

THE BRIDGE CHURCH
UNIT 1A CRITCHCRAFT BUILDINGS
BULWARK INDUSTRIAL ESTATE
BULWARK
CHEPSTOW
MONMOUTHSHIRE
NP16 5QZ

Registered Charity: 1063495

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT
AND
INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

Luke Silver
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Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts

Receipts and Payment Accounts

Report to the trustees/members of The Bridge Church, Chepstow

Registered Charity Number 1063495

On the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2021

Set out on the following pages

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's 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;
follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
- Have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed *L A Silver*

Date: 8 June 2021

Luke Silver, HNC Business & Finance / Accountancy Practitioner

Accountancy & Taxation Services
1 Eastcote Road, Tiffeld, Towcester, Northamptonshire. NN12 8AS

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees

Introduction

Thank you for submitting the accounts for independent examination. They have been well maintained and the treasurer and others responsible are to be commended for their hard work. Therefore I will keep my comments to a minimum.

Charity Law and Financial Regulations

The independent examination has been carried out in accordance with the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 1995 (Statutory Instruments No 2724) and the Accounting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

Signing of Accounts

I shall be obliged if you will please forward a copy of the signature page for my records after the accounts have been signed by a representative appointed by the Trustees and Church Council. A spare copy is enclosed.

Conclusion

There are no other matters I feel need to be brought to your attention.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for further clarification or for further assistance.

Luke Silver

Date: 8 June 2021

THE BRIDGE CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND THE CHURCH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

ACTIVITIES REVIEW

The financial results are set out in the enclosed accounts.

The principal activity throughout the year under review was that of the advancement of the Christian faith.

TRUSTEES

The Trustees during the year were as follows:

Chairperson

Mr Martin Coleman

36 Queens Road, Bulwark, Chepstow, Gwent. NP16 5AN Tel: 07943 851799

Mr Tim Robertson

9 Station Road, Patchway, Bristol. BS34 6LP Tel: 01454 202756

Mr Martyn Enever

2 Bryn Deri Rise, Pwllmeyric, Chepstow, NP16 6LE

Mr Paul Edwards

5 Chapel Close, Pwllmeyric, Chepstow, NP16 6HW

STATEMENT

We certify that the books, vouchers and information produced to enable the independent examination of our accounts to be conducted contain a full and correct record of our financial transactions and activities to the best of our knowledge and belief.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES AND CHURCH COUNCIL



Please print name: MARTIN COLEMAN

Date: 15/9/21

The Bridge Church, Chepstow

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31st March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Designated Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total 31.03.21 £	Total 31.03.20 £
Resources Arising						
Donations, Legacies and Similar Incoming Resources	3a	121,905	0	0	121,905	130,016
Investment Income	3c	25	0	0	25	112
Other Incoming Resources	3d	7,272	0	0	7,272	18,364
Total Incoming Resources		129,202	0	0	129,202	148,492
Resources Used						
Direct Charitable Expenditure						
Establishment Support Costs	4a	36,115	0	0	36,115	36,071
Costs of Activities in Furtherance of the Charitable Objects	4b	79,351	0	0	79,351	120,121
Church Family Expenses	4c	341	0	0	341	1,358
Evangelism & Outreach	4d	140	0	0	140	998
Resources Expended on Managing and Administering the Charity	4e	1,861	0	0	1,861	2,637
Total Resources Expended		117,808	0	0	117,808	161,185
Net Movement in Funds		11,394	0	0	11,394	(12,693)
Fund Balances b/fwd at 01.04.19		37,498	0	0	37,498	50,191
Transfers		0	0	0	0	0
Gains and Losses Building Valuation		0	0	0	0	0
Fund Balances c/fwd at 31.03.20		48,892	0	0	48,892	37,498

The Bridge Church, Chepstow

<u>Balance Sheet</u>	Notes	2020		2019	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	2		0		0
			<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>
Current Assets					
Bank Accounts Hand	5	40,270		29,160	
Debtors	6	8,622		8,338	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	0		0	
Net Current Assets			48,892		37,498
Total Assets less current liabilities			48,892		37,498
Creditors: amounts falling due in more than a year	8		0		0
Net Assets			<u>48,892</u>		<u>37,498</u>
Capital and Reserves					
Income Funds:					
General Fund			48,892		37,498
			<u>48,892</u>		<u>37,498</u>

The Bridge Church, Chepstow
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31st March 2021

1.Accounting Policies

(a) These accounts have been prepared on a accruals basis and include income which has been received or that is receivable at the year end.

