

THE FRENCH PROTESTANT CHURCH OF LONDON

England & Wales · Charity number 1070623

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1998-07-22

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address French Protestant Church
8-9 Soho Square
London
W1D 3QD

Phone 020 7437 5311

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Website www.egliseprotestantelondres.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION BY BEARING WITNESS OF THE GOSPEL IN THE TRADITION OF THE CONFESSION OF FAITH DRAWN UP AT PARIS IN 1559 (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE CONFESSION) AND OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSES OF THE CHURCH PRIMARILY TOWARDS THE FRENCH SPEAKING COMMUNITY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. THE DISCIPLINE ECCLESIASTIQUE OF 1641, THE REGLEMENTS DU CONSISTOIRE OF 1754, THE REGLEMENTS DES ANCIENS OF 1767 AND SUBSEQUENT REGLEMENTS (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO TOGETHER AS THE REGLEMENTS) FORM THE HISTORICAL BASIS OF THE CHURCH'S PRACTICE AND DOCTRINE AND ITS ADHERENCE TO THE REGLEMENTS IS DECLARED AND AFFIRMED INSOFAR AS THE CONSISTORY DECIDES THEM TO BE APPROPRIATE TO CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

Activities: The Church exists to advance the Christian religion primarily towards the French-speaking community in the United Kingdom. It makes charitable payments to charitable organisations.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies

Geography

- Throughout London

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£196,915	£208,942	-	-
2023-12-31	£213,736	£258,895	-	-
2022-12-31	£214,317	£182,320	-	-
2021-12-31	£149,911	£179,322	-	-
2020-12-31	£431,312	£171,955	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Thibault Lavergne	Chair	2022-09-01
ANNE BESSON ROBERTS		2012-11-12
Benedicte FOUGIER		2016-03-03
Fabien Lerede		2020-09-01
Ghislain Brice Leugue Yomba		2016-03-03
John Bevil Hagg		2022-10-01
Nicolas Michel Raynaud		2025-04-29
Phoebe May Woods		2020-07-09
Roxane Jardon		2024-11-18

THE FRENCH PROTESTANT CHURCH OF LONDON

England & Wales - Charity number 1070623

Accounts



French Protestant Church of London
Incorporated by Royal Charter in 1550
8-9 Soho Square
W1D 3QD
www.egliseprotestantelondres.org.uk

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 2024

The French Protestant Church of London

L'Eglise protestante française de Londres

Registered Charity Number: 1070623



REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity No. 1070623

TRUSTEES

President F. Lerede

Vice President T. Lavergne

Treasurer G. Leugue

Deacon P Woods (from 1st September 2024)

Secretary P. Woods (up to 31 August 2024)
B Fougier (from 1st September 2024)

Members of the Consistory P Renaud-Grosbras (Pastor to 9th June 2024)
B. Fougier
J. Hagg
G. Nègre (up to 1st September 2024)
R. Jardon (from 1st November 2024)
A. Roberts

Address 8 - 9 Soho Square
London
W1D 3QD

Bankers Lloyds Bank plc (Church Fund)
PO Box 1000
Andover
BX11 1LT

Barclays Bank plc (Solidarity Fund)
Leicester
LE87 2BB

Independent Examiner Olayinka Tomori ACA DChA
Longmeade Consult Ltd
The Old Rectory
Springhead Road
Northfleet, Kent
DA11 8HN



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second Edition effective 1 January 2019) and comply with the charity's trust deed.

TERMS & GOVERNING SCHEMES

- Royal Charter granted by His Majesty King Edward VI on 24th July 1550 (incorporation)
- Ecclesiastical Discipline adopted in 1641 by the synod of French Churches in England (guiding principles)
- Scheme approved by order of the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice dated 26th July 1926
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 12th April 1976
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 30th August 1984
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 4th October 1988
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 17th July 1998 (main governing document)
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 15th March 2000 (amendment to 1998 scheme)
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 20th April 2005 (amendment to 1998 scheme)

OBJECTS & ACTIVITIES OF THE CHARITY

The French Protestant Church of London is the spiritual home of the French-speaking community of Reformed tradition in the UK.

King Edward VI incorporated the Church by Royal Charter on 24th July 1550. The Church was located on Threadneedle Street for almost three centuries, until the building was destroyed to create space around the Royal Exchange. In 1687 the Church opened a secondary place of worship in Spitalfields that, along with other French churches founded in London at the time, served the many Huguenots seeking refuge from the persecutions of Louis XIV. The secondary church was sold in 1809 but the building at the corner of Brick Lane and Fournier Street still exists. Since 1893 the Church has been located in Soho Square. Its Grade II*-listed building was designed by the famous architect Sir Aston Webb.

The Charity's primary aim is to provide Christian worship and services in the Reformed tradition with a special focus on the French-speaking community of London. This is accomplished mainly through the celebration of church services open to all, through community activities and religious education.

An important part of the Charity's activities is also to provide pastoral care for parishioners and to help the people who fall into hardship.

The French Protestant Church also holds a collection of manuscripts and early books, housed in a room specially designed by Aston Webb. They are evidence of the Charity's early roots: from the Royal Charters granted for the opening of new churches, to the minutes of the meetings of the Consistory or the poor refugee relief, or editions of first reformed Bibles. Researchers or people having a proven interest in the history of the church and of the Huguenot community can have access to the collection, by appointment. The governing body of the Church takes all necessary measures to keep the contents of the Library in good condition.

The Trustees are appointed by the Consistory (governing body) of the Church, subject to tacit approval by the members of the Church.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (continued)

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees confirm that they have carefully referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, and in planning future activities. In particular, Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND REVIEW OF THE YEAR

During 2024, the French Protestant Church of London experienced a year of significant change on several levels: in its spiritual leadership, in its cultural outreach, and in its rental activity, which expanded significantly.

Following the Consistory's decision not to extend Pascale Renaud-Grosbras's ministry beyond her initial one-year term, she left in June. Phoebe Woods then assumed the role of deacon, becoming our principal preacher and coordinating all religious activities.

- With the support of the Consistory and the contribution of invited pastors, Phoebe strengthened our role as the spiritual home for the French-speaking Reformed faith community in London. This was reflected in regular services, special events, and deeper engagement with our congregation.
- Through the organisation and co-organisation of several major events, including literary evenings and concerts, we broadened our cultural presence and opened our doors to a wider audience.
- To bolster our income, we continued to expand our rental activities. The recruitment of a new manager contributed significantly to the growth of this revenue stream.
- Our charitable engagement continued on two levels: by financially supporting charities with strong ties to our church, thereby helping vulnerable people in London, and by directly assisting members of our own community in need. Special collections were organised for local charities such as the Trussell Trust.
- The planned renovation of the church's roof and façade, a project overseen by Caroe Architecture Ltd, has been placed on hold pending developments in the large-scale redevelopment at 7 Soho Square by the developer Hines.
- The year also saw a return to a sounder financial situation, providing a more stable basis for the future.

Services, pastoral care and spiritual life

Services are celebrated in French on Sundays throughout the year, except in August.

Attendance ranges from 20 to 80 people, and each service is followed by '*le verre de l'amitié*,' a gesture of welcome and inclusion with a shared glass of wine.

The year 2024 was marked by significant events and transitions within our church community.

End of the ministry of Pastor Pascale Renaud-Grosbras

In June, Pastor Pascale Renaud-Grosbras celebrated her final service before moving to a new position in Saint-Malo, France.

In accordance with her wishes, no formal farewell service was organised, but we remain grateful for the ten months during which she accompanied our community, and we wish her success in her new parish.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (continued)

Installation of Phoebe Woods as Deacon

In September, the church formally installed Phoebe Woods as deacon, reaffirming the congregation's historic mission of hospitality and service. By renewing this diaconal tradition, the consistory highlighted hospitality as a lived theological virtue and an invitation to dialogue in today's context.

Phoebe brings both professional and theological experience to this role. Aged 37, married with two children, she combines a background in Protestant theology with a career in marketing and international experience in France, the Middle East, and the UK. Already actively engaged in services, weddings, Sunday school, and the young adults' group, she embodies both continuity and renewal for the community. Her installation was formalised at the **culte de rentrée on 15 September**, followed by a buffet and the annual assemblée générale. From September onwards, Phoebe coordinated all religious activities and services for the remainder of the year, supported by guest pastors.

Regular Services and Special Celebrations

- **Sunday Services:** Regular services were held each Sunday, providing spiritual nourishment and community fellowship. The church remained closed during August.
- **Culte de Rentrée:** The rentrée service took place on 15 September, followed by a convivial buffet meal marking the start of the liturgical year.
- **Remembrance Sunday:** A special service was led by Pastor Dominique Calla, former military chaplain, attended by veterans' associations, the French Consul in London, Senator Olivier Cadic, defence attaché Luc Raynal, Deputy Vincent Caure. We warmly thank the civil and military authorities, associations, and our flagbearer for their presence.
- **Guest Pastors:** We were delighted to welcome several guest pastors, including Pastors Sandrine Maurot, Monika Garruchet (pastor near Basel and lecturer at the University of Bern) and Didier Fiévet (retired pastor of the EPUdF and author of *Bible et Écologie*).
- **Family Services:** Held twice monthly, with around 15 children attending in two age groups (4–7 and 8–11). Six volunteers led these sessions, coordinated by Guilhem Nègre and Laurent Gould. We express our gratitude to the whole team for their dedication.
- **Christmas Family Service:** Animated by Laurent Gould, this festive celebration featured a short play performed by the children, followed by a shared community lunch.

Baptisms and Other Religious Events

Several baptisms were celebrated during the year, including those of Carla Hamza, daughter of Hassane and Inese, Leo and Tim Würsch Andrianjakaim, sons of Jessie and Philipp, and Alfred Loyau. The church also hosted a number of marriage ceremonies, reaffirming its role in accompanying parishioners through the significant milestones of their lives.

Catechism

Catechism classes, initially led by Pastor Pascale Renaud-Grosbras and subsequently by Phoebe Woods, were held at the French Lycée in South Kensington for students aged 11–16. Pastor Pascale Renaud-Grosbras also established a new group for pupils of the École Jeannine Manuel, meeting at the National Gallery, which Phoebe continued. Following the departure of Xavier and Magali Demierre from London, Phoebe assumed responsibility for planning catechism from the start of the school year.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (continued)

The Young Professionals and Students Network

The Young Professionals and Students Network met informally once a month for dinners hosted by the pastor, attracting 10–15 participants and providing opportunities for fellowship and spiritual discussion.

Monthly Bible study group

In addition to catechism and the young professionals' network, the pastor facilitated a monthly Bible study group. Pastor Pascale Renaud-Grobras chose to focus on the parables in the Gospel of Luke, while from September Phoebe, together with guest pastors, led sessions on Paul the Apostle and his epistles, drawing on Daniel Marguerat's *Paul de Tarse: l'enfant terrible du christianisme*.

Communion of French-speaking Protestant Churches

The French Protestant Church in London also remains an active member of the Communion of French-speaking Protestant Churches, affiliated to the Protestant Federation of France. Its vice-president, Thibault Lavergne, who also serves as vice-president of our consistory, represents us in this community of around thirty churches worldwide, dedicated to exchange, mutual support, theological engagement and shared action.

Engagement with Other Communities

The church continued to host services for the Malagasy community three times a month on Sunday afternoons, fostering inclusivity and supporting diverse congregations.

As a member of Church Together in Westminster, Pastor Pascale and later Phoebe took part in monthly in-person meetings with priests and pastors from across the borough.

Charitable activities

Both directly and via the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust, we have been supporting charities such as Dispensaire Français (French Clinic – DF-SFB), the Refugee centre at Notre Dame de France and the West London Mission for their work on Night Shelter for homeless people.

The Christmas service collection was given to the *Trussel Trust*.

We were also very pleased to be able to help the Jonas Foundation UK, a foundation which was born in the church's basement and whose aim is to provide musical education to disadvantaged children in London for the UK branch.

The collection made during Remembrance Sunday was given to the *Bleuets de France*.

Outreach and communication

Our bilingual website (<http://www.egliseprotestantelondres.org.uk/en>), which presents the church activities, its history and heritage as well as the renovation project, remained our main communication channel in 2024.

After a successful transition from Mailpoet to Mailchimp in December 2023 to ensure compliance with GDPR requirements, our monthly newsletter has been sent out regularly. It combines a short spiritual reflection with updates on church life and forthcoming events, and currently reaches around 350 recipients, including both current and former parish members worldwide.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (continued)

Events

Throughout the year the church was pleased to open its doors widely by hosting and co-organising a number of cultural events and conferences.

- On 14 May, the British Huguenot Society held its Annual General Meeting and the closing lecture of its 2023–2024 series in our temple, with Dr John Gallagher speaking on “The Reformation of the Salad: Eating and Drinking with Immigrants in Elizabethan London”.

- From 21 June to 1 July we partnered with the Festival *Musiques en Fête* organised by *Les Fauristes (& Friends)*, welcoming two concerts on 30 June and 1 July, including a family-friendly performance as part of our parish day. Marking the centenary of Gabriel Fauré’s death, the programme featured his *Requiem* and *Cantique de Jean Racine*, alongside works by his British contemporaries Elgar, Parry and Sullivan.

- In October the church hosted an exhibition of works by artist Kwesi Botchway, followed on 16 October by the launch of Kate Mosse’s latest novel *The Map of the Bones*, organised with the Huguenot Museum and accompanied by a book signing and reception.

- On 13 November we again partnered with the Huguenot Museum to welcome *Stars of the Antiques Roadshow*, with experts Geoffrey Munn, Lars Tharp and Rupert Maas sharing insights from their fields of jewellery, ceramics and painting.

- In December the church was the venue for two concerts: on 6 December a performance by the ensemble *Anonimi* featuring works by Saint-Saëns, Massenet, Piazzolla and Franck among others, and on 16 December a concert organised by the Liszt Institute London, with Szabolcs Szamosi of the Filharmonia Hungarica and the Hungarian Choir of Great Britain performing a programme of classical works and traditional Hungarian songs.

Heritage, Library and Archives

The conservation team was able to meet weekly on a regular basis, except during the summer months, and continued its work of identifying books requiring more extensive studio restoration while stabilising others. As a result, access to the library remained very limited. The need to strengthen the team with new members has long been recognised, particularly as some existing members are less available due to other commitments. However, uncertainty surrounding the development at 7 Soho Square (see below) has delayed recruitment and consequently slowed progress.

Roof and façade renovation and developments at 7 Soho Square

The Consistory of the French Protestant Church of London has long recognised the need for a complete overhaul of the main roof of the church and, in 2023, intensified preparatory work with our appointed architects to ensure the project’s success. Caroe Architecture Ltd, led by senior architect Alanah Honey, was engaged to guide us through this essential renovation.

In the second quarter of 2024, Westminster Council granted planning permission for a major redevelopment involving the demolition of 2–4 Dean Street and 7 Soho Square, and the erection of a replacement building over basement, ground and seven upper floors. This project is expected to have a significant impact on the church, particularly in relation to noise, dust and vibration management, with potential disruption to rental activities and to the work of the library conservation team, as the library is housed in a room directly adjoining 7 Soho Square.

Throughout the year, the church – represented by a small team consisting of Bénédicte Fougier, Anne Roberts and Ghislain Leugue, supported by professional advisers – sought to engage closely with Hines UK on safeguarding the building and its collections during demolition and construction. The Consistory also raised concerns regarding site nuisances, potential daylight reduction, treatment of the shared chimney, and basement excavation works.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (continued)

Discussions were to continue into 2025, focusing on technical plans, monitoring strategies and the clarification of party wall responsibilities, with the aim of ensuring adequate protection for the church building and its collections.

Rental strategy

Our manager, Andreea Morosanu, who was appointed in July 2023, implemented a more proactive rental policy to increase revenues, mainly through ad hoc events.

This resulted in a 27 per cent rise in rental income in 2024 compared with 2023. She also promoted our facilities on specialist websites, which generated considerable interest.

