

UNITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

England & Wales · Charity number 1050853

Details

Other names	HOUGHTON REGIS COMMUNITY CHURCH, KING'S COMMUNITY CHURCH, KCC
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1995-11-22
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	C/O Jewels 6 Bedford Square Houghton Regis Dunstable Bedfordshire LU5 5ES
Phone	07402430624
Email	contact@unitychristianfellowship.org.uk
Website	https://unitychristianfellowship.org.uk/

Activities

Objects: (A)TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION AND TO ESTABLISH A CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN THE AREA OF HOUGHTON REGIS, BEDFORDSHIRE. (B)TO RELIEVE PERSONS WHO ARE IN CONDITIONS OF NEED OR HARDSHIP OR WHO ARE AGED OR SICK IN PARTICULAR IN THE SAID AREA OF HOUGHTON REGIS, BEDFORDSHIRE. (C)TO ENGAGE IN SUCH OTHER CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES OF BENEFIT TO THE COMMUNITY IN HOUGHTON REGIS, BEDFORDSHIRE AS THE TRUSTEES AMY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT.

Activities: Non Denominational Christian Church

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Other Finance, Provides Human Resources, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Religious Activities, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** HOUGHTON REGIS
- Bedford
- Central Bedfordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-04-05	£23,495	£23,473	-	-
2024-04-05	£15,596	£23,115	-	-
2023-04-05	£13,957	£21,408	-	-
2022-04-05	£26,446	£20,526	-	-
2021-04-05	£30,296	£21,512	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anne Marie Hoad		2024-10-20
Leslie Youngman		2023-08-01
Marylyn Jean Owen		2021-07-04

UNITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

England & Wales - Charity number 1050853

Accounts

HOUGHTON REGIS COMMUNITY CHURCH

Chairmans report

Summary of the year – April 2021-March 2022 Houghton Regis Community Church

This year has seen significant change for the church/charity including serious consideration of whether we would continue to exist.

April 2021 began with our Easter celebrations, Good Friday and Easter Sunday, being conducted over zoom as covid restrictions continued to impact the practicalities of physical meetings. We also utilised zoom for a joint celebration with the River Network churches.

Our teaching series was continuing on Gifts of the Spirit with different church members leading and sharing– this continued through until July.

In May the first major change occurred with David announcing his stepping down from being an Elder (and latterly from his role as trustee). This led to an expansion of the church leadership team to support Peter and Ruth in their roles as Elders. In June, HRCC was represented by Rachel Wilson at the Bible Society Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast followed by zoom with Andrew Selous. In July, at the AGM, Marylyn became a trustee to take over from David.

Our Sunday gatherings continued on Zoom until the end of July when we began to meet in person again. Our first Sunday gathering was on 25th July back at Tithe Farm Primary School, we then met at Houghton Hall Park or Jewels (weather dependent) over the summer holidays. We used a different parable from Jesus each week as a focus for our time together.

During the summer the Nolans announced their plans to move on from HRCC and prompted the leadership team and church to seek God's guidance on the correct way forward for the church.

September 2021 marked 10years of HRCC and it was agreed to mark that achievement with a celebration gathering at Tithe Farm School on 5th September – this turned out to be our final meeting at the school. HRCC took a three week 'break' as we responded to what we felt God had told us about having a death and rebirth.

From 3rd October our church gatherings returned as in-person meetings at Jewels with a focus on 'gathering at Jesus' feet', sharing and growing in relationship with one another, seeking God on what and where He wanted us to be as we moved forward.

Jewels received a 'freshen up' as we further increased our presence and community outreach there. Jewels had re-opened in April, operating in line with government covid guidance and various events and activities had occurred over the months. We were able to continue to provide Food Bags to those in need following the impact of the pandemic, and this lasted until late July. Jewels housed an elephant for a few weeks whilst it was prepared for a local charity event and hosted a special NHS fundraising Cream Tea event. A number of 'Detash and Clearance' events helped to move on stock and, in March 2022, raise money for the crisis in Ukraine. Successful Craft Days were run in October and December with themes of 'No tricks only treats' and Christmas Craft. Working with the Bedfordshire Domestic Abuse Partnership, Jewels became an official "safe space". When the Russian invasion in to Ukraine began in February, Jewels was able to provide space for people to pray for the

HOUGHTON REGIS COMMUNITY CHURCH

situation and a 'Prayer for Ukraine' window evolved which engaged and supported many in the community.

Further support to the community has been made through supporting the new local counselling service, 'Pathways and Perspectives', that has been set up by Rachel H. We have continued to help fund the work of the community worker within Bidwell West and remain committed to working proactively with local churches and organisations for the benefit of our community.

Throughout the year we have continued to be part of the River Network with plans in place for April 2022 to run the weekend away event that was initially scheduled for 2020. HRCC has remained part of the Evangelical Alliance and also Houghton Regis Churches Together.

