving"
- Fixed Assets – are long-term, tangible items a business owns and uses to generate revenue.

I would suggest that boxes "to sort things" would not fall into this category.

Fixed assets are subject to an annual depreciation, Depreciation is the gradual transfer of the original cost of a Fixed Asset from the **Balance Sheet** to the **Profit and Loss Account**. The transfer is usually done by a **Journal**. As general rule of thumb depreciation is calculated on the straight-line basis over the asset's useful life.



Financial Management

Accountancy Bookkeeping & HR Consultancy Services Ltd



For example, a computer costs £1,000, and is expected to last 4 years, ie. an annual depreciation rate of 25%. On a **straight line method**, the annual depreciation is £250, which is transferred to the Profit and Loss Account from the Balance Sheet every year for 4 years. So after 1 year, the Balance Sheet value becomes £750, and the £250 has been charged as Depreciation to Profit and Loss. In the second year, the computer depreciates to £500, and another £250 is charged to Profit & Loss.

The Transaction details should be the item purchased and not how it was paid for.

The "Transaction Type" cannot be an "Expense" as Fixed assets are classed as "Capital Items"

The purchase of a computer should not be coded under "Furniture & Equipment" the nominal "Computer Equipment" would better describe the asset purchased.

The opening balance of £24.00 requires explaining.

4. It is best practice to assist in the transaction audit trail that the transaction is given a purchase invoice number and the detail of the item purchased / generic detail added to the nominal.
5. As suggested in previous reports a secondary signature for approval of reimbursements should be introduced.

J Robertson

J Robertson FMAAT
JSR Management & HR Consultancy Services Ltd