During the first half of the year, growth was limited as much of her time was devoted to secretarial support for Pastor Pascale Renaud-Grosbras.

The more significant increase was therefore seen from September onwards, when Phoebe Woods provided substantial assistance with hosting visits for potential clients and attending events.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The key source of income for the Church are grants from a related charity, the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust (registered charity number: 249017). In 2024, the Church received £129.0k (2023: £152.2k) from this charity, all of which was unrestricted.

The French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust manages the assets accumulated by the Huguenot churches of London over the centuries and shares the income generated between three permanent endowment funds. The Church Fund goes to our charity, the Education Fund supports students and the Hardship Fund seeks to alleviate poverty. This affiliated charity is managed by three trustees nominated by the Consistory and six to ten co-opted trustees who, though not necessarily members of the Church, have a particular interest for and knowledge of the history of Huguenots in the UK.

The Church also receives donations and gifts from its members and other generous benefactors. In addition to this voluntary income, additional inflow is generated from other trading activities (letting of premises and visits) and from bank interest. Total income in the year was £196.9k (2023: £213.7k). The £16.8k reduction between the years is mainly a result of an additional £23.2k of donations from the French Huguenot Church towards capital works in 2023 which was not replicated in 2024. There was also a donation of £6.2k from the Department of Digital, Media, Culture and Sport (DCMS) under the Listed Building Grants Scheme in 2023. These were offset by £10k additional bank deposit interest receipts in 2024.

Total expenditure was £208.9k (2023: £258.9k). 2023 included exceptional costs related to the departure of Stéphane Desmarais and his wife Cindy, as well as the arrival of Pastor Pascale Renaud-Grobras. Salary costs were also lower in 2024 as a result. However, substantial costs were incurred in the year to refurbish the residential accommodation for the pastor following the change in personnel.

The Consistory continues to maintain tight financial and budgetary controls to ensure resources are applied efficiently.

Investment powers and performance

The charity has the power to make any investment which the Trustees see fit.

The Church's investment policy is conservative. It is primarily intended to protect the capital value of investments. Surpluses are currently held as cash balances, but trustees will keep this policy under review.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (continued)

RESERVES POLICY

The Unrestricted General Funds are available for use by the Trustees for any of the Charity's purposes. Restricted funds consist of the Property Fund and Religious Fund. These funds represent donations received for the renovation works of the premises and for religious education.

At the end of 2024, total funds were £1,866.7k comprising £703.1k in Restricted Funds and £1,163.6k of Unrestricted General Funds. Of the General Funds, fixed assets not covered by the Restricted Property Fund account for £675.3k with the remainder of £488.3k being the charity's 'free reserves'.

The intention of the Trustees is to maintain free reserves at around one year of recurring expenditure (approximately £200k). The additional reserves will continue to be committed to the maintenance of the church premises which require substantial investments based on its age and listed building status.

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The governance of the Consistory remained broadly stable in 2024. In July, Fabien Lerede as President, Thibault Lavergne as Vice-President and Ghislain Leugue as Treasurer were unanimously re-elected for a further year. Bénédicte Fougier was elected Secretary, replacing Phoebe Woods.

Two members stepped down: Pastor Pascale Renaud-Grosbras in June 2024, and Guilhem Nègre in September, whose professional commitments no longer allowed him sufficient time to engage fully in Consistorial matters. He has, however, kindly agreed to continue overseeing children's religious education (ages 4–11) for another year. Roxane Jardon, already closely involved in the daily life of the church through her work in religious education and the Bible study group, joined the Consistory in November. We are very grateful for her commitment.

In line with the Church's constitution, trustees are chosen from among the congregation and elected by the Consistory. The decision is then announced at a Sunday service for a 30-day period. If ten or more members of the congregation oppose the election, it is referred to the Church's General Assembly. The day-to-day management of the church's affairs is delegated to the pastor, supported by members of the Consistory and volunteers.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

It was the reaffirmed aim of the trustees to provide a spiritual place for everyone to find peace, contemplation and reflection with a strong focus on the French-speaking community (mostly French nationals and francophones from African countries), its new-comers, young students or professionals to facilitate their integration and wellbeing to ensure that they benefit from our presence and facilities to find friendship, emotional support and a sense of belonging.

Looking ahead, Phoebe will continue to serve as deacon until September 2025, when she will begin her pastoral training in Paris. For our community, this will mark the beginning of a new period: a true pastoral vacancy. We wish to approach this not as a loss, but as an opportunity to renew ourselves, supported by the presence of guest pastors—whether for a single service, for several consecutive Sundays, or in some cases for longer periods.

The Consistory will remain fully mobilised to ensure that this year of vacancy runs as smoothly as possible, and that the rhythm of our services and community life is maintained.

Beyond this, our essential priority will be the safeguarding of the church's interests in the matter of 7 Soho Square, which will continue to require careful attention and sustained engagement throughout the coming year.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (continued)**

APPRECIATION AND THANKS

We would like to express our deep gratitude to Phoebe, who ensured that the end of 2024 unfolded with calm and confidence, carried by a spirit of hope and shared purpose. Through her attentive presence and dedication, she enabled us to live through this unprecedented period with trust, openness and the joy of service.

We would also like to thank all the volunteers at the French Church, especially the ones in charge of the religious education and the conservation of the books and archives, as well as the broader community for their continued valuable support and their presence at our side.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees of the charity to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities Statements of Recommended Practices (SORP);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that this basis applies.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and with the charity's own constitution. 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.

Approved by the Trustees on 15th September 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

G Leugue
Trustee



INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRENCH PROTESTANT CHURCH OF LONDON

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The French Protestant Church of London (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

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 all 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 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; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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 a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Olayinka Tomori ACA DChA

**Longmeade Consult Ltd
The Old Rectory
Springhead Road
Northfleet
Kent DA11 8HN**

16th September 2025



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS:					
Voluntary income					
Donations and gifts		22,565	-	22,565	27,534
Grants receivable - the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust	11	129,000	-	129,000	152,222
Other grants receivable	10	-	-	-	6,201
Other trading activities					
Letting of premises and Library visits		34,706	-	34,706	27,285
Investment income					
Bank interest		10,644	-	10,644	494
		<u>196,915</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>196,915</u>	<u>213,736</u>
EXPENDITURE:					
	2				
Charitable activities					
Donations and grants paid		2,084	-	2,084	4,436
Operating expenses of the Church		177,056	29,802	206,858	254,459
		<u>179,140</u>	<u>29,802</u>	<u>208,942</u>	<u>258,895</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS					
		17,775	(29,802)	(12,027)	(45,159)
Fund balances brought forward		<u>1,145,788</u>	<u>732,893</u>	<u>1,878,681</u>	<u>1,923,840</u>
Fund Balances carried forward		<u><u>£1,163,563</u></u>	<u><u>£703,091</u></u>	<u><u>£1,866,654</u></u>	<u><u>£1,878,681</u></u>

All amounts arise from continuing activities and there are no recognised gains or losses other than those shown above in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The comparative Statement of Financial Activities is shown in Note 12 of these financial statements.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	5	1,374,307	1,404,588
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	6	16,846	59,872
Investments – bank deposits		380,000	-
Cash at bank and in hand		100,102	417,365
		496,948	477,237
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	7	(4,601)	(3,144)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		492,347	474,093
TOTAL ASSETS		£1,866,654	£1,878,681
FUNDS:	9		
Unrestricted General Funds		1,163,563	1,145,788
Restricted Funds		703,091	732,893
		£1,866,654	£1,878,681

Approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 15th September 2025 and signed on their behalf:

G Leugue
Trustee

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second Edition effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The Trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income

Donations and legacies are recognised when receivable or when the charity becomes legally entitled to them and the value can be estimated with reasonable certainty. Receipts of property, investments or other gifts in kind are included at market value.

Interest on bank deposits are included when receivable and can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Expenditure

Charitable expenditure consists of all expenditure relating to the objects of the Charity. All costs are directly attributable to the activities under which they have been analysed. Irrecoverable VAT is included with the category of expense to which it relates.

Governance costs which form part of support costs, include expenditure on the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Pension Contributions

The Church makes contributions into a defined contribution pension scheme for the pastor. Contributions are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as they are paid.

Fixed assets

The Church property at 9 Soho Square dates back to the late nineteenth century and no record of original cost is available. A policy of revaluation is not being adopted. The property is recognised at its deemed historic cost of £1. The Trustees have chosen to adopt this policy as whilst it is believed that the market value, both at the time of acquisition and at the balance sheet date, was significantly in excess of the deemed cost, it is not possible to obtain a reliable estimate of the market value at either date, as conventional valuation techniques are inappropriate for the unique and historical nature of the building. The approximate insurance value is given as £12.0m.

Renovation of the Church property is ongoing. Improvements have been capitalised and will be depreciated over their useful economic life, which is currently estimated at:

- 50 years for renovation costs
- 5 years for the emergency refurbishments to the premises
- 5 years for library and archive costs, and other fixed assets

Individual assets with a cost under £1,000 are generally expensed through the Statement of Financial Activities in the year of acquisition.

Debtors

Trade and any other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

Cash at bank and in hand and cash investments

Cash at bank and in hand include cash and short term highly liquid investments with a maturity period on three months or less from the date of acquisition or the opening of the deposit or similar account. Deposits with a maturity period of three months or more are included as cash investments.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Statement of cash flows

The charity qualifies as a small charity, hence is exempt from the requirement to produce a Statement of Cash Flows.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (Continued)

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Foreign Currency Transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are recognised at the exchange rate on the date of the transaction or at an average exchange rate for the year. Monetary assets and liabilities are translated into sterling at the exchange rate on the balance sheet date. All exchange differences are recognised through the Statement of Financial Activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to be spent in accordance with the charitable objectives in furtherance of the purpose of the charity. Restricted funds are those funds where the donor has specified the purpose to which it must be applied and/or where the charity has committed itself to use the funds for a specific purpose when it requested the donation.

2. EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Donations and grants paid (see below)	2,084	-	2,084	4,436
Operating expenses of the church:				
Clergy and church activities				
Activities - Misc expenses	1,897	-	1,897	1,224
Cleaning and Household	6,514	-	6,514	5,935
Electricity, water and gas	13,403	-	13,403	7,475
Food and drink supplies	1,504	-	1,504	1,593
Functions and events	2,877	-	2,877	5,263
Insurance and security	17,638	-	17,638	16,819
Organists and musicians	5,235	-	5,235	4,864
Pastor's benefits	3,612	-	3,612	2,732
Pastor's pension premium	3,421	-	3,421	10,439
Rates	3,499	-	3,499	1,849
Repairs and maintenance	58,783	-	58,783	25,950
Furniture and equipment	-	-	-	5,720
Renovation costs – non capital	-	-	-	22,904
Library and archives	-	-	-	174
Salaries, National Insurance, Pension	23,781	-	23,781	41,464
Travel expenses	3,185	-	3,185	3,809
Pastoral relocation expenses	-	-	-	15,850
	145,349		145,349	174,064
Church administration				
Accountancy fees	3,647	-	3,647	3,180
Bank charges	12	-	12	32
Computer and website	3,782	-	3,782	4,031
Internet, telephone and postage	2,477	-	2,477	2,130
Office Administration	19,792	-	19,792	8,379
Professional fees	1,440	-	1,440	7,997
Printing, stationery and equipment	78	-	78	801
	31,228	-	31,228	26,550
Depreciation	479	29,802	30,281	53,845
Operating expenses of the Church	177,056	29,802	206,858	254,459
Total Expenditure - 2024	£179,140	£29,802	£208,942	£258,895
Total Expenditure - 2023	£222,819	£36,076	£258,895	



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (Continued)

2. EXPENDITURE (Continued)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	2023 £
Donations and grants paid comprise:				
CEEEFE	2,084	-	2,084	2,081
Others	-	-	-	2,355
	<u>£2,084</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£2,084</u>	<u>£4,436</u>
Total 2023	<u>£4,436</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£4,436</u>	
Included in expenditure are:			£	£
Independent examiner's fees – examination			1,440	1,380
Independent examiner's fees - other			1,830	1,620
			<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>

Donations and grants paid in the prior year were unrestricted and therefore, the relevant comparatives are included in the disclosures above.

3. STAFF COSTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Gross salary	23,051	39,582
Social Security costs	194	906
Pension costs	3,957	11,415
	<u>£27,202</u>	<u>£51,903</u>

The charity had only one employee in the year (2023: one). No employee's remuneration in the year or in the previous year exceeded £60,000. The one employee is the pastor. She is key management personnel and is a Trustee of the charity ex officio.

4. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS, TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

	2024 £	2023 £
Salary and related costs	23,245	40,488
Pension contributions	3,957	11,415
	<u>27,202</u>	<u>51,903</u>
Other benefits	3,612	2,732
	<u>£30,814</u>	<u>£54,635</u>

The only Trustee to receive remuneration is the pastor.

In line with Section 16 of the charity's Governance Scheme, £1,494 (2023: £3,395) was paid to Wine Story, a limited company in which Thibault Lavergne, a member of the consistory, has interests, for the supply of food and wine for church events. No other related-party transaction occurred in 2024 (2023: None).

£1,151 of expenses were reimbursed to two trustees in the year (2023: £3,684 to two trustees).



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (Continued)

5. FIXED ASSETS

	Church Property	Property Renovation (ongoing works)	Other Fixed Assets	Total
	£	£	£	£
Valuation:				
At 1 January 2024	1	1,493,733	119,854	1,613,588
Additions	-	-	-	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>1,493,733</u>	<u>119,854</u>	<u>1,613,588</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>1</u>	<u>1,493,733</u>	<u>119,854</u>	<u>1,613,588</u>
Depreciation:				
At 1 January 2024	-	89,625	119,375	209,000
Charge for the year	-	29,802	479	30,281
	<u>-</u>	<u>119,427</u>	<u>119,854</u>	<u>239,281</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>119,427</u>	<u>119,854</u>	<u>239,281</u>
Net Book Value				
At 31 December 2024	£1	£1,374,306	£-	£1,374,307
	<u>£1</u>	<u>£1,374,306</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£1,374,307</u>
At 31 December 2023	£1	£1,404,108	£479	£1,404,588
	<u>£1</u>	<u>£1,404,108</u>	<u>£479</u>	<u>£1,404,588</u>

6. DEBTORS

	2024 £	2023 £
Debtor - CEEFE	78	2,159
Other debtors	9,943	410
Prepayments and accrued income	6,825	57,303
	<u>£16,846</u>	<u>£59,872</u>

In 2023, Prepayments and accrued income included £56,263 receivable from the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust (see Note 11). This was received in January 2024.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (Continued)

7.	CREDITORS			2024 £	2023 £	
	Other creditors			118	144	
	Accruals			4,483	3,000	
				<u>£4,601</u>	<u>£3,144</u>	
8.	STATEMENT OF FUNDS					
		At 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers/ Gains/(losses) £	At 31 December 2024 £
	Unrestricted Funds	1,145,788	196,915	(179,140)	-	1,163,563
	Restricted Funds:					
	Property Fund	728,794	-	(29,802)	-	698,992
	Religious Education Fund	4,099	-	-	-	4,099
	Total Restricted Funds	732,893	-	(29,802)	-	703,091
	TOTAL FUNDS	<u>£1,878,681</u>	<u>£196,915</u>	<u>£(208,942)</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£1,866,654</u>
	2023 COMPARATIVES					
		At 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers/ Gains/(losses) £	At 31 December 2023 £
	Unrestricted Funds	1,161,072	207,535	(222,819)	-	1,145,788
	Restricted Funds:					
	Property Fund	758,669	6,201	(36,076)	-	728,794
	Religious Education Fund	4,099	-	-	-	4,099
	Total Restricted Funds	762,768	6,201	(36,076)	-	732,893
	TOTAL FUNDS	<u>£1,923,840</u>	<u>£213,736</u>	<u>£(258,895)</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£1,878,681</u>

Unrestricted Fund

This fund is spent at the discretion of the Trustees and is utilised primarily in meeting the expenses of running the church. It is also used to make charitable donations.