(b) The recommendations of charities SORP have been followed in the preparation of these accounts.

2. Tangible Fixed Assets

		Land & Building £	Fixtures, Fitting & Equipment £	2020 Total £
Equipment				
Cost	01-Apr-20	0	0	0
Revaluation		0	0	0
Cost at	31-Mar-21	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Depreciation				
Charge	01-Apr-20	0	0	0
Depreciation at	31-Mar-21	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Book Value	31-Mar-21	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Book Value	31-Mar-20	0	0	0

The annual commitments under non-cancelling operating leases and capital commitments are as follows:

31st March 2021 :	None
31st March 2020 :	None

Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31st March 2021 (continued)

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Designated Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total 31.03.21 £	Total 31.03.20 £
3. Incoming Resources					
a) Donations, Legacies and Similar Incoming Resources					
Tithes & Offerings	82,577	0	0	82,577	96,842
Gifts	0	0	0	0	0
Charities Trust	0	0	0	0	732
Gift Aid Tax Reclaimed	16,903	0	0	16,903	27,267
Church Plant	22,425	0	0	22,425	5,175
	121,905	0	0	121,905	130,016
b) Investment Income					
Bank Interest	25	0	0	25	112
	25	0	0	25	112
c) Other Incoming Resources					
Other Income	30	0	0	30	1,139
Salary Support	7,242	0	0	7,242	17,225
	7,272	0	0	7,272	18,364
Total Incoming Resources	129,202	0	0	129,202	148,492

Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31st March 2021 (continued)

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Designated Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total 31.03.21 £	Total 31.03.20 £
4. Resources Expended					
a) Establishment Support Costs					
Unit 1a Lease	28,000	0	0	28,000	28,027
Gas	650	0	0	650	774
Electric	1,447	0	0	1,447	2,230
Water	156	0	0	156	281
Insurance	277	0	0	277	271
Fire Inspection	117	0	0	117	152
PA / Equipment Costs	2,882	0	0	2,882	1,684
Building Maintenance	2,026	0	0	2,026	1,487
Communication	560	0	0	560	1,165
	36,115	0	0	36,115	36,071
b) Costs of Activities in Furtherance of the Charitable Objects					
In House Ministry	58,876	0	0	58,876	69,366
Conference Expenses	(50)	0	0	(50)	1,909
Travel Expenses	0	0	0	0	3,999
Gifts / Missionary Support	15,600	0	0	15,600	38,362
Ring Fenced Giving	4,925	0	0	4,925	6,485
Church Plant	0	0	0	0	0
	79,351	0	0	79,351	120,121
c) Church Family Expenses					
AoG Subscription	50	0	0	50	50
Churches Together	75	0	0	75	75
Kids Church Resources	0	0	0	0	214
Youth / Relentless	216	0	0	216	216
Food & Drink	0	0	0	0	800
Worship	0	0	0	0	0
Creche	0	0	0	0	3
	341	0	0	341	1,358
d) Evangelism & Outreach					
Course Materials / Resources	140	0	0	140	579
Community Activity	0	0	0	0	0
Church Plant	0	0	0	0	0
Men's Ministry	0	0	0	0	45
Women's Ministry	0	0	0	0	216
Welcome Events	0	0	0	0	72
24/7 Prayer	0	0	0	0	86
Strategic Prayer	0	0	0	0	0
Ministry Team	0	0	0	0	0
	140	0	0	140	998

Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31st March 2021 (continued)

	Unrestricted Funds 2021 £	Designated Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2021 £	Total 31.03.21 £	Total 31.03.20 £
e) Resources Expended on Managing and Administering the Charity					
CCLI Licence	608	0	0	608	538
Child Protection	268	0	0	268	185
Inspire	42	0	0	42	0
Professional Fees	413	0	0	413	345
Printing / Stationery	0	0	0	0	104
Sundries	530	0	0	530	1,465
	1,861	0	0	1,861	2,637
Total Resources Expended	117,808	0	0	117,808	161,185

5. Bank Accounts

	31-Mar-21 £	31-Mar-20 £
Barclays Bank Community Statement	30,209	4,541
Barclays Bank Base Rate Reward	10,061	20,036
Barclays Bank Business Premium	0	0
Barclays Church Plant	0	4,583
	40,270	29,160