HOUGHTON REGIS COMMUNITY CHURCH

Accounts for the Year to 5 April 2022

1. Receipts & Payments Account (General Purpose Fund)

Income Receipts	2022	2021
Covenants and Donations		
Covenanted Giving	£ 10,780	£ 13,126
General Offerings	£ 1,390	£ -
Gift Aid	£ 3,380	£ 3,804
Sundry Donations	£ -	£ -
Other Receipts		
Jewels income *	£ 10,350	£ 13,358
River Network Weekend	£ 480	£ -
Grants	£ -	£ -
Smile Amazon	£ 54	£ -
Bank Interest	£ 12	£ 8
	£ 26,446	£ 30,296
Direct Charitable Expenditure		
Specific Gifts	£ 1,495	£ 1,335
Worship Services	£ 465	£ 259
Childrens and Youth Work	£ -	£ -
Rent of Bedford Square	£ 12,090	£ 12,924
Rent of School	£ 1,000	£ 2,400
Church Equipment	£ -	£ -
Sundry Expenses	£ 72	£ 72
	£ 15,121	
Other Expenditure		
Office Stationery and equipment	£ -	£ -
General Insurances	£ 319	£ 309
Resources and Conferences	£ -	£ -
Advertising	£ -	£ -
Church Administration	£ 261	£ 720
Evangelism	£ 3,552	£ 1,702
River Network	£ 300	£ 300
Evangelical Alliance	£ 90	£ 90
CCPAS	£ 129	£ 129
River Network Weekend	£ -	£ 400
Total G&P/NPOWER	£ 755	£ 872
	£ 5,405	
Total Payments	£ 20,526	£ 21,512
Net receipts for the Year	£ 5,920	£ 8,784
Cash and Bank Balances as at 5 April 2021	£ 23,184	£ 14,400
Cash and Bank Balances as at 5 April 2022	£ 29,104	£ 23,184

HOUGHTON REGIS COMMUNITY CHURCH

2. Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 5 April 2022

	2022	2021
Monetary Assets		
Bank and Cash		
Balances:		
Bank Current Account - HRCC	£ 9,080	£ 8,172
Deposit Account - HRCC	£ 20,024	£ 15,012
<hr/>		
Total for General Purpose Fund, as above	£ 29,104	£ 23,184

Non-Monetary Assets

Permanent Endowment: None

Other Assets

(non-endowed)	- Held for functional use by the Charity		£
	Office Equipment	value	£ 100
	PA Equipment	value	£ 2,000
	Worship Equipment	value	£ 80
	Church Equipment (computers etc)	value	£ 300

Note:

* Jewels is our space in Bedford Square that acts as the official church office, the church meeting space, and also functions as our point of contact with the local community. The shop is officially run as a fund-raising venture of the church and transfers surplus funds to HRCC to cover the costs of the space - shown above as "Jewels Income". The receipts and payments for the Jewels shop do not form part of these accounts.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Houghton Regis Community Church

**On accounts for the year
ended**

5 April 2022

**Charity no
(if any)**

1050853

Set out on pages

1 to 2 (which reports cash and bank balances at 5/4/22 of £29104.

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 05 / 04 / 2022.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed 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 material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 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:

John C. Magee

Date:

16-07-2021

Name:

John Magee

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Address:

24 The Heath

Leighton Buzzard

Beds LU7 3HL

UNITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

England & Wales - Charity number 1050853

Accounts

Houghton Regis Community Church
AGM 4th July 2021
Summary of the year - April 2020-March 2021

This financial year will be remembered by most for the impact the coronavirus pandemic had on our world.

Our most recent in-person meeting had occurred in March 2020 and so by April 2020 we had moved to online Zoom meetings for our Sunday Gatherings, Midweek Small Groups, Prayer Meetings and leaders Meetings. As the pandemic evolved we realised this change was not likely to be short term – and it turned out we didn't meet in person for a church meeting for the whole of the April 2020 – March 2021 year.

The other main impact of the coronavirus restrictions came on our work at Jewels. Over the year Jewels has opened when able, in line with government guidance and regulations, understandably at reduced opening hours given our reliance on volunteer staffing to open and the widespread impact everyone was having on their lives. Our prayer tree enabled visitors to write a simple prayer or concern and pin it to the season of their choice – with members of the Jewels team, and wider church being able to pray for these concerns.

We were blessed to be able to be a blessing to the community by using Jewels as a base from which to provide Food Bags to those in need. Generosity from within the church and from the wider community ensured a regular flow of donations and our enthusiastic volunteers ensured those in need could not only come to collect food bags but also facilitated home deliveries. This continued to grow our excellent relationship with the town council and Morrisons. Our links with the council also saw Jewels become a collection point for the Town's 'Family Fun Activity Packs' during the summer holidays.