Restricted Funds:***Property Fund***

This fund consists mainly of grants and other monies received by the church for the renovation of the church property. Depreciation and other charges connected with the renovation are charged to this fund.

Religious Education Fund

This fund represents a donation from the French Huguenot Church for the funding of religious education.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (Continued)

9. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	675,315	698,992	1,374,307	1,404,588
Net current assets	488,248	4,099	492,347	474,093
	<u>£1,163,563</u>	<u>£703,091</u>	<u>£1,866,654</u>	<u>£1,878,681</u>

2023 COMPARATIVES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	675,794	728,794	1,404,588
Net current assets	469,994	4,099	474,093
	<u>£1,145,788</u>	<u>£732,893</u>	<u>£1,878,681</u>

10. OTHER GRANTS RECEIVABLE

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	2023 £
Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme	-	-	-	6,201
	<u>£-</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£6,201</u>
Year ended 31 December 2023	<u>£-</u>	<u>£6,201</u>	<u>£6,201</u>	

11. CONNECTED CHARITIES

The charity is closely connected with the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust (registered charity number: 249017) from which the Church Fund receives substantial grant income. £129,000 was received in 2024 (2023: £152,222) all of which was unrestricted.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (Continued)

12. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2023)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS:			
Voluntary income			
Donations and gifts	27,534	-	27,534
Grants receivable - the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust	152,222	-	152,222
Other grants receivable	-	6,201	6,201
Other trading activities			
Letting of premises and Library visits	27,285	-	27,285
Investment income			
Bank interest	494	-	494
	<u>207,535</u>	<u>6,201</u>	<u>213,736</u>
EXPENDITURE:			
Charitable activities			
Donations and grants paid	4,436	-	4,436
Operating expenses of the Church	218,383	36,076	254,459
	<u>222,819</u>	<u>36,076</u>	<u>258,895</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	(15,284)	(29,875)	(45,159)
Fund balances brought forward	<u>1,161,072</u>	<u>762,768</u>	<u>1,923,840</u>
Fund Balances carried forward	<u><u>£1,145,788</u></u>	<u><u>£732,893</u></u>	<u><u>£1,878,681</u></u>

THE FRENCH PROTESTANT CHURCH OF LONDON

England & Wales - Charity number 1070623

Accounts



French Protestant Church of London
Incorporated by Royal Charter in 1550
8-9 Soho Square
W1D 3QD
www.egliseprotestantelondres.org.uk

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 2023

The French Protestant Church of London

L'Eglise protestante française de Londres

Registered Charity Number: 1070623

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

Registered Charity No. 1070623

TRUSTEES

President F. Lerede

Vice President T. Lavergne

Treasurer G. Leugue

Secretary P. Woods

Members of the Consistory S. Desmarais (Pastor to August 2023)
P Renaud-Grosbras (Pastor from September 2023)
M. Chiesa (to August 2023)
B. Fougier
J. Hagg
F. de Maleprade (to October 2023)
G. Nègre
A. Roberts

Address 8 - 9 Soho Square
London
W1D 3QD

Bankers Lloyds Bank plc (Church Fund)
PO Box 1000
Andover
BX11 1LT

Barclays Bank plc (Solidarity Fund)
Leicester
LE87 2BB

Independent Examiner Olayinka Tomori ACA DChA
Longmeade Consult Ltd
The Old Rectory
Springhead Road
Northfleet, Kent
DA11 8HN



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second Edition effective 1 January 2019) and comply with the charity's trust deed.

TERMS & GOVERNING SCHEMES

- Royal Charter granted by His Majesty King Edward VI on 24th July 1550 (incorporation)
- Ecclesiastical Discipline adopted in 1641 by the synod of French Churches in England (guiding principles)
- Scheme approved by order of the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice dated 26th July 1926
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 12th April 1976
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 30th August 1984
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 4th October 1988
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 17th July 1998 (main governing document)
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 15th March 2000 (amendment to 1998 scheme)
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 20th April 2005 (amendment to 1998 scheme)

OBJECTS & ACTIVITIES OF THE CHARITY

The French Protestant Church of London is the spiritual home of the French-speaking community of Reformed tradition in the UK.

King Edward VI incorporated the Church by Royal Charter on 24th July 1550. The Church was located on Threadneedle Street for almost three centuries, until the building was destroyed to create space around the Royal Exchange. In 1687 the Church opened a secondary place of worship in Spitalfields that, along with other French churches founded in London at the time, served the many Huguenots seeking refuge from the persecutions of Louis XIV. The secondary church was sold in 1809 but the building at the corner of Brick Lane and Fournier Street still exists. Since 1893 the Church has been located in Soho Square. Its Grade II*-listed building was designed by the famous architect Sir Aston Webb.

The Charity's primary aim is to provide Christian worship and services in the Reformed tradition with a special focus on the French-speaking community of London. This is accomplished mainly through the celebration of church services open to all, through community activities and religious education.

An important part of the Charity's activities is also to provide pastoral care for parishioners and to help the people who fall into hardship.

The French Protestant Church also holds a collection of manuscripts and early books, housed in a room specially designed by Aston Webb. They are evidence of the Charity's early roots: from the Royal Charters granted for the opening of new churches, to the minutes of the meetings of the Consistory or the poor refugee relief, or editions of first reformed Bibles. Researchers or people having a proven interest in the history of the church and of the Huguenot community can have access to the collection, by appointment. The governing body of the Church takes all necessary measures to keep the contents of the Library in good condition.

The Trustees are appointed by the Consistory (governing body) of the Church, subject to tacit approval by the members of the Church.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees confirm that they have carefully referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, and in planning future activities. In particular, Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND REVIEW OF THE YEAR

During 2023, the French Protestant Church of London experienced a year of transition, reflection, and renewed community engagement.

The departure of Pastor Stéphane Desmarais and the arrival of Pastor Pascale Renaud-Grosbras marked significant changes, alongside a robust calendar of events, services, and charitable activities that continued to enrich our congregation's spiritual and communal life:

- with the reopening of our doors, we reinstated our role as the spiritual home for the French-speaking Reformed faith community in London. This was marked by regular services, special events, and enhanced engagement with our congregation;
- through the organisation and co-organisation of several significant events, we aimed at broadening our cultural outreach. Highlights included literary evenings and concerts;
- with Pastor Stéphane Desmarais deciding not to renew his contract after ten years of dedicated service, we actively searched for and appointed a new pastor, who began her ministry in September 2023;
- to bolster our income streams, we continued to develop our rental activities. Despite the transition in management, temporary measures were implemented to ensure continuity, and we successfully recruited a new manager to further enhance this revenue source;
- our charitable work continued at two levels: financially supporting charities with strong ties to our church, thereby helping vulnerable people in London, and directly assisting members of our own community in need. Special collections were organized for local charities like the Trussel Trust;
- foundations were laid for the comprehensive renovation of the church's roof and façade, a project overseen by Caroe Architecture Ltd. This is crucial as the main roof has reached the end of its lifespan and requires a complete overhaul;
- the year presented significant financial challenges, exacerbated by global economic conditions and the rising costs of building maintenance, the cost of applying for visa sponsor status in a post-Brexit environment, as well as expenses related to the new development of 7 Soho Square.

Services, pastoral care and spiritual life

Services are celebrated in French on Sundays throughout the year, except in August.

Attendance ranges from 20 to 80 people, and each service is followed by 'le verre de l'amitié,' a gesture of welcome and inclusion with a shared glass of wine.

The year 2023 was marked by significant events and transitions within our church community.

Farewell to Pastor Stéphane and Cindy Desmarais

In June, we bid farewell to Pastor Stéphane Desmarais and his wife Cindy, who served our community with dedication for ten years. Their departure was marked by a special service on 25 June, which was followed by a communal buffet and a festive afternoon. This event provided an opportunity for the congregation to express their gratitude and appreciation for Stéphane and Cindy's commitment and contributions over the past decade.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

Welcoming Pastor Pascale Renaud-Grosbras

Following an invitation to preach in our church and to meet the consistory's members in March 2023, we welcomed Pastor Pascale Renaud-Grosbras during the summer.

The application for post-Brexit sponsor status and obtaining the visa for the new pastor consumed a lot of time and energy but were ultimately successful.

Pascale started her ministry in September 2023.

Her arrival was celebrated with a special *Culte de Rentrée* on 17th September, which included a buffet meal and a gathering of parishioners. She was also welcomed in a more intimate setting by the members of the Consistory -and their families - in an away day at the family home of Thibault Lavergne.

Regular Services and Special Celebrations

- **Sunday Services:** Regular services were held every Sunday, providing spiritual nourishment and community bonding. The church remained closed in August while we awaited the visa approval for the new pastor. Pastor Desmarais continued to record his weekly sermons and uploaded them to our website on a regular basis. Pastor Pascale Renaud-Grosbras did not feel comfortable to do the same and no predication has been uploaded or made available for an enlarged community since July 2023.
- **Culte de Rentrée:** The first service after the beginning of the school year took place on 17th September and was followed by a friendly buffet meal, marking the start of a new liturgical year.
- **Remembrance Sunday:** A special service was celebrated to honour and remember those who served, attended by veterans' association, the French consul in London and the Senator Olivier Cadic.
- **Guest Pastors :** we were happy to welcome and listen to Pastors Rodolphe Blanchard-Kowal on 29th January, Pascale Renaud-Grobras on 5th March and Elian Cuvillier, a professor of theology at the Protestant Institute of Theology in Montpellier and head of training for future pastors, on 5th November.
- **Family Services:** Held bi-monthly, these services included Sunday school for approximately 15 children, divided into two groups (ages 4-7 and 8-11). Six volunteers dedicated their time to these educational sessions. Guilhem Nègre and Laurent Gould were in charge of the Sunday school coordination. We thank the whole team for their service.
- **Christmas Family Service:** This special service, animated by Nick Levesque, featured a short play performed by the children and was followed by a community lunch, bringing festive cheer to all attendees.

Baptisms and Other Religious Events

- **Baptisms:** The church celebrated several baptisms throughout the year, including the baptisms of adults, Roxane Jardon and Eric Perronnet, and young children, such as Odette Dubois on 12th February, Louis Lamy on 23rd April and Aliénor de Maleprade on 28th May.
- **Marriage:** Several marriage ceremonies were conducted, further adding to the church's role in the significant life events of our parishioners.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

Engagement with Other Communities

- **Malagasy Community Services:** The church continued to host regular services for the Malagasy community thrice a month on Sunday afternoons, fostering inclusivity and support for diverse congregations within our church.
- **Catechism Classes:** Led by Pastor Stéphane Desmarais and then Pastor Pascale Renaud-Grosbras, these classes at the French Lycée in South Kensington catered to students aged 11-16, ensuring the younger generation's connection to their faith. Pastor Pascale Renaud-Grosbras put in place a new group for children of Jeanine Manuel school meeting at the National Gallery. Albane Caron remained responsible for the planning of the catechism classes for 11-16 years old pupils at the French Lycée in South Kensington until the end of the school year 2022-2023. Xavier and Magali Demierre took over the planning from the beginning of the school year.
- **Young Professionals and Students Network:** Informal monthly dinners hosted by the pastor attracted 10-15 young professionals and students, providing a platform for fellowship and spiritual discussion.
- As a member of the **network Church Together in Westminster**, Pastor Stéphane Desmarais and then Pastor Pascale Renaud-Grosbras participated in monthly meetings with other priests and pastors from the borough. These meetings were held in person throughout the year.
- The French Protestant Church in London is a member of the **Communion of French-speaking Protestant Churches Community (Communauté des Eglises protestantes francophones)** affiliated to the Protestant Federation of France. Its vice-president, Thibault Lavergne, is a member of our community. Linking around thirty churches throughout the world, the Communion is dedicated to the exchange of information and people, mutual financial aid, joint action, theological animation and reciprocal challenge.

Regular groups

In addition to religious education and leading the young professionals' group, the pastor also facilitated a Bible study group once a month. Pascale Renaud-Grosbras chose to focus on the parables from the Gospel of Luke.

Charitable activities

Both directly and via the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust, we have been supporting charities such as Dispensaire Français (French Clinic – DF-SFB), the Refugee centre at Notre Dame de France and the West London Mission for their work on Night Shelter for homeless people.

The Christmas service collection was given to the *Trussel Trust*.

We were also very pleased to be able to help the Jonas Foundation UK, a foundation which was born in the church's basement and whose aim is to provide musical education to disadvantaged children in London for the UK branch.

The collection made during Remembrance Sunday was given to the *Bleuets de France*.

Outreach and communication

Our bilingual website (<http://www.egliseprotestantelondres.org.uk/en>), which presents the church activities, its history and heritage as well as the renovation project, remained our main communication channel in 2023.

Our monthly electronic newsletter was sent via Mailchimp from December 2023 (to comply with the GDPR regulation) to current and ex-parish members around the world (c. 340 recipients). They used to be sent via Mailpoet through our website. The monthly newsletter includes a word from the Pastor, as well as focus on the life of the church and the upcoming events.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

Events

We were pleased to be able to open the doors of our church widely by organising or co-organising - several events and conferences:

- on Sunday, March 12th, the French choir of London *les Fauristes*, conducted by Blandine de Raulin, returned to our church with an orchestra for the first time in five years. They performed Vivaldi's *Gloria* along with pieces by composers J.S. Bach and Dietrich Buxtehude, accompanied by an orchestra of 13 musicians and the talented soloists Judith Charron (Soprano) and Christina Gill (Mezzo Soprano).

- on Thursday, 12th October, we had the pleasure of welcoming the British author Jonathan Coe, thanks to our partnership with Librairie La Page, for a discussion in English followed by a signing of his latest novel, *Le Royaume désuni*. More than a hundred participants came to listen to his conversation with his long-time friend Philippe Auclair. As always, Coe was both humorous and subversive, offering his sharp insights on English society.

- on Wednesday, 22nd November, a special evening event was held at the church, organised by the Huguenot Museum. Richard, Duke of Buccleuch, Dame Rosalind Savill, and Jeremy Musson spoke about their Huguenot roots. The event was followed by a wine tasting.

Heritage, Library and Archives

The conservation team was able to meet again once a week on a regular basis except for the summer months.

The team has nonetheless once again been reduced in size as two members, including Cindy Desmarais, moved back to France.

To address this issue and speed up the long and painstaking process to identify the books that will need a more thorough studio restoration, and to stabilise others, another member joined the team in early 2024. We thank the whole team for their service.

Consequently, access to the library has been very limited.

Rental strategy

Our part-time office and venue manager, Karine Lelieur, who was recruited in September 2021, had to leave us for personal reasons in June 2022. At that time, our rooms were rented out on a regular basis to five different associations or small businesses, all of whom had strong links to the French community, providing a monthly income of slightly over £3,000. However, with the departure (relocation to France) of our principal source of income, Le Petit Journal, in September 2022, our rental income significantly decreased.

We were able to finalise the hiring of a new manager, Andreea Morosanu, in July 2023, after more than a year of vacancy in the position. Her priority is to implement an aggressive rental policy to increase our revenues, not only through ad hoc events but also by seeking long-term tenants for our basement rooms.

In the interim, Cindy Desmarais, with the help of Bénédicte Fougier, kindly and efficiently took over most of the managerial duties to handle the day-to-day rental challenges. We cannot thank Cindy Desmarais enough for the invaluable help she provided to the consistory throughout this period.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)

Roof and façade renovation

The Consistory of the French Protestant Church of London has advanced the planning for the final phase of the renovation, focusing on the main roof and the façade of the church. In 2018, as part of the first phase of the renovation, urgent issues threatening the building, such as missing slates, water infiltration, and missing joints, were addressed. Despite these urgent repairs and the regular maintenance undertaken by Wallwalkers (the last one in October 2022), the main roof has now reached the end of its lifespan and requires a complete overhaul.

In 2023, we stepped up the preparatory works with our architects to ensure the project's success. Caroe Architecture Ltd., led by senior architect Alanah Honey, has been appointed by the consistory to guide us through this essential renovation project.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The key source of income for the Church are grants from a related charity, the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust (registered charity number: 249017). In 2023, the Church received £152.2k (2022: £129k) from this charity, all of which was unrestricted.