6. Debtors

Gift Aid Tax Reclaim	8,622	8,338
	8,622	8,338

7. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	31-Mar-21 £	31-Mar-20 £
NONE	0	0
	0	0

Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31st March 2020 (continued)

8. Creditors: Amounts Falling Due In More Than One Year

	31-Mar-21 £	31-Mar-20 £
NONE	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

9. Staff Costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Gross Wages and Salaries	58,876	69,366
Employer's National Insurance Costs (incl above)	0	0
	<u>58,876</u>	<u>69,366</u>

No employees received emoluments of over £60,000. (2020: None)

The Charity operates payroll under a PAYE scheme.

Trustees' Annual Report - 2020/21

(Accompanying Receipts and Payments Accounts)

Section 1 Legal and Administrative Information

Charity name The Bridge Church, Chepstow

Other names charity is known by: N/A b

Registered charity number; 1063495

For the financial year beginning on 5th April 2020

For the financial year ending on 31st March 2021

Charity's principal address; Unit 1A Critchcraft Buildings, Bulwark Ind. Est. Chepstow, NP16 5QZ

Names of the charity trustees:

Name	Office (if any)	Dates acted, if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee
Martin Coleman	Chairman		<i>de facto</i> as Minister
Tim Robertson			Trustees of Charity
Martyn Enever	Elder		Trustees of Charity
Paul Edwards	Treasurer		Trustees of Charity

Holding Trustees: Sarah Coleman, Daphne Goulding, Paul Edwards

Governing document: Model Trust Deed for Local Assemblies of God

Names and Addresses of advisors regularly used: Luke Silver, Accountancy & Taxation Services, The Stables, 1 London Rd, Towcester, Northamptonshire, NN12 6AJ.

Section 2 Objectives of the Charity

Objects of the charity:

The objects of the Church ("the Objects") are for the benefit of the public:

- to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Church Council from time to time may think fit;
- to relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind including through the provision of counselling and support in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Church Council from time to time think fit; and
- to advance education in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Church Council from time to time may think fit.

Public Benefit: The trustees have considered the guidance produced by the Charity Commission on the provision of public benefit and they can confirm that public benefit has been provided in at least the following ways;

- Providing regular public worship open to all.
- Teaching Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups
- Praying regularly for our community
- Taking religious assemblies in schools
- Providing a youth club with a Christian ethos
- Providing much needed practical support for the surrounding community through a range of services and courses, including running a Foodbank distribution Centre and a child-mentoring program in local schools.
- Supporting other charities and churches in the UK and overseas.

Section 3 **Activities and Achievements**

Owing to the spiritual nature of the church's objectives it is difficult to quantify achievements; however we have in the past year undertaken the following activities:

Church Activities:

The past year has been heavily disrupted by the global coronavirus pandemic, which has meant many of our regular activities and events have had to be adapted or cancelled. Despite the incredible challenges that the pandemic has created, as a local church we have navigated the past year with incredible resilience and have continued to experience many positive outcomes.

The nation went into lockdown at the end of March 2020 and so we had to quickly move our Sunday services online. The elders and leaders worked incredibly hard to ensure we could offer something each week for people to engage with online from their homes. We produced pre-recorded services every Sunday without fail, which included a positive welcome, some short testimonies and encouragements from church members, some sung worship performed by a worship leader from their home, and a shorter sermon, and these services were streamed every week on Facebook, YouTube and the church website. Church members were able to watch from their homes on Sunday mornings and we heard stories of lots of other people from the local area and further afield also tuning in.

This online only content continued until September when we were able to reintroduce in-person meetings with all the risk assessments, hygiene and social distancing guidelines in place. We had to move to a two-service format on Sunday mornings (9:30am & 11am) in order to accommodate everyone in a socially distanced layout. This obviously created extra work for those involved, but each volunteer and leader has selflessly served throughout this Pandemic to ensure God is honoured and people have been helped.

Not only did we go online with our Sunday services, but we also moved our Life Groups online, using zoom to ensure people remained connected. Although getting to grips with zoom was difficult for many to begin with, it has become a really helpful tool in the life of the church.