With the country being told to "Stay Home, Protect the NHS, Save lives" we enjoyed some virtual social events to keep the church connected and boost moral – including some challenging, and enjoyable, quiz afternoons/evenings. We joined in with the millions of people creating rainbows as a show of solidarity with front line workers – and paused small group meetings to join in the 8pm Thursday #clapforheroes.

Regular prayer meetings took place over the year to pray and unite – including joint prayer meetings with the wider River Network Churches. Our planned River Network Weekend for April 2020 had been cancelled, and initial considerations to move it to 2021 were changed in favour of 2022 and more time for the world to recover from the impact of the pandemic.

Teaching in our Sunday Gatherings focused on a chapter by chapter study of Acts – each week David posted a video explain the chapter, this included discussion questions that were used in small groups or for individual consideration. On the Sunday Zoom meetings, we looked more closely at one particular part of the chapter with various people taking turns to lead.

We found the Sunday Gatherings on Zoom were challenging for the young people to fully engage with, so a separate bi-weekly Monday Night Kids Zoom was introduced which helped them keep in touch with one another and explore biblical themes and teachings through interactive activities and songs.

Due to the restrictions our regular Christmas Celebration also became an online event. 'Wise Men Seek Him Still' went out live on YouTube and Facebook as well as our Zoom Gathering.

In December we also offered 'Need a Listening Ear?' drop in sessions at Jewels for people to seek support during the mounting challenges.

In January 2021 we started a new teaching series on the gifts of the Spirit and also introduced a new approach to our teaching delivery; with a pre-recorded message going out mid-week for people to watch and explore (often together in small group) followed by facilitated discussions on the topic at the Sunday Gatherings.

Also during early 2021 we agreed to participate in an exciting PhD research project looking at church leadership - the lead researcher has since been observing and participating in our church gatherings and also having one:one interviews with consenting members of the church.

As March 2021 drew to a close the UK was on a roadmap to 'reopening' but there was no clear guidance on when we would be likely to be able to meet again in person without significant restrictions.

HOUGHTON REGIS COMMUNITY CHURCH

Accounts for the Year to 5 April 2021

1. Receipts & Payments Account (General Purpose Fund)

Income Receipts	2021	2020
Covenants and Donations		
Covenanted Giving	£ 13,126	£ 11,484
General Offerings	£ -	£ 1,811
Gift Aid	£ 3,804	£ 11,789
Sundry Donations	£ -	£ -
Other Receipts		
Jewels income	£ 13,358	£ 9,324
River Network Weekend	£ -	£ 1,450
Grants	£ -	£ -
Bank Interest	£ 8	£ 4
	£ 30,296	£ 35,863
Direct Charitable Expenditure		
Specific Gifts	£ 1,335	£ 400
Worship Services	£ 259	£ 176
Childrens and Youth Work	£ -	£ -
Rent of Bedford Square	£ 12,924	£ 16,719
Rent of School	£ 2,400	£ 4,400
Church Equipment	£ -	£ 502
Sundry Expenses	£ 72	£ 72
	£ 16,990	
Other Expenditure		
Office Stationery and equipment	£ -	£ 60
General Insurances	£ 309	£ 307
Resources and Conferences	£ -	£ -
Advertising	£ -	£ 20
Church Administration	£ 720	£ 693
Evangelism	£ 1,702	£ 1,017
River Network	£ 300	£ 300
Evangelical Alliance	£ 90	£ 90
Thirtyone:eight (CCPAS)	£ 129	£ 120
River Network Weekend	£ 400	£ -
Total Gas & Power	£ 872	£ 971
Jewels Net Costs	£ -	£ 507
	£ 4,522	
Total Payments	£ 21,512	£ 26,354
Net receipts for the Year	£ 8,784	£ 9,509
Cash and Bank Balances as at 5 April 2020	£ 14,400	£ 4,891
Cash and Bank Balances as at 5 April 2021	£ 23,184	£ 14,400

HOUGHTON REGIS COMMUNITY CHURCH

2. Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 5 April 2020

	2021	2020
Monetary Assets		
Bank and Cash		
Balances:		
Bank Current Account - HRCC	£ 8,172	£ 8,954
Deposit Account - HRCC	£ 15,012	£ 5,004
Bank Current Account - Jewels Co-Operative	£ -	£ 442
Total for General Purpose Fund, as above	£ 23,184	£ 14,400

Non-Monetary Assets

Permanent Endowment: None

Other Assets

(non-endowed)	- Held for functional use by the Charity		£
	Office Equipment	value	£ 150
	PA Equipment	value	£ 3,000
	Worship Equipment	value	£ 100
	Church Equipment (computers etc)	value	£ 500

Jewels

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Section A

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Signed:

John C. Magee

Date:

11-07-2021

Name:

John Magee

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Address:

24 The Heath

Leighton Buzzard

Beds LU7 3HL