The French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust manages the assets accumulated by the Huguenot churches of London over the centuries and shares the income generated between three permanent endowment funds. The Church Fund goes to our charity, the Education Fund supports students and the Hardship Fund seeks to alleviate poverty. This affiliated charity is managed by three trustees nominated by the Consistory and six to ten co-opted trustees who, though not necessarily members of the Church, have a particular interest for and knowledge of the history of Huguenots in the UK.

The Church also receives donations and gifts from its members and other generous benefactors. In addition to this voluntary income, additional inflow is generated from other trading activities (letting of premises and visits) and from bank interest. Total income in the year was £213.7k (2022: £214.3k). While income was stable between the years, reductions in general donations and lettings income from the previous year were offset by a £23k rise in donations from the French Huguenot Church.

Total expenditure was £258.9k (2022: £182.3k). The recommencement of renovation works, other repairs and the relocation costs due to the change in pastoral leadership, were the key reasons for the rise in expenditure. We faced exceptional costs related to the departure of Stéphane Desmarais and his wife Cindy, as well as the arrival of pastor Pascale Renaud-Grobras. The expenses solely associated with applying for sponsor status, necessary for the now-required work visa post-Brexit, have amounted to £6.5k, not including relocation costs. Additionally, we incurred significant expenses defending our interests in the 2-4 Dean Street/7 Soho Square development project by Hines. We have spent nearly £20,000 in professional consultation fees, including those of our architects, to protect our interests during the initial application process. Furthermore, the maintenance costs of our historic building have skyrocketed in 2023 as a consequence of inflation. Energy expenses have tripled, and the general upkeep costs (insurance, maintenance, compliance) are heavily weighing on our resources.

The Consistory continues to maintain tight financial and budgetary controls to ensure resources are applied efficiently.

Investment powers and performance

The charity has the power to make any investment which the Trustees see fit.

The Church's investment policy is conservative. It is primarily intended to protect the capital value of investments. Surpluses are currently held as cash balances, but trustees will keep this policy under review.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)**

RESERVES POLICY

The Unrestricted General Funds are available for use by the Trustees for any of the Charity's purposes. Restricted funds consist of the Property Fund and Religious Fund. These funds represent donations received for the renovation works of the premises and for religious education.

At the end of 2023, total funds were £1,878.7k comprising £732.9k in Restricted Funds and £1,145.8k of Unrestricted General Funds. Of the General Funds, fixed assets not covered by the Restricted Property Fund account for £675.8k with the remainder of £470.0k being the charity's 'free reserves'.

The intention of the Trustees is to maintain free reserves at around one year of recurring expenditure (£190k). The additional reserves will continue to be committed to the maintenance of the church premises which require substantial investments based on its age and listed building status.

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The governance of the Consistory did not change significantly in 2023. Fabien Lerede, as president, Thibault Lavergne as vice-president, Ghislain Leugue as treasurer, and Phoebe Woods as secretary were unanimously re-elected for another year in July 2023.

Three members left the Consistory: our pastor Stéphane Desmarais, who was replaced by Pascale Renaud-Grosbras from September, Mathilde Chiesa in August 2023 and Florence de Maleprade in October 2023, who relocated in France.

In accordance with the Church's scheme, Trustees are chosen from amongst the church's members and elected by the Consistory. The Consistory's decision is thereafter announced during Sunday's service for a 30-day period. If 10 or more members of the congregation oppose the election, it is then submitted to the Church's general assembly. The day-to-day management of the church's affairs is delegated to the pastor, with required support from members of the Consistory and volunteers.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

It was the reaffirmed aim of the trustees to provide a spiritual place for everyone to find peace, contemplation and reflection with a strong focus on the French-speaking community (mostly French nationals and francophones from African countries), its new-comers, young students or professionals to facilitate their integration and wellbeing to ensure that they benefit from our presence and facilities to find friendship, emotional support and a sense of belonging. We want to focus on strengthening our relationship with the charities we partner with as well as the development of a program of cultural events, e.g. conferences, book clubs, film showings.

We plan to continue the project of conservation of the rare books and archives held in the library.

After a thorough process of reflection, the Consistory decided not to prolong Pascale Renaud-Grosbras's ministry beyond her initial one-year term. At the time of writing, she has led her last service on June 9th and has started transitioning to her new ministry role in Saint-Malo. We thank her for her service to our community and leading our regular groups.

Looking ahead, we are embarking on a new phase for our church community. From September, Phoebe Woods will assume the role of deacon, becoming our principal preacher and coordinating all religious activities. She will be supported by guest pastors and the wider church community. We are excited about this new direction and believe it will offer unique opportunities for growth and enhanced engagement within our congregation.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (continued)**

APPRECIATION AND THANKS

We are most grateful for Stéphane Desmarais' spiritual guidance over the last ten years and his wife Cindy's commitment in always exploring new ways to reach out to our community in such a high spirit and enthusiasm.

We were very sad to see them leave at the end of the Summer of 2023.

We would also like to thank all the volunteers at the French Church, especially the ones in charge of the religious education and the conservation of the books and archives, as well as the broader community for their continued valuable support and their presence at our side.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees of the charity to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities Statements of Recommended Practices (SORP);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that this basis applies.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and with the charity's own constitution. 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.

Approved by the Trustees on 31 August 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

G Leugue
Trustee



INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRENCH PROTESTANT CHURCH OF LONDON

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The French Protestant Church of London (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

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 all 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 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; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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 a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Olayinka Tomori ACA DChA

**Longmeade Consult Ltd
The Old Rectory
Springhead Road
Northfleet
Kent DA11 8HN**

31 August 2024



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS:					
Voluntary income					
Donations and gifts		27,534	-	27,534	38,882
Grants receivable - the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust	11	152,222	-	152,222	129,000
Other grants receivable	10	-	6,201	6,201	-
Other trading activities					
Letting of premises and Library visits		27,285	-	27,285	46,388
Investment income					
Bank interest		494	-	494	47
		<u>207,535</u>	<u>6,201</u>	<u>213,736</u>	<u>214,317</u>
EXPENDITURE:					
	2				
Charitable activities					
Donations and grants paid		4,436	-	4,436	3,201
Operating expenses of the Church		218,383	36,076	254,459	179,119
		<u>222,819</u>	<u>36,076</u>	<u>258,895</u>	<u>182,320</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS					
		(15,284)	(29,875)	(45,159)	31,997
Fund balances brought forward		<u>1,161,072</u>	<u>762,768</u>	<u>1,923,840</u>	<u>1,891,843</u>
Fund Balances carried forward		<u><u>£1,145,788</u></u>	<u><u>£732,893</u></u>	<u><u>£1,878,681</u></u>	<u><u>£1,923,840</u></u>

All amounts arise from continuing activities and there are no recognised gains or losses other than those shown above in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The comparative Statement of Financial Activities is shown in Note 12 of these financial statements.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	5	1,404,588	1,458,433
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	6	59,872	4,274
Cash at bank and in hand		417,365	465,494
		477,237	469,768
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	7	(3,144)	(4,361)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		474,093	465,407
TOTAL ASSETS		£1,878,681	£1,923,840
FUNDS:	9		
Unrestricted General Funds		1,145,788	1,161,072
Restricted Funds		732,893	762,768
		£1,878,681	£1,923,840

Approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 31 August 2024 and signed on their behalf:

G Leugue
Trustee

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second Edition effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The Trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Donations and Legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised when receivable or when the charity becomes legally entitled to them and the value can be estimated with reasonable certainty. Receipts of property, investments or other gifts in kind are included at market value.

Expenditure

Charitable expenditure consists of all expenditure relating to the objects of the Charity. All costs are directly attributable to the activities under which they have been analysed. Irrecoverable VAT is included with the category of expense to which it relates.

Governance costs which form part of support costs, include expenditure on the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Pension Contributions

The Church makes contributions into a defined contribution pension scheme for the pastor. Contributions are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as they are paid.

Fixed assets

The Church property at 9 Soho Square dates back to the late nineteenth century and no record of original cost is available. A policy of revaluation is not being adopted. The property is recognised at its deemed historic cost of £1. The Trustees have chosen to adopt this policy as whilst it is believed that the market value, both at the time of acquisition and at the balance sheet date, was significantly in excess of the deemed cost, it is not possible to obtain a reliable estimate of the market value at either date, as conventional valuation techniques are inappropriate for the unique and historical nature of the building. The approximate insurance value is given as £12.0m.

Renovation of the Church property is ongoing. Improvements have been capitalised and will be depreciated over their useful economic life, which is currently estimated at:

- 50 years for renovation costs
- 5 years for the emergency refurbishments to the premises
- 5 years for library and archive costs, and other fixed assets

Individual assets with a cost under £1,000 are generally expensed through the Statement of Financial Activities in the year of acquisition.

Debtors

Trade and any other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Foreign Currency Transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are recognised at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction or at an average exchange rate for the year. Monetary assets and liabilities are translated into sterling at the exchange rate on the balance sheet date. All exchange differences are recognised through the Statement of Financial Activities. The charity does not own any non-monetary assets abroad.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (Continued)

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Statement of cash flows

The charity qualifies as a small charity, hence is exempt from the requirement to produce a Statement of Cash Flows.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to be spent in accordance with the charitable objectives in furtherance of the purpose of the charity. Restricted funds are those funds where the donor has specified the purpose to which it must be applied and/or where the charity has committed itself to use the funds for a specific purpose when it requested the donation.

2. EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Donations and grants paid (see below)	4,436	-	4,436	3,201
Operating expenses of the church:				
Clergy and church activities				
Activities - Misc expenses	1,224	-	1,224	539
Cleaning and Household	5,935	-	5,935	5,874
Electricity, water and gas	7,475	-	7,475	10,473
Food and drink supplies	1,593	-	1,593	1,538
Functions and events	5,263	-	5,263	1,720
Insurance and security	16,819	-	16,819	15,182
Organists and musicians	4,864	-	4,864	5,575
Pastor's benefits	2,732	-	2,732	1,278
Pastor's pension premium	10,439	-	10,439	8,061
Rates	1,849	-	1,849	1,721
Repairs and maintenance	25,950	-	25,950	1,806
Furniture and equipment	5,720	-	5,720	1,206
Renovation costs – non capital	16,703	6,201	22,904	7,112
Library and archives	174	-	174	1,556
Salaries, National Insurance, Pension	41,464	-	41,464	45,514
Travel expenses	3,809	-	3,809	879
Pastoral relocation expenses	15,850	-	15,850	-
	167,863	6,201	174,064	110,034
Church administration				
Accountancy fees	3,180	-	3,180	2,940
Bank charges	32	-	32	6
Computer and website	4,031	-	4,031	3,445
Internet, telephone and postage	2,130	-	2,130	2,064
Office Administration	8,379	-	8,379	6,247
Professional fees	7,997	-	7,997	433
Printing, stationery and equipment	801	-	801	104
	26,550	-	26,550	15,239
Depreciation	23,970	29,875	53,845	53,846
Operating expenses of the Church	218,383	36,076	254,459	179,119
Total Expenditure - 2023	£222,819	£36,076	£258,895	£182,320
Total Expenditure - 2022	£121,362	£60,958	£182,320	



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (Continued)

2. EXPENDITURE (Continued)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Donations and grants paid comprise:				
CEEEFE	2,081	-	2,081	2,121
Others	2,355	-	2,355	1,080
	<u>£4,436</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£4,436</u>	<u>£3,201</u>
Total 2022	<u>£3,201</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£3,201</u>	
Included in expenditure are:			£	£
Independent examiner's fees – examination			1,380	1,320
Independent examiner's fees - other			<u>1,620</u>	<u>1,440</u>

Donations and grants paid in the prior year were unrestricted and therefore, the relevant comparatives are included in the disclosures above.

3. STAFF COSTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Gross salary	39,582	42,565
Social Security costs	906	1,867
Pension costs	11,415	9,143
	<u>£51,903</u>	<u>£53,575</u>

The charity had only one employee in the year (2022: one). No employee's remuneration in the year or in the previous year exceeded £60,000. The one employee is the pastor. He is key management personnel and is a Trustee of the charity ex officio.

4. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS, TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

	2023 £	2022 £
Salary and related costs	40,488	44,432
Pension contributions	11,415	9,143
	<u>51,903</u>	<u>53,575</u>
Other benefits	2,732	1,278
	<u>£54,635</u>	<u>£54,853</u>

The only Trustee to receive remuneration is the pastor.

In line with Section 16 of the charity's Governance Scheme, £3,395 (2022: £1,720) was paid to Wine Story, a limited company in which Thibault Lavergne, a member of the consistory, has interests, for the supply of food and wine for church events. No other related-party transaction occurred in 2023 (2022: None).

£3,684 of expenses were reimbursed to two trustees in the year (2022: £355 to one trustee).



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (Continued)

5. FIXED ASSETS

	Church Property	Property Renovation (ongoing works)	Other Fixed Assets	Total
	£	£	£	£
Valuation:				
At 1 January 2023	1	1,493,733	119,854	1,613,588
Additions	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	1	1,493,733	119,854	1,613,588
Depreciation:				
At 1 January 2023	-	59,750	95,405	155,155
Charge for the year	-	29,875	23,970	53,845
At 31 December 2023	-	89,625	119,375	209,000
Net Book Value				
At 31 December 2023	£1	£1,404,108	£479	£1,404,588
At 31 December 2022	£1	£1,433,983	£24,449	£1,458,433

6. DEBTORS

	2023 £	2022 £
Debtor - CEEFE	2,159	698
Other debtors	410	76
Prepayments and accrued income	57,303	3,500
	£59,872	£4,274

Included in Prepayments and accrued income is £56,263 receivable from the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust (see Note 11).



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (Continued)

7. CREDITORS				2023	2022
				£	£
Other creditors				144	1,601
Accruals				3,000	2,760
				<u>£3,144</u>	<u>£4,361</u>
8. STATEMENT OF FUNDS					
	At 1	Income	Expenditure	Transfers/	At 31
	January			Gains/(losses)	December
	2023				2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	1,161,072	207,535	(222,819)	-	1,145,788
Restricted Funds:					
Property Fund	758,669	6,201	(36,076)	-	728,794
Religious Education Fund	4,099	-	-	-	4,099
Total Restricted Funds	762,768	6,201	(36,076)	-	732,893
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>£1,923,840</u>	<u>£213,736</u>	<u>£(258,895)</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£1,878,681</u>
2022 COMPARATIVES					
	At 1	Income	Expenditure	Transfers/	At 31
	January			Gains/(losses)	December
	2022				2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	1,068,117	214,317	(121,362)	-	1,161,072
Restricted Funds:					
Property Fund	819,627	-	(60,958)	-	758,669
Religious Education Fund	4,099	-	-	-	4,099
Total Restricted Funds	823,726	-	(60,958)	-	762,768
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>£1,891,843</u>	<u>£214,317</u>	<u>£(182,320)</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£1,923,840</u>

Unrestricted Fund

This fund is spent at the discretion of the Trustees and is utilised primarily in meeting the expenses of running the church. It is also used to make charitable donations.

Restricted Funds:**Property Fund**

This fund consists mainly of grants and other monies received by the church for the renovation of the church property. Depreciation and other charges connected with the renovation are charged to this fund.

Religious Education Fund

This fund represents a donation from the French Huguenot Church for the funding of religious education.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (Continued)

9. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 £	2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	675,794	728,794	1,404,588	1,458,433
Net current assets	469,994	4,099	474,093	465,407
	<u>£1,145,788</u>	<u>£732,893</u>	<u>£1,878,681</u>	<u>£1,923,840</u>

2022 COMPARATIVES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	699,764	758,669	1,458,433
Net current assets	461,308	4,099	465,407
	<u>£1,161,072</u>	<u>£762,768</u>	<u>£1,923,840</u>

10. OTHER GRANTS RECEIVABLE

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme	-	6,201	6,201	-
	<u>£-</u>	<u>£6,201</u>	<u>£6,201</u>	<u>£-</u>
Year ended 31 December 2022	<u>£-</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£-</u>	

11. CONNECTED CHARITIES

The charity is closely connected with the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust (registered charity number: 249017) from which the Church Fund receives substantial grant income. £152,222 was received in 2023 (2022: £129,000) all of which was unrestricted.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023 (Continued)

12. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2022)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS:			
Voluntary income			
Donations and gifts	38,882	-	38,882
Grants receivable - the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust	129,000	-	129,000
Other grants receivable	-	-	-
Other trading activities			
Letting of premises and Library visits	46,388	-	46,388
Investment income			
Bank interest	47	-	47
Income from quoted investments	-	-	-
	<u>214,317</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>214,317</u>
EXPENDITURE:			
Charitable activities			
Donations and grants paid	3,201	-	3,201
Operating expenses of the Church	118,161	60,958	179,119
	<u>121,362</u>	<u>60,958</u>	<u>182,320</u>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	92,955	(60,958)	31,997
Fund balances brought forward	<u>1,068,117</u>	<u>823,726</u>	<u>1,891,843</u>
Fund Balances carried forward	<u><u>£1,161,072</u></u>	<u><u>£762,768</u></u>	<u><u>£1,923,840</u></u>

THE FRENCH PROTESTANT CHURCH OF LONDON

England & Wales - Charity number 1070623

Accounts



French Protestant Church of London
Incorporated by Royal Charter in 1550
8-9 Soho Square
W1D 3QD
www.egliseprotestantelondres.org.uk

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 2022

The French Protestant Church of London

L'Eglise protestante française de Londres

Registered Charity Number: 1070623



REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity No. 1070623

TRUSTEES

President B. Fougier (until 31st August 2022)
F. Lerede (from 1st September 2022)

Vice President V. Raynaud (until 31st August 2022)
T. Lavergne (from 1st September 2022)

Treasurer G. Leugue

Secretary F. de Maleprade (until 31st August 2022)
P. Woods (from 1st September 2022)

Members of the Consistory S. Desmarais (Pastor)
M. Chiesa
B. Fougier
J. Hagg (from 1st October 2022)
G. Nègre
A. Roberts
G. Visser (until 31st August 2022)

Address 8 - 9 Soho Square
London
W1D 3QD

Bankers Lloyds Bank plc (Church Fund)
PO Box 1000
Andover
BX11 1LT

Barclays Bank plc (Solidarity Fund)
Leicester
LE87 2BB

Independent Examiner Olayinka Tomori ACA DChA
Longmeade Consult Ltd
Regus House
Victory Way, Admirals Park
Dartford
DA2 6QD



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second Edition effective 1 January 2019) and comply with the charity's trust deed.

TERMS & GOVERNING SCHEMES

- Royal Charter granted by His Majesty King Edward VI on 24th July 1550 (incorporation)
- Ecclesiastical Discipline adopted in 1641 by the synod of French Churches in England (guiding principles)
- Scheme approved by order of the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice dated 26th July 1926
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 12th April 1976
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 30th August 1984
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 4th October 1988
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 17th July 1998 (main governing document)
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 15th March 2000 (amendment to 1998 scheme)
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 20th April 2005 (amendment to 1998 scheme)

OBJECTS & ACTIVITIES OF THE CHARITY

The French Protestant Church of London is the spiritual home of the French-speaking community of Reformed tradition in the UK.

King Edward VI incorporated the Church by Royal Charter on 24th July 1550. The Church was located on Threadneedle Street for almost three centuries, until the building was destroyed to create space around the Royal Exchange. In 1687 the Church opened a secondary place of worship in Spitalfields that, along with other French churches founded in London at the time, served the many Huguenots seeking refuge from the persecutions of Louis XIV. The secondary church was sold in 1809 but the building at the corner of Brick Lane and Fournier Street still exists. Since 1893 the Church has been located in Soho Square. Its Grade II*-listed building was designed by the famous architect Sir Aston Webb.

The Charity's primary aim is to provide Christian worship and services in the Reformed tradition with a special focus on the French-speaking community of London. This is accomplished mainly through the celebration of church services open to all, through community activities and religious education.

An important part of the Charity's activities is also to provide pastoral care for parishioners and to help the people who fall into hardship.

The French Protestant Church also holds a collection of manuscripts and early books, housed in a room specially designed by Aston Webb. They are evidence of the Charity's early roots: from the Royal Charters granted for the opening of new churches, to the minutes of the meetings of the Consistory or the poor refugee relief, or editions of first reformed Bibles. Researchers or people having a proven interest in the history of the church and of the Huguenot community can have access to the collection, by appointment. The governing body of the Church takes all necessary measures to keep the contents of the Library in good condition.

The Trustees are appointed by the Consistory (governing body) of the Church, subject to tacit approval by the members of the Church.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (continued)

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees confirm that they have carefully referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, and in planning future activities. In particular, Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND REVIEW OF THE YEAR

During 2022, like most places of worship, the French protestant church experienced a return to normal after the Covid health crisis. In this context, the focus has been to work mainly towards the objectives listed below:

- Re-opening widely our doors to our own community to strengthen our role as the spiritual home of the French-speaking community of Reformed faith in London;
- Widening our outreach by organising or co-organising several cultural events;
- Actively searching for a new pastor, Pastor Stéphane Desmarais having decided not to renew his contract at the end of August 2023 after ten years as the pastor of the French church;
- Developing our rental activity to increase our income stream;
- Doing charitable work at two levels: first by financially supporting charities we have strong links with to allow vulnerable people based in London to access relief more easily and second by helping directly, members of our community in need;
- To lay the foundation to kick off a new major project regarding the complete renovation of the church's roof as it approaches the end of its lifetime;
- Improving our overall sustainability within the constraints of the existing building.

Services, pastoral care and spiritual life

Services are celebrated in French on Sundays all year around, except in August. They are attended by 20 to 80 people and are systematically followed by the sharing of a glass of wine as a gesture of welcome and inclusion, '*le verre de l'amitié*'.

The welcoming of new parishioners is performed throughout the year with a special emphasis given to the *Culte de Rentrée*. This first service after the beginning of the school year took place on September 18th and was followed by a friendly buffet meal.

Family services were held every two weeks during which Sunday school takes place for about c. 15 children divided in two groups (4-7 years old and 8-11 years old). Eight volunteers are in charge of Sunday schools. A special Family service for Christmas, animated by Nick Levesque, saw the children performing a short play and this was followed by a community lunch.

An extraordinary service was celebrated for Remembrance Sunday.

Regular services by other churches are held in the church, especially by the Malagasy community, which holds their service at the church twice a month on Sunday afternoon.

The Church stayed closed in August during our pastor's annual summer holidays. Due to COVID-related travel restrictions and Brexit visa requirements, the Consistory decided not to request a replacement pastor for the month of August.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (continued)

Pastor Stéphane Desmarais led catechism classes for 11-16 years old pupils at the French Lycée in South Kensington.

Pastor Stéphane Desmarais, as well as members of the consistory, kept regular contact with members of the community through e-mails and phone calls, especially to the more vulnerable members of the community.

One marriage and five baptisms – of which one adult one – took place at the Church.

Florence de Maleprade coordinated the overall Sunday school planning until the summer of 2022. From September, Guilhem Nègre and Laurent Gould took over the Sunday school coordination. Albane Caron agreed to remain responsible for the planning of the catechism classes for 11-16 years old pupils at the French Lycée in South Kensington. All our thanks to them.

On a monthly basis, the pastor and his wife Cindy hosted informal meetings of the young professionals and students network (15-20 people attending) over a delicious diner prepared by Cindy and volunteers. Mathilde Chiesa is successfully and enthusiastically coordinating this particularly dynamic group, which illustrates the fact that the Soho community remains a young church (35 years on average).

The monthly zoom biblical studies were stopped due to low attendance.

Despite the end of the pandemic and the re-opening of the church, Pastor Desmarais continued to record his weekly sermons and uploaded them to our website on a regular basis.

As a member of the network *Church Together in Westminster*, Pastor Stéphane Desmarais participated in monthly meetings with other priests and pastors from the borough. These meetings were held in person throughout the year.

The French Protestant Church in London is a member of the Communion of French-speaking Protestant Churches Community (Communauté des Eglises protestantes francophones) affiliated to the Protestant Federation of France. Its vice-president, Thibault Lavergne, is a member of our community. Linking around thirty churches throughout the world, the Communion is dedicated to the exchange of information and people, mutual financial aid, joint action, theological animation and reciprocal challenge. This year, the annual meeting was held in a hybrid format and focused on the impact of the Covid crisis on the running of the churches and their responses.

In June, Pastor Stéphane Desmarais announced to the Consistory his decision not to renew his contract for a third term. In consequence, the consistory published a pastoral position description through the CEEFE and the Eglise protestante Unie de France. Thibault Lavergne -vice-president of the consistory from September- is in charge of the recruitment process.

Charitable activities

Both directly and via the French Huguenot Church of London, we have been supporting charities such as Dispensaire Français (French Clinic – DF-SFB), the Refugee centre at Notre Dame de France or the West London Mission for their work on Night Shelter for homeless people.

Special collections were made towards Ukraine as well as Turkey, after the earthquake.

The Christmas service collection was given to the *Trussel Trust*.

We were also very pleased to be able to help the Jonas Foundation UK, a foundation which was born in the church's basement and whose aim is to provide musical education to disadvantaged children in London for the UK branch.

The collection made during Remembrance Sunday was given to the *Bleuets de France*.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (continued)

Events

With the end of health restrictions, we were able to once again open the doors of our church more widely by organizing or co-organizing - several events and conferences:

- on May 5th, we were thus privileged and delighted to welcome, thanks to the Librairie La Page, in a packed church, Delphine de Vigan for her novel *"Les enfants sont rois"*;
- on May 19th, Timothée de Fontebelle and Albin de la Simone gave a literary concert (Songs, piano and reading based on the novel *Neverland*);
- on May 23rd, the French choir of London -Les Fauristes- was also able to reinvest our space in May with an *"Essential Spiritual"* program, conducted by Blandine de Raulin;
- following the passing of her Majesty, Queen Elisabeth II, on 8th September 2022, the church opened a book of condolences and special remembrance prayers were read during services in September;
- on September 29th, Guilhem Nègre, member of the consistory, organised an ecumenical conference on the theme "Learning from victims of sexual violence" around Christine Lazergues and Elodie Brian;
- on Remembrance Sunday (13th November), a service of remembrance took place in the presence of the veterans' associations. On this occasion, Mr. Samer Melki, the new Consul General in London, accompanied by his wife and children made the kind gesture of joining us.

Outreach and communication

Our bilingual website (<http://www.egliseprotestantelondres.org.uk/en>), which presents the church activities, its history and heritage as well as the renovation project, remained our main communication channel in 2022.

Our monthly electronic newsletter and weekly spiritual newsletter were sent via Mailchimp (to comply with the GDPR regulation) to current and ex-parish members around the world (c. 260 recipients). The monthly newsletter includes a word from the Pastor, as well as focus on the life of the church and the upcoming events.

Heritage, Library and Archives

For the first time since early 2020, the conservation team was able to meet again once a week on a regular basis except for the summer months. The team has nonetheless been reduced in size by Brexit and Covid as two members moved back to France. Another member went back to work on a part time basis and can join on afternoons only. To address this issue and speed up the long and painstaking process to identify the books that will need a more thorough studio restoration, and to stabilise others, two more members joined the team from September. All our thanks to them!

Consequently, access to the library has been very limited.

We were nonetheless very happy to open its door to the newly appointed General Consul in London, Mr. Samer Melki and to share the breadth of our history through our collection of rare books and archives.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (continued)

Rental strategy

Our part time office and venue manager, Karine Lelieur, who was recruited in September 2021 had to leave us, for personal reasons in June 2022. When she left, our rooms were rented out on a regular basis to five different associations or small businesses all of whom have strong links to the French community. They were providing a monthly income of slightly over £3,000. Our main source of income relocated to France at the end of the summer and the new manager - when recruited- will have to find new associations or businesses to continue developing our income stream.

In the meantime, Cindy Desmarais very kindly and efficiently took over -with the help of Bénédicte Fougier- most of the duties of the manager in order to deal with the day-to-day rentals' challenges. Cindy Desmarais cannot be thanked enough for the invaluable help she provided to the consistory throughout this period.

Roof and façade renovation

The Consistory of the French Protestant Church of London started to plan for the last phase of the renovation focusing on the main roof and the façade of the church.

In 2018, as part of the first phase of the renovation, some urgent issues threatening the building such as missing slates, water infiltration and missing joints were addressed. Despite those urgent repairs and the regular maintenance undertaken by Wallwalkers (last one in October 2022) the main roof seems to have now reached the end of its life and needs a complete overhaul.

Caroe Architecture ltd – and its senior architect Alanah Honey – have been appointed by the consistory to guide us through this new project.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The single largest source of income for the Church are grants from a related charity, the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust (registered charity number: 249017). In 2022, the Church received £129k (2021: £103k) from this charity, all of which was unrestricted.

The French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust manages the assets accumulated by the Huguenot churches of London over the centuries and shares the income generated by them between three permanent endowment funds. The Church Fund goes to our charity, the Education Fund supports students and the Hardship Fund seeks to alleviate poverty. This affiliated charity is managed by three trustees nominated by the Consistory and six to ten co-opted trustees who, though not necessarily members of the Church, have a particular interest for and knowledge of the history of Huguenots in the UK.

The Church also receives donations and gifts from its members and other generous benefactors. Besides voluntary income, our income includes some income from charitable activities (payments for religious education), income from other trading activities (letting of premises) and income from investments. Our total income in the year was £214.3k (2021: £149.9k). The increase in income arose from lettings of the premises and higher donations including a £10k receipt from the Charities Aid foundation (CAF).

Total expenditure was £182.3k (2021: £179.3k). The continued reduction in repairs and maintenance costs was offset by substantial rises in utility costs globally. The Consistory continues to maintain tight financial and budgetary controls to ensure resources are applied efficiently.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (continued)**

Investment powers and performance

The charity has the power to make any investment which the Trustees see fit.

The Church's investment policy is conservative. It is primarily intended to protect the capital value of investments. Surpluses are currently held as cash balances, but trustees will keep this policy under review.

RESERVES POLICY

The Unrestricted General Funds are available for use by the Trustees for any of the Charity's purposes. Restricted funds consist solely of the Property Fund and represent donations received for the renovation works of the premises, including the library and the archives.

At the end of 2022, total funds were £1,923.8k comprising £762.8k in Restricted Funds and £1,161.0k of Unrestricted General Funds. Of the General Funds, fixed assets not covered by the Restricted Property Fund account for £699.7k with the remainder of £461.3k (the charity's 'free reserves') held mainly in bank balances.

The intention of the Trustees is to maintain free reserves at around one year of budgeted expenditure (£170k). Reserves will continue to be committed to the maintenance of the church premises which require substantial investments based on its listed building status.

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The governance of the Consistory has changed quite significantly in 2022.

Two members decided to leave: Véronique Raynaud and Géraldine Visser and a new member, John Hagg, kindly agreed to strengthen it from October.

With Bénédicte Fougier having announced she didn't want to continue as president, Fabien Lerede stepped up and was elected unanimously as the new president from September. Thibault Lavergne who previously left the Consistory in 2016 rejoined as vice-president, and Phoebe Woods became the new secretary of the Consistory replacing Florence de Maleprade.

In accordance with the Church's scheme, Trustees are chosen amongst the church's members and elected by the consistory. The consistory decision is thereafter announced during Sunday's service for a 30 day period. If 10 or more members of the congregation are opposing the election, it is then submitted to the Church's general assembly. The day-to-day management of the affairs of the church are delegated to the pastor with required support from members of the Consistory and volunteers.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

It was the reaffirmed aim of the trustees to provide a spiritual place for everyone to find peace, contemplation and reflection with a strong focus on the French-speaking community (mostly French nationals and francophones from African countries), its new-comers, young students or professionals to facilitate their integration and wellbeing, in the context of Brexit, to ensure that they benefit from our presence and facilities to find friendship, emotional support and a sense of belonging. We want to focus on strengthening our relationship with the charities we partner with as well as the development of a program of cultural events, e.g. conferences, book clubs, film showings. We plan to continue the project of conservation of the rare books and archives held in the library.

We are spending some time in 2023 in finding a replacement to Stéphane Desmarais and the first contacts are promising with several pastors showing their interest in our church.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (continued)

APPRECIATION AND THANKS

We are most grateful for our pastor's spiritual guidance and his wife Cindy's commitment in exploring new ways to reach out to our community during the pandemic and to have tackled the reopening of the church in such a high spirit and enthusiasm! We will be very sad to see them leave at the end of the Summer of 2023.

We would also like to thank all the volunteers at the French Church, especially the ones in charge of the religious education and the conservation of the books and archives, as well as the broader community for their continued valuable support and their presence at our side.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees of the charity to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities Statements of Recommended Practices (SORP);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that this basis applies.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and with the charity's own constitution. 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.

Approved by the Trustees on 16th August 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

G Leugue
Trustee



INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRENCH PROTESTANT CHURCH OF LONDON

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The French Protestant Church of London (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 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 all 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 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; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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 a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Olayinka Tomori ACA DChA

**Longmeade Consult Ltd
Regus House
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Dartford DA2 6QD**

16th August 2023



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS:					
Voluntary income					
Donations and gifts		38,882	-	38,882	29,827
Grants receivable - the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust		129,000	-	129,000	103,000
Other grants receivable	11	-	-	-	3,564
Charitable activities					
Religious education		-	-	-	-
Other trading activities					
Letting of premises and Library visits		46,388	-	46,388	9,535
Investment income					
Bank interest		47	-	47	6
Income from quoted investments		-	-	-	3,979
		<u>214,317</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>214,317</u>	<u>149,911</u>
EXPENDITURE:					
Charitable activities					
Donations and grants paid		3,201	-	3,201	3,634
Operating expenses of the Church		118,161	60,958	179,119	175,688
		<u>121,362</u>	<u>60,958</u>	<u>182,320</u>	<u>179,322</u>
Net movement in funds before investment gains/(losses)		92,955	(60,958)	31,997	(29,411)
Net gains/(losses) on investments	6	-	-	-	8,942
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>92,955</u>	<u>(60,958)</u>	<u>31,997</u>	<u>(20,469)</u>
Fund balances brought forward		<u>1,068,117</u>	<u>823,726</u>	<u>1,891,843</u>	<u>1,912,312</u>
Fund Balances carried forward		<u>£1,161,072</u>	<u>£762,768</u>	<u>£1,923,840</u>	<u>£1,891,843</u>

All amounts arise from continuing activities and there are no recognised gains or losses other than those shown above in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The comparative Statement of Financial Activities is shown in Note 13 of these financial statements.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	5	1,458,433	1,512,279
Fixed assets investments	6	-	-
		<u>1,458,433</u>	<u>1,512,279</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	4,274	2,678
Cash at bank and in hand		465,494	379,612
		<u>469,768</u>	<u>382,290</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	8	(4,361)	(2,726)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>465,407</u>	<u>379,564</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>£1,923,840</u>	<u>£1,891,843</u>
FUNDS:			
	10		
Unrestricted General Funds		1,161,072	1,068,117
Restricted Funds		762,768	823,726
		<u>£1,923,840</u>	<u>£1,891,843</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 16th August 2023 and signed on their behalf:

G Leugue
Trustee

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second Edition effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The Trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. In reaching this conclusion, due consideration has been given to the impact of Covid-19 on the activities of the charity.

Donations and Legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised when receivable or when the charity becomes legally entitled to them and the value can be estimated with reasonable certainty. Receipts of property, investments or other gifts in kind are included at market value.

Expenditure

Charitable expenditure consists of all expenditure relating to the objects of the Charity. All costs are directly attributable to the activities under which they have been analysed. Irrecoverable VAT is included with the category of expense to which it relates.

Governance costs which form part of support costs, include expenditure on the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Pension Contributions

The Church makes contributions into a defined contribution pension scheme for the pastor. Contributions are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as they are paid.

Fixed assets

The Church property at 9 Soho Square dates back to the late nineteenth century and no record of original cost is available. A policy of revaluation is not being adopted. The property is recognised at its deemed historic cost of £1. The Trustees have chosen to adopt this policy as whilst it is believed that the market value, both at the time of acquisition and at the balance sheet date, was significantly in excess of the deemed cost, it is not possible to obtain a reliable estimate of the market value at either date, as conventional valuation techniques are inappropriate for the unique and historical nature of the building. The approximate insurance value is given as £12.0m.

Renovation of the Church property is ongoing. Improvements have been capitalised and will be depreciated over their useful economic life, which is currently estimated at:

- 50 years for renovation costs
- 5 years for the emergency refurbishments to the premises
- 5 years for library and archive costs, and other fixed assets

Individual assets with a cost under £1,000 are generally expensed through the Statement of Financial Activities in the year of acquisition.

Investments

Investments are initially recognized at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

Foreign Currency Transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are recognised at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction or at an average exchange rate for the year. Monetary assets and liabilities are translated into sterling at the exchange rate on the balance sheet date. All exchange differences are recognised through the Statement of Financial Activities. The charity does not own any non-monetary assets abroad.

Statement of cash flows

The charity qualifies as a small charity, hence is exempt from the requirement to produce a Statement of Cash Flows.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (Continued)

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to be spent in accordance with the charitable objectives in furtherance of the purpose of the charity. Restricted funds are those funds where the donor has specified the purpose to which it must be applied and/or where the charity has committed itself to use the funds for a specific purpose when it requested the donation.

2. EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Donations and grants paid (see below)	3,201	-	3,201	3,634
Operating expenses of the church:				
Clergy and church activities				
Activities - Misc expenses	539	-	539	1,450
Cleaning and Household	5,874	-	5,874	4,620
Electricity, water and gas	10,473	-	10,473	5,508
Food and drink supplies	1,538	-	1,538	971
Functions and events	1,720	-	1,720	3,062
Insurance and security	15,182	-	15,182	14,185
Organists and musicians	5,575	-	5,575	3,410
Pastor's benefits	1,278	-	1,278	-
Pastor's pension premium	8,061	-	8,061	6,859
Rates	1,721	-	1,721	1,645
Repairs and maintenance	1,806	-	1,806	10,069
Furniture and equipment	1,206	-	1,206	935
Renovation costs – non capital	-	7,112	7,112	3,861
Library and archives	1,556	-	1,556	1,952
Salaries, National Insurance, Pension	45,514	-	45,514	43,282
Travel expenses	879	-	879	471
	102,922	7,112	110,034	102,280
Church administration				
Accountancy fees	2,940	-	2,940	2,964
Bank charges	6	-	6	16
Computer and website	3,445	-	3,445	4,182
Internet, telephone and postage	2,064	-	2,064	2,526
Office Administration	6,247	-	6,247	9,268
Printing, stationery and equipment	537	-	537	606
	15,239	-	15,239	19,562
Depreciation	-	53,846	53,846	53,846
Operating expenses of the Church	118,161	60,958	179,119	175,688
Total Expenditure - 2022	£121,362	£60,958	£182,320	£179,322
Total Expenditure - 2021	£118,972	£60,350	£179,322	



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (Continued)

2. EXPENDITURE (Continued)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 £	2021 £
Donations and grants paid comprise:				
CEEEFE	2,121	-	2,121	2,015
Others	1,080	-	1,080	1,619
	<u>£3,201</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£3,201</u>	<u>£3,634</u>
Total 2021	<u>£3,634</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£3,634</u>	
Included in expenditure are:			£	£
Independent examiner's fees – examination			1,320	1,320
Independent examiner's fees - other			1,440	1,200
			<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>

Donations and grants paid in the prior year were unrestricted and therefore, the relevant comparatives are included in the disclosures above.

3. STAFF COSTS

	2022 £	2021 £
Gross salary	42,565	41,335
Social Security costs	1,867	888
Pension costs	9,143	7,918
	<u>£53,575</u>	<u>£50,141</u>

The charity had only one employee in the year (2021: one). No employee's remuneration in the year or in the previous year exceeded £60,000. The one employee is the pastor. He is key management personnel and is a Trustee of the charity ex officio.

4. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS, TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

	2022 £	2021 £
Salary and related costs	44,432	42,223
Pension contributions	9,143	7,918
	<u>53,575</u>	<u>50,141</u>
Other benefits	1,278	-
	<u>£54,853</u>	<u>£50,141</u>

The only Trustee to receive remuneration is the pastor.

In line with Section 16 of the charity's Governance Scheme, £1,719 was paid to Wine Story, a limited company in which Thibault Lavergne, a member of the consistory, has interests, for the supply of food and wine for church events. No other related-party transaction occurred in 2022 (2021: None).

£355 of expenses were reimbursed to one trustee in the year (2021: £292 to one trustee).



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (Continued)

5. FIXED ASSETS

	Church Property	Property Renovation (ongoing works)	Other Fixed Assets	Total
	£	£	£	£
Valuation:				
At 1 January 2022	1	1,493,733	119,854	1,613,588
Additions	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	1	1,493,733	119,854	1,613,588
Depreciation:				
At 1 January 2022	-	29,875	71,434	101,309
Charge for the year	-	29,875	23,971	53,846
At 31 December 2022	-	59,750	95,405	155,155
Net Book Value				
At 31 December 2022	£1	£1,433,983	£24,449	£1,458,433
At 31 December 2021	£1	£1,463,858	£48,420	£1,512,279

	2022 £	2021 £
Renovation costs capitalised include:		
Architect fees and building surveys	-	7,115
Main building works	-	49,550
	£-	£56,665

6. INVESTMENTS

	2022 £	2021 £
At market value		
Opening	-	212,051
Disposal proceeds	-	(220,993)
Net revaluation (losses)/gains	-	8,942
	£-	£-
Cost of investments	£-	£-

The investment portfolio was liquidated in August 2021.

7. DEBTORS

	2022 £	2021 £
Debtor - CEEFE	698	2,678
Other debtors and accrued income	3,576	-
	£4,274	£2,678



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (Continued)

8.	CREDITORS			2022 £	2021 £	
	Other creditors			1,601	206	
	Accruals			2,760	2,520	
				<u>£4,361</u>	<u>£2,726</u>	
9.	STATEMENT OF FUNDS					
		At 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers/ Gains/(losses) £	At 31 December 2022 £
	Unrestricted Funds	1,068,117	214,317	(121,362)	-	1,161,072
	Restricted Funds:					
	Property Fund	819,627	-	(60,958)	-	758,669
	Religious Education Fund	4,099	-	-	-	4,099
	Total Restricted Funds	823,726	-	(60,958)	-	762,768
	TOTAL FUNDS	£1,891,843	£214,317	£(182,320)	£	£1,923,840
	2021 COMPARATIVES	At 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers/ Gains/(losses) £	At 31 December 2021 £
	Unrestricted Funds	1,031,800	146,347	(118,972)	8,942	1,068,117
	Restricted Funds:					
	Property Fund	873,770	3,564	(57,707)	-	819,627
	Religious Education Fund	6,700	-	(2,601)	-	4,099
	Library and Archives Fund	42	-	(42)	-	-
	Total Restricted Funds	880,512	3,564	(60,350)	-	823,726
	TOTAL FUNDS	£1,912,312	£149,911	£(179,322)	£8,942	£1,891,843

Unrestricted Fund

This fund is spent at the discretion of the Trustees and is utilised primarily in meeting the expenses of running the church. It is also used to make charitable donations.

Restricted Funds:**Property Fund**

This fund consists mainly of grants and other monies received by the church for the renovation of the church property. Depreciation and other charges connected with the renovation are charged to this fund.

Library and Archives Fund

This fund is a donation from the French Consulate UK for conservation work in the church library and archives.

Religious Education Fund

This fund represents a donation from the French Huguenot Church for the funding of religious education.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (Continued)

10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 £	2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	699,764	758,669	1,458,433	1,512,279
Net current assets	461,308	4,099	465,407	379,564
	<u>£1,161,072</u>	<u>£762,768</u>	<u>£1,923,840</u>	<u>£1,891,843</u>

2021 COMPARATIVES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	688,553	823,726	1,512,279
Net current assets	379,564	-	379,564
	<u>£1,068,117</u>	<u>£823,726</u>	<u>£1,891,843</u>

11. OTHER GRANTS RECEIVABLE

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2022 £	2021 £
Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme	-	-	-	3,564
	<u>£-</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£3,564</u>
Year ended 31 December 2021	<u>£-</u>	<u>£3,564</u>	<u>£3,564</u>	

12. CONNECTED CHARITIES

The charity is closely connected with the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust (registered charity number: 249017) from which the Church Fund receives substantial grant income. £129,000 was received in 2022 (2021: £103,000) all of which was unrestricted.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (Continued)

13. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2021)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS:			
Voluntary income			
Donations and gifts	29,827	-	29,827
Grants receivable - the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust	103,000	-	103,000
Other grants receivable	-	3,564	3,564
Charitable activities			
Religious education	-	-	-
Other trading activities			
Letting of premises and Library visits	9,535	-	9,535
Investment income			
Bank interest	6	-	6
Income from quoted investments	3,979	-	3,979
	<u>146,347</u>	<u>3,564</u>	<u>149,911</u>
EXPENDITURE:			
Charitable activities			
Donations	3,634	-	3,634
Operating expenses of the Church	115,338	60,350	175,688
	<u>118,972</u>	<u>60,350</u>	<u>179,322</u>
Net movement in funds before investment gains/(losses)	27,375	(56,786)	(29,411)
Net gains/(losses) on investments	8,942	-	8,942
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	<u>36,317</u>	<u>(56,786)</u>	<u>(20,469)</u>
Fund balances brought forward	1,031,800	880,512	1,912,312
Fund Balances carried forward	<u><u>£1,068,117</u></u>	<u><u>£823,726</u></u>	<u><u>£1,891,843</u></u>

Accounts



French Protestant Church of London
Incorporated by Royal Charter in 1550
8-9 Soho Square
W1D 3QD
www.egliseprotestantelondres.org.uk

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 2021

The French Protestant Church of London

L'Eglise protestante française de Londres

Registered Charity Number: 1070623



REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity No. 1070623

TRUSTEES

President B. Fougier

Vice President V. Raynaud

Treasurer G. Leugue

Secretary F. de Maleprade (Giger)

Members of the Consistory

S. Desmarais (Pastor)
 M. Chiesa (appointed May 2021)
 F. Lerede
 G. Nègre (appointed September 2021)
 P-I. Otto (resigned February 2021)
 A. Roberts
 C. de Saint Affrique (resigned December 2021)
 G. Visser
 P. Woods

Address 8 - 9 Soho Square
 London
 W1D 3QD

Bankers Lloyds Bank plc (Church Fund)
 PO Box 1000
 Andover
 BX11 1LT

Barclays Bank plc (Solidarity Fund)
 Leicester
 LE87 2BB

Investment Managers Barings Asset Management Limited
 155 Bishopsgate
 London
 EC2M 3XY
(until July 2021)

Independent Examiner Olayinka Tomori ACA DChA
 Longmeade Consult Ltd
 Regus House
 Victory Way, Admirals Park
 Dartford
 DA2 6QD



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second Edition effective 1 January 2019) and comply with the charity's trust deed.

TERMS & GOVERNING SCHEMES

- Royal Charter granted by His Majesty King Edward VI on 24th July 1550 (incorporation)
- Ecclesiastical Discipline adopted in 1641 by the synod of French Churches in England (guiding principles)
- Scheme approved by order of the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice dated 26th July 1926
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 12th April 1976
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 30th August 1984
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 4th October 1988
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 17th July 1998 (main governing document)
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 15th March 2000 (amendment to 1998 scheme)
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 20th April 2005 (amendment to 1998 scheme)

OBJECTS & ACTIVITIES OF THE CHARITY

The French Protestant Church of London is the spiritual home of the French-speaking community of Reformed tradition in the UK.

King Edward VI incorporated the Church by Royal Charter on 24th July 1550. The Church was located on Threadneedle Street for almost three centuries, until the building was destroyed to create space around the Royal Exchange. In 1687 the Church opened a secondary place of worship in Spitalfields that, along with other French churches founded in London at the time, served the many Huguenots seeking refuge from the persecutions of Louis XIV. The secondary church was sold in 1809 but the building at the corner of Brick Lane and Fournier Street still exists. Since 1893 the Church has been located in Soho Square. Its Grade II*-listed building was designed by the famous architect Sir Aston Webb.

The Charity's primary aim is to provide Christian worship and services in the Reformed tradition with a special focus on the French-speaking community of London. This is accomplished mainly through the celebration of church services open to all, through community activities and religious education.

An important part of the Charity's activities is also to provide pastoral care for parishioners and to help the people who fall into hardship.

The French Protestant Church also holds a collection of manuscripts and early books, housed in a room specially designed by Aston Webb. They are evidence of the Charity's early roots: from the Royal Charters granted for the opening of new churches, to the minutes of the meetings of the Consistory or the poor refugee relief, or editions of first reformed Bibles. Researchers or people having a proven interest in the history of the church and of the Huguenot community can have access to the collection, by appointment. The governing body of the Church takes all necessary measures to keep the contents of the Library in good condition.

The Trustees are appointed by the Consistory (governing body) of the Church, subject to tacit approval by the members of the Church.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 (continued)

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees confirm that they have carefully referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, and in planning future activities. In particular, Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND REVIEW OF THE YEAR

During 2021, another highly challenging year, the focus has been to work mainly towards the objectives listed below:

- Adapting the church to the challenge posed by Covid and maintaining its role as the spiritual home of the French-speaking community of Reformed faith in London through an enhanced online presence;
- Accompanying our community during the Covid-crisis by direct contacts and online activities;
- Successfully reopening the Church at the end of Covid's related restrictions;
- Improving our resilience by laying the foundation of a successful rental activity;
- Doing charitable work at two levels: first by financially supporting charities we have strong links with to allow vulnerable people based in London to access relief more easily and second by helping directly, members of our community in need.
- Improving our overall sustainability within the constraints of the existing building.

Services, pastoral care and spiritual life

This year, due to the Covid crisis, the Church remained closed during the first months of 2021, during which services were celebrated online. The Church reopened its doors on Sunday 18th April and the following week, Sunday school could resume. Due to health measure in place at the French lycée, catechism for the 11-16 years old could only resume in September.

Due to health measures put in place at the French lycée, catechism for the 11-16 years old could only resume in September.

The Church stayed closed in August during our pastor's annual summer holidays. Due COVID-related travel restrictions and Brexit visa requirements, the Consistory decided not to request a replacement pastor for the month of August.

From January to April, fourteen services, led by Pastor Stéphane Desmarais, were uploaded to the church's Youtube channel (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYllodOBQ2r4jv_AUJG_Sw) in an effort to keep the community alive. In order to ease the video editing workload, only three of these online services were animated by the adult voices of the congregation, as well as those of the children who also contributed through lovely drawings. The children of the Sunday school contributed to the 14th March online services, while the youth of catechism lent their voices, alongside adults, to the Easter service. The coordination of the different contributions and the services' editing were done by Bénédicte Fougier and Florence de Maleprade.

Each of those online services were viewed 154 times on average, with a maximum of 259 times for the Easter service on April 4th.

Only five family services could be held during the first semester. Nine volunteers were in charge of Sunday schools for 14 children divided in two groups (4-7 years old and 8-11 years old).



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 (continued)

During the second part of the year, the Church's normal activities gradually resumed, with health and prevention measures maintained. Services were celebrated in French every Sunday and were attended by 30 to 100 people and systematically followed by the sharing of a glass of wine as a gesture of welcome and inclusion, 'le verre de l'amitié'.

During the planned absence of Pastor Desmarais (mid-October to mid-November) for health reasons, services were led by lay members of the community and by Pastor Dominique Calla. All our thanks to them.

The traditional *Culte de Rentrée* (the first service after the beginning of the school year) took place on September 12th and was followed by a friendly buffet meal.

Extraordinary services were celebrated for the installation of new consistory's members on October 10th and for Remembrance Sunday, which was part of the delayed celebration of our renovated building (see *events*).

A Special Family service for Christmas saw the children performing a short play and was followed by a friendly buffet. This service was animated by Nick Levesque and Luther Beaumont.

Regular services by other churches are held in the church, especially by the Malagasy community, who hold their service at the church once a month on Sunday afternoon.

Pastor Stéphane Desmarais led catechism for 11-16 years old pupils at the French Lycée in South Kensington. During the first part of the year, catechism classes were given through Zoom.

Pastor Stéphane Desmarais, as well as members of the consistory, kept regular contact with members of the community through e-mails and phone calls, especially to the more vulnerable members of the community.

One marriage and three baptisms took place at the Church.

Florence de Maleprade coordinated the overall Sunday school planning and Albane Caron the planning of the catechism for 11-16 years old pupils at the French Lycée in South Kensington.

This year, the pastor and his wife Cindy could only host five informal meetings of the young professionals and students' network (15-20 people attending) over a delicious dinner prepared by Cindy and volunteers (one in June and four from September to December). Mathilde Chiesa has successfully and enthusiastically coordinated this particularly dynamic group.

Our dynamic online presence gave Pastor Desmarais the opportunity to continue the biblical study group via Zoom's monthly meetings throughout the year. His weekly sermons were also recorded and uploaded to our website on a regular basis.

As a member of the network *Church Together in Westminster*, Pastor Stéphane Desmarais participates in a monthly meeting with other priests and reverends from the borough. These meetings were held in person from September.

The French Protestant Church in London is a member of the *Communion of French-speaking Protestant Churches* (*Communauté des Eglises protestantes francophones*) affiliated to the *Protestant Federation of France*. Its vice-president is a member of our community, Thibault Lavergne. Linking around thirty churches throughout the world, the Communion is dedicated to the exchange of information and people, mutual financial aid, joint action, theological animation and reciprocal challenge. This year, the annual meeting was held in a hybrid format and focused on the impact of the Covid crisis on the running of the churches and their responses.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 (continued)

Charitable activities

Both directly and via the French Huguenot Church of London, we have been supporting charities such as Dispensaire Français (French Clinic – DF-SFB), the Trustell Trust in London or the West London Mission for their work on Night Shelter for homeless people.

We were also very pleased to be able to help the Jonas Foundation UK, a foundation which was born in the church's basement and whose aim is to provide musical education to disadvantaged children in London for the UK branch.

The collection made during Remembrance Sunday was given to the *Bleuets de France*.

Events

Due to the easing of the restrictions, the inauguration of our renovated space originally planned in May 2020 could finally take place during Remembrance Sunday weekend (13th and 14th November).

On Saturday 13th November, major donors were invited to a special visit of the Library and its treasures followed by a cocktail in our renovated basement rooms. There, they were able to watch a [short movie](#) highlighting the transformation of the space.

On Remembrance Sunday (14th November), all donors or volunteers having contributed to the success of the project were invited to join the community and the veterans' associations for a special service. On this occasion, Mr. Guillaume Bazard, Consul General, accompanied by his wife and children made the kind gesture of joining us. In front of a packed church, the French soprano Julie Charon wonderfully animated this service.

Outreach and communication

Our bilingual website (<http://www.egliseprotestantelondres.org.uk/en>), which presents the church activities, its history and heritage as well as the renovation project, remained in 2021 our main communication channel.

We changed our host and web site maintenance provider in April 2021.

Our monthly electronic newsletter and weekly spiritual newsletter were sent via Mailchimp (to comply with the GDPR regulation) to current and ex-parish members around the world (c. 260 recipients). The monthly newsletter includes a word from the Pastor, as well as focus on the life of the church and the upcoming events.

Heritage, Library and Archives

During the first two months of the year, the library remained closed due to the pandemic. The team started meeting again in March 2021 and continued working on a long and painstaking process to identify the books that will need a more thorough studio restoration, and to stabilise the others. The conservation sessions were interrupted during the summer months and were able to resume in mid-September. Consequently, access to the library has been very limited.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 (continued)****Rental strategy**

Following Covid restrictions, no room rentals could be done until April 2021 and the contract of our manager - Elise Lefay - was put on hold.

Our new part time office and venue manager, Karine Lelieur, was recruited in September 2021 in charge of developing a marketing and financial strategy to fill the space up and build a knowledge management strategy. During the first months of her contract, she mainly acquainted herself with the maintenance system in place, our hirers and focused her energy on finding new contracts. Despite very challenging conditions she managed to start renting our rooms on a regular basis.

At the end of 2021, our rooms were rented out on a regular basis to five different associations or small businesses all of whom have strong links to the French community. They were providing a monthly income of slightly over £3,000.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The single largest source of income for the Church are grants from a related charity, the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust (registered charity number: 249017). In 2021, the Church received £103k (2020: £130k) from this charity, all of which was unrestricted.

The French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust manages the assets accumulated by the Huguenot churches of London over the centuries and shares the income generated by them between three permanent endowment funds. The Church Fund goes to our charity, the Education Fund supports students and the Hardship Fund seeks to alleviate poverty. This affiliated charity is managed by three trustees nominated by the Consistory and six to ten co-opted trustees who, though not necessarily members of the Church, have a particular interest for and knowledge of the history of Huguenots in the UK.

The Church also receives donations and gifts from its members and other generous benefactors. Besides voluntary income, our income includes some income from charitable activities (payments for religious education), income from other trading activities (letting of premises) and income from investments. Our total income in the year was £149.9k (2020: £431.3k). The substantial decrease in income in 2021 continues as the fundraising project for which several grants and donations were obtained, is drawing to a completion.

The church was able to claim £3.6k (2020: £88.8k) in VAT grants under the government's Listed Buildings Maintenance Fund (LBMF) scheme, to offset VAT on relevant church renovation expenses.

Total expenditure was £179.3k (2020: £171.9k). Of this, depreciation rose to £53.8k (2020: £24.0k) as charges were now applied to the renovation works. In contrast, costs of repairs fell as the extensive repairs projects in recent years drew to a conclusion. The Consistory continues to maintain tight financial and budgetary controls to ensure resources are applied efficiently.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 (continued)**

Investment powers and performance

The charity has the power to make any investment which the Trustees see fit.

The Church's investment policy is conservative. It is primarily intended to protect the capital value of investments, as evidenced by the large portion kept in cash. Income from quoted investments in the year amounted to £3,979 (2020: £6,976) following the encashment of the portfolio in August 2021. Trustees were satisfied with the returns for the period which is considerably higher than what is earned on bank deposits. The trustees are currently reviewing their investment strategy.

RESERVES POLICY

The Unrestricted General Funds are available for use by the Trustees for any of the Charity's purposes. Restricted funds consist solely of the Property Fund and represent donations received for the renovation works of the premises, including the library and the archives.

At the end of 2021, total funds were £1,891.8k comprising £823.7k in Restricted Funds and £1,068.1k of Unrestricted General Funds. Of the General Funds, fixed assets not covered by the Restricted Property Fund account for £688.5k with the remainder of £375.5k (the charity's 'free reserves') held mainly in bank balances.

The intention of the Trustees is to maintain unrestricted reserves at around one year of budgeted expenditure (£170k). It is still the intention of the trustees to commit a substantial portion of its year end bank balances to an investment portfolio once the investment strategy has been revisited.

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The governance of the Consistory has remained unchanged in 2021.

In accordance with the Church's scheme, Trustees are chosen amongst the church's members and elected by the consistory. The consistory decision is thereafter announced during Sunday's service for a 30 day period. In case of any 10 members of the congregation or more opposing the election, it is then submitted to the Church's general assembly.

The day-to-day management of the affairs of the church are delegated to the pastor with requisite support from members of the Consistory and volunteers.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

It was the reaffirmed aim of the trustees to provide a spiritual place for everyone to find peace, contemplation and reflection with a strong focus on the French-speaking community (mostly French nationals and francophones from African countries), its new-comers, young students or professionals to facilitate their integration and wellbeing, in the context of Brexit, to ensure that they benefit from our presence and facilities to find friendship, emotional support and a sense of belonging.

We want to focus on strengthening our relationship with the charities we partner with as well as the development of a program of cultural events, e.g. conferences, book clubs, film showings. At the time of writing, a series of cultural events were just held in the nave and were a great success.

The conservation of the rare books and archives held in the library are planned to continue.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 (continued)

APPRECIATION AND THANKS

We are most grateful for our pastor's spiritual guidance and his wife Cindy's commitment in exploring new ways to reach out to our community during the pandemic and to have tackled the reopening of the church in such a high spirit and enthusiasm!

We would also like to thank all the volunteers at the French Church, especially the ones in charge of the religious education and the conservation of the books and archives, as well as the broader community for their continued valuable support and their presence at our side in those hectic months.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees of the charity to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities Statements of Recommended Practices (SORP);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that this basis applies.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and with the charity's own constitution. 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.

Approved by the Trustees on 25th June 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

G Leugue
Trustee



INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRENCH PROTESTANT CHURCH OF LONDON

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The French Protestant Church of London (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2021.

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 all 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 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; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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 a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Olayinka Tomori ACA DChA

**Longmeade Consult Ltd
Regus House
Victory Way
Admirals Park
Dartford DA2 6QD**

27th June 2022



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS:					
Voluntary income					
Donations and gifts		29,827	-	29,827	39,337
Grants receivable - the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust		103,000	-	103,000	130,000
Other grants receivable	11	-	3,564	3,564	254,500
Charitable activities					
Religious education		-	-	-	427
Other trading activities					
Letting of premises and Library visits		9,535	-	9,535	-
Investment income					
Bank interest		6	-	6	72
Income from quoted investments		3,979	-	3,979	6,976
		<u>146,347</u>	<u>3,564</u>	<u>149,911</u>	<u>431,312</u>
EXPENDITURE:					
Charitable activities					
Donations		3,634	-	3,634	8,344
Operating expenses of the Church		115,338	60,350	175,688	163,611
		<u>118,972</u>	<u>60,350</u>	<u>179,322</u>	<u>171,955</u>
Net movement in funds before investment gains/(losses)		27,375	(56,786)	(29,411)	259,357
Net gains/(losses) on investments	6	8,942	-	8,942	(6,204)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>36,317</u>	<u>(56,786)</u>	<u>(20,469)</u>	<u>253,153</u>
Fund balances brought forward		<u>1,031,800</u>	<u>880,512</u>	<u>1,912,312</u>	<u>1,659,159</u>
Fund Balances carried forward		<u>£1,068,117</u>	<u>£823,726</u>	<u>£1,891,843</u>	<u>£1,912,312</u>

All amounts arise from continuing activities and there are no recognised gains or losses other than those shown above in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The comparative Statement of Financial Activities is shown in Note 13 of these financial statements.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021**

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	5	1,512,279	1,509,460
Fixed assets investments	6	-	212,051
		<u>1,512,279</u>	<u>1,721,511</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	2,678	8,020
Cash at bank and in hand		379,612	189,529
		<u>382,290</u>	<u>197,549</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	8	(2,726)	(6,748)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>379,564</u>	<u>190,801</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>£1,891,843</u>	<u>£1,912,312</u>
FUNDS:	10		
Unrestricted General Funds		1,068,117	1,031,800
Restricted Funds		823,726	880,512
		<u>£1,891,843</u>	<u>£1,912,312</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 25th June 2022 and signed on their behalf:

G Leugue
Trustee

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second Edition effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The Trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. In reaching this conclusion, due consideration has been given to the impact of Covid-19 on the activities of the charity.

Donations and Legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised when receivable or when the charity becomes legally entitled to them and the value can be estimated with reasonable certainty. Receipts of property, investments or other gifts in kind are included at market value.

Expenditure

Charitable expenditure consists of all expenditure relating to the objects of the Charity. All costs are directly attributable to the activities under which they have been analysed. Irrecoverable VAT is included with the category of expense to which it relates.

Governance costs which form part of support costs, include expenditure on the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Pension Contributions

The Church makes contributions into a defined contribution pension scheme for the pastor. Contributions are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as they are paid.

Fixed assets

The Church property at 9 Soho Square dates back to the late nineteenth century and no record of original cost is available. A policy of revaluation is not being adopted. The property is recognised at its deemed historic cost of £1. The Trustees have chosen to adopt this policy as whilst it is believed that the market value, both at the time of acquisition and at the balance sheet date, was significantly in excess of the deemed cost, it is not possible to obtain a reliable estimate of the market value at either date, as conventional valuation techniques are inappropriate for the unique and historical nature of the building. The approximate insurance value is given as £7.0m.

Renovation of the Church property is ongoing. Improvements have been capitalised and will be depreciated over their useful economic life, which is currently estimated at:

- 50 years for renovation costs
- 5 years for the emergency refurbishments to the premises
- 5 years for library and archive costs, and other fixed assets

Individual assets with a cost under £1,000 are generally expensed through the Statement of Financial Activities in the year of acquisition.

Investments

Investments are initially recognized at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

Foreign Currency Transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are recognised at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction or at an average exchange rate for the year. Monetary assets and liabilities are translated into sterling at the exchange rate on the balance sheet date. All exchange differences are recognised through the Statement of Financial Activities. The charity does not own any non-monetary assets abroad.

Statement of cash flows

The charity qualifies as a small charity, hence is exempt from the requirement to produce a Statement of Cash Flows.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 (Continued)

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to be spent in accordance with the charitable objectives in furtherance of the purpose of the charity. Restricted funds are those funds where the donor has specified the purpose to which it must be applied and/or where the charity has committed itself to use the funds for a specific purpose when it requested the donation.

2. EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Donations and grants paid (see below)	3,634	-	3,634	8,344
Operating expenses of the church:				
Clergy and church activities				
Activities - Misc expenses	1,450	-	1,450	2,018
Cleaning and Household	4,620	-	4,620	4,732
Electricity, water and gas	5,508	-	5,508	7,677
Food and drink supplies	971	-	971	645
Functions and events	3,062	-	3,062	1,575
Insurance and security	14,185	-	14,185	14,435
Organists and musicians	3,410	-	3,410	2,775
Pastor's benefits	-	-	-	847
Pastor's pension premium	6,859	-	6,859	6,395
Rates	1,645	-	1,645	1,556
Repairs and maintenance	10,069	-	10,069	15,878
Furniture and equipment	935	-	935	15,020
Renovation costs – non capital	-	3,861	3,861	3,271
Library and archives	1,910	42	1,952	1,222
Salaries, National Insurance, Pension	43,282	-	43,282	43,900
Travel expenses	471	-	471	2,164
	98,377	3,903	102,280	124,110
Church administration				
Accountancy fees	2,964	-	2,964	3,948
Bank charges	16	-	16	34
Computer and website	1,581	2,601	4,182	3,493
Internet, telephone and postage	2,526	-	2,526	1,034
Office Administration	9,268	-	9,268	6,760
Printing, stationery and equipment	606	-	606	261
	16,961	2,601	19,562	15,530
Depreciation	-	53,846	53,846	23,971
Operating expenses of the Church	115,338	60,350	175,688	163,611
Total Expenditure - 2021	£118,972	£60,350	£179,322	£171,955
Total Expenditure - 2020	£143,491	£28,464	£171,955	



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 (Continued)

2. EXPENDITURE (Continued)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 £	2020 £
Donations and grants paid comprise:				
CEEEFE	2,015	-	2,015	1,939
Grants to individual(s) in need	-	-	-	2,400
Trusell Trust	-	-	-	2,630
Others	1,619	-	1,619	1,375
	<u>£3,634</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£3,634</u>	<u>£8,344</u>
Total 2020	<u>£8,344</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£8,344</u>	<u>£8,344</u>

Included in expenditure are:

Independent examiner's fees – examination	£	£
Independent examiner's fees - other	1,320	1,320
	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,620</u>

Donations and grants paid in the prior year were unrestricted and therefore, the relevant comparatives are included in the disclosures above.

3. STAFF COSTS

	2021 £	2020 £
Gross salary	41,335	42,764
Social Security costs	888	1,136
Pension costs	7,918	6,395
	<u>£50,141</u>	<u>£50,295</u>

The charity had only one employee in the year (2020: one). No employee's remuneration in the year or in the previous year exceeded £60,000. The one employee is the pastor. He is key management personnel and is a Trustee of the charity ex officio.

4. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS, TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

	2021 £	2020 £
Salary and related costs	42,223	43,900
Pension contributions	7,918	6,395
	<u>50,141</u>	<u>50,295</u>
Expenses	-	847
	<u>£50,141</u>	<u>£51,142</u>

The only Trustee to receive remuneration is the pastor. The Charity's trust deed prohibits any other Trustee from being remunerated and from being interested in the supply of goods or services to the Charity. No related-party transaction occurred in 2021 (2020: None).

£292 of expenses were reimbursed to one trustee in the year (2020: £nil).



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 (Continued)

5. FIXED ASSETS

	Church Property	Property Renovation (ongoing works)	Other Fixed Assets	Total
	£	£	£	£
Valuation:				
At 1 January 2021	1	1,437,068	119,854	1,556,923
Additions	-	56,665	-	56,665
At 31 December 2021	1	1,493,733	119,854	1,613,588
Depreciation:				
At 1 January 2021	-	-	47,463	47,463
Charge for the year	-	29,875	23,971	53,846
At 31 December 2021	-	29,875	71,434	101,309
Net Book Value				
At 31 December 2021	£1	£1,463,858	£48,420	£1,512,279
At 31 December 2020	£1	£1,437,068	£72,391	£1,509,460

Renovation costs capitalised include:
Architect fees and building surveys
Main building works

2021 £	2020 £
7,115	35,880
49,550	601,210
£56,665	£637,090

6. INVESTMENTS

	2021 £	2020 £
At market value		
Opening	212,051	218,255
Disposal proceeds	(220,993)	-
Net revaluation (losses)/gains	8,942	(6,204)
	£-	£212,051
Cost of investments	£-	£189,615
The breakdown of investments is as follows:		
UK Unit Trusts	-	212,051
Portfolio bank accounts	-	-
	£	£212,051

The investment portfolio was liquidated in August 2021.

7. DEBTORS

	2021 £	2020 £
Other debtors	2,678	8,020
	£2,678	£8,020



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 (Continued)

8. CREDITORS				2021	2020
				£	£
Other creditors				206	3,808
Accruals				2,520	2,940
				<u>£2,726</u>	<u>£6,748</u>
9. STATEMENT OF FUNDS					
	At 1 January 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers/ Gains/(losses)	At 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	1,031,800	146,347	(118,972)	8,942	1,068,117
Restricted Funds:					
Property Fund	873,770	3,564	(57,707)	-	819,627
Religious Education Fund	6,700	-	(2,601)	-	4,099
Library and Archives Fund	42	-	(42)	-	-
Total Restricted Funds	<u>880,512</u>	<u>3,564</u>	<u>(60,350)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>823,726</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>£1,912,312</u>	<u>£149,911</u>	<u>£(179,322)</u>	<u>£8,942</u>	<u>£1,891,843</u>
2020 COMPARATIVES					
	At 1 January 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers/ Gains/(losses)	At 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	1,004,683	176,812	(143,491)	(6,204)	1,031,800
Restricted Funds:					
Property Fund	646,512	254,500	(27,242)	-	873,770
Religious Education Fund	6,700	-	-	-	6,700
Library and Archives Fund	1,264	-	(1,222)	-	42
Total Restricted Funds	<u>654,476</u>	<u>254,500</u>	<u>(28,464)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>880,512</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>£1,659,159</u>	<u>£431,312</u>	<u>£(171,955)</u>	<u>£(6,204)</u>	<u>£1,912,312</u>

Unrestricted Fund

This fund is spent at the discretion of the Trustees and is utilised primarily in meeting the expenses of running the church. It is also used to make charitable donations.

Restricted Fund:**Property Fund**

This fund consists mainly of grants and other monies received by the church for the renovation of the church property. Depreciation and other charges connected with the renovation are charged to this fund.

Library and Archives Fund

This fund is a donation from the French Consulate UK for conservation work in the church library and archives.

Religious Education Fund

This fund represents a donation from the French Huguenot Church for the funding of religious education.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 (Continued)

10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	688,553	823,726	1,512,279	1,509,460
Investments	-	-	-	212,051
Net current assets	379,564	-	379,564	190,801
	<u>£1,068,117</u>	<u>£823,726</u>	<u>£1,891,843</u>	<u>£1,912,312</u>

2020 COMPARATIVES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2020
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	628,948	880,512	1,509,460
Investments	212,051	-	212,051
Net current assets	190,801	-	190,801
	<u>£1,031,800</u>	<u>£880,512</u>	<u>£1,912,312</u>

11. OTHER GRANTS RECEIVABLE

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2021 £	2020 £
Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme	-	3,564	3,564	88,831
City Bridge Trust	-	-	-	93,669
Clarence	-	-	-	30,000
Gecko Trust	-	-	-	25,000
Lafayette Centre	-	-	-	17,000
	<u>£-</u>	<u>£3,564</u>	<u>£3,564</u>	<u>£254,500</u>
Year ended 31 December 2020	<u>£-</u>	<u>£254,500</u>	<u>£254,500</u>	

12. CONNECTED CHARITIES

The charity is closely connected with the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust (registered charity number: 249017) from which the Church Fund receives substantial grant income. £103,000 was received in 2021 (2020: £130,000) all of which was unrestricted.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 (Continued)

13. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2020)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS:			
Voluntary income			
Donations and gifts	39,337	-	39,337
Grants receivable - the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust	130,000	-	130,000
Other grants receivable	-	254,500	254,500
Charitable activities			
Religious education	427	-	427
Investment income			
Bank interest	72	-	72
Income from quoted investments	6,976	-	6,976
	<u>176,812</u>	<u>254,500</u>	<u>431,312</u>
EXPENDITURE:			
Charitable activities			
Donations	8,344	-	8,344
Operating expenses of the Church	135,147	28,464	163,611
	<u>143,491</u>	<u>28,464</u>	<u>171,955</u>
Net movement in funds before investment gains/(losses)	33,321	226,036	259,357
Net (losses)/gains on investments	(6,204)	-	(6,204)
Net Income	<u>27,117</u>	<u>226,036</u>	<u>253,153</u>
Transfers between Funds	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	<u>27,117</u>	<u>226,036</u>	<u>253,153</u>
Fund balances brought forward	1,004,683	654,476	1,659,159
Fund Balances carried forward	<u>£1,031,800</u>	<u>£880,512</u>	<u>£1,912,312</u>

THE FRENCH PROTESTANT CHURCH OF LONDON

England & Wales - Charity number 1070623

Accounts



French Protestant Church of London
Incorporated by Royal Charter in 1550
8-9 Soho Square
W1D 3QD
www.egliseprotestantelondres.org.uk

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 DECEMBER 2020

The French Protestant Church of London

L'Eglise protestante française de Londres

Registered Charity Number: 1070623



REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity No. 1070623

TRUSTEES

President B. Fougier

Vice President V. Raynaud

Treasurer G. Leugue

Secretary F. Giger

Members of the Consistory

S. Desmarais
G. Leugue
F. Lerede (June 2020)
C. de Saint Affrique
P-I. Otto
G. Visser
P. Woods (June 2020)

Address 8 - 9 Soho Square
London
W1D 3QD

Bankers Lloyds Bank plc (Church Fund)
PO Box 1000
Andover
BX11 1LT

Barclays Bank plc (Solidarity Fund)
Leicester
LE87 2BB

Investment Managers Barings Asset Management Limited
155 Bishopsgate
London
EC2M 3XY

Independent Examiner Olayinka Tomori ACA DChA
Longmeade Consult Ltd
Regus House
Victory Way, Admirals Park
Dartford
DA2 6QD



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second Edition effective 1 January 2019) and comply with the charity's trust deed.

TERMS & GOVERNING SCHEMES

- Royal Charter granted by His Majesty King Edward VI on 24th July 1550 (incorporation)
- Ecclesiastical Discipline adopted in 1641 by the synod of French Churches in England (guiding principles)
- Scheme approved by order of the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice dated 26th July 1926
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 12th April 1976
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 30th August 1984
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 4th October 1988
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 17th July 1998 (main governing document)
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 15th March 2000 (amendment to 1998 scheme)
- Charity Commission Scheme dated 20th April 2005 (amendment to 1998 scheme)

OBJECTS & ACTIVITIES OF THE CHARITY

The French Protestant Church of London is the spiritual home of the French-speaking community of Reformed tradition in the UK.

King Edward VI incorporated the Church by Royal Charter on 24th July 1550. The Church was located on Threadneedle Street for almost three centuries, until the building was destroyed to create space around the Royal Exchange. In 1687 the Church opened a secondary place of worship in Spitalfields that, along with other French churches funded in London at the time, served the many Huguenots seeking refuge from the persecutions of Louis XIV. The secondary church was sold in 1809 but the building at the corner of Brick Lane and Fournier Street still exists. Since 1893 the Church has been located in Soho Square. Its Grade II*-listed building was designed by the famous architect Sir Aston Webb.

The Charity's primary aim is to provide Christian worship and services in the Reformed tradition with a special focus on the French-speaking community of London. This is accomplished mainly through the celebration of church services open to all, through community activities and religious education.

An important part of the Charity's activities is also to provide pastoral care for parishioners and to help the people who fall into hardship.

The French Protestant Church also holds a collection of manuscripts and early books, housed in a room specially designed by Aston Webb. They are evidence of the Charity's early roots: from the Royal Charters granted for the opening of new churches, to the minutes of the meetings of the Consistory or the poor refugee relief, or editions of first reformed Bibles. Researchers or people having a proven interest in the history of the church and of the Huguenot community can have access to the collection, by appointment. The governing body of the Church takes all necessary measures to keep the contents of the Library in good condition.

The Trustees are appointed by the Consistory (governing body) of the Church, subject to tacit approval by the members of the Church.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (continued)

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees confirm that they have carefully referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives, and in planning future activities. In particular Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND REVIEW OF THE YEAR

During 2020, in a highly challenging environment, the focus has been to work mainly towards the objectives listed below:

- Successfully completing the Church's renovation project, with the construction works completed during the first lockdown;
- Adapting the church to the challenge posed by Covid and maintaining its role as the spiritual home of the French-speaking community of Reformed faith in London through an enhanced online presence;
- Accompanying our community during the Covid-crisis by direct contacts and online activities;
- Improving our resilience by laying the foundation of a successful rental activity;
- Doing charitable work at two levels: first by financially supporting charities we have strong links with to allow vulnerable people based in London to access relief more easily and second by helping directly, members of our community in need.
- Improving our overall sustainability within the constraints of the existing building, in reducing the consumption of paper by switching to online communication and soft copies when possible.

Services, pastoral care and spiritual life

This year, due to the Covid crisis, services were only celebrated at the Church during the first few months of 2020 (last service held on March 15th, ahead of the national lockdown announcement) as well as in September-October before the start of the second lockdown. Due to the health situation, the church had to otherwise remain closed, and services were celebrated online.

The traditional *Culte de Rentrée* (the first service after the beginning of the school year) could nonetheless take place.

Only six family services could be held during which Sunday school took place for c. 20 children divided in two groups (4-7 years old and 8-11 years old). Twelve volunteers were in charge of Sunday schools.

Whenever possible, the Malagasy community continued to hold their service at the church once a month on Sunday afternoon.

From March to September, twenty-one services were uploaded on the church's YouTube channel (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYllodOBQ2r4jv_AUJG_Sw).

Nineteen of them were led by the church's Pastor Stéphane Desmarais and two by Phoebe Woods, member of the consistory. As a way of keeping the community alive, those services were animated by the adult voices of the congregation as well as those of the children, who also contributed through