We used zoom for our prayer meetings which has become a really helpful addition to our prayer focus as a church. Zoom has made prayer more accessible, because people only have to log on from their own homes in order to be able to pray with others. Early on in the pandemic we began zoom prayer meetings on Sunday and Wednesday evenings (19mins for Covid-19). We also started prayer meetings for the sick and suffering on Monday and Thursday mornings at 8am for 30mins. These have been consistently attended through the year. We have also held youth club online for young people in school years 6-10, and this has been a really helpful vehicle to ensure the young people stay connected in a really difficult season.

We have held quiz nights, women's breakfasts, inspire leaders meetings, elders meetings, men's meetings and prayer events on zoom throughout the year.

We also launched an online Alpha course, which although only ended up with two guests attending, was a really encouraging and positive experience. We plan to hold Alpha online again next year.

At Christmas we were able to give out 49 food and gift hampers to families from Thornwell school. These hampers were produced in partnership with foodbank, as well as through the generous donations from the church and its members.

FoodBank

The pandemic had a significant impact on Foodbank in both a positive and negative way. Negatively, the distribution centre was no longer able to welcome clients in person and it had to become a referral agent collection point. Obviously building connection and offering prayer with the clients is a key part of the Foodbank ethos and so it has been hard for the team to function without this key component.

During the first lockdown, volunteers were not able to get involved in Foodbank and it had to be largely run by the coordinator, Sarah Coleman, using The Bridge Church premises to store food donations and to serve as a collection point for referral agencies.

Positively, donations of food were coming in thick and fast from organisations and food outlets and so the Foodbank were never short of resources to help those in need.

During the year we were also able to secure funding for increased storage for Foodbank in Unit 1a. We purchased a storage container for Foodbank to use and also had some storage built into the foyer.

Transforming Lives for Good (TLG)

The Pandemic and lockdown meant that our TLG work had to stop for much of the year. We are hopeful that as restrictions are lifted and things return to normal, that our coaches will be able to reengage with the schools and that we will also be able to recruit new coaches and continue to promote the great work of TLG and their early intervention program.

Overseas Mission

We are connected with various projects overseas through prayer, financial giving and relationship. The strongest links are with two projects in Kisumu, Kenya. Genesis School and Compassion project and To Kenya With Love and The Simon Newberry School. We have continued to support these projects financially throughout the past year. We also support financially and prayerfully organisations such as Open Doors, Wycliffe Bible Translators, TLG and Christians Against Poverty. Each year we plan to do a review of our giving and adjust/change accordingly.

Vision & Finance

The specific areas of vision that we believe God is calling us to really focus upon are; Serving community and Growing together. We feel that the prayer and generosity elements have been bedded in well to the church culture and that these will continue to be cultivated as part of our key values.

Part of our vision for serving community is to install a fully functioning kitchen in Unit 1a to enable us to increase our opportunities for connection with our community. We want to create projects and spaces where we not only serve our community but also are able to build deeper relationships with them. In January 2021 the financial situation of the church was looking bleak, we were expected to drop approx. £10k below our financial reserves limit at the end of March and yet we still had this desire to install a kitchen, which could cost up to £20k. As elders we prayed and discussed what we should do and felt that we needed to continue with the vision God had stirred in our hearts. We put a plea out to the church via a video to explain the financial situation and ask those who were able to give. We also applied for funding from various streams. Within weeks the situation completely turned around and the financial situation had changed dramatically. We received over £8k from church donations and ended up receiving £15k of funding towards our lease payments, and then over £25k towards the kitchen has been received from various funding bids. This has certainly confirmed that the kitchen and its part in our vision is the right direction of travel.

AOG

The Bridge Church continues to hold status with AOG and contributes 3% of its annual income to AOG UK. Leaders from The Bridge Church attend various national and local conferences throughout the year and Martin is connected with AOG churches across South Wales due to his role as AOG South East Wales zone leader. Jen Edwards is currently enrolled on the ministers in training program, which is a three year course that leads to full status ministers status within AOG.

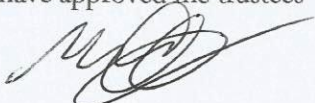
Reserves Policy

It is our policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds (if possible) which equates to at least 3 months unrestricted payments to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. We are currently matching this target although can see some challenges ahead which we are already thinking through.

Section 4 Declaration

The trustees have approved the trustees' report above.

Signature:



Full name: MARTIN COLEMAN

Position:

Chairman

Date: 15/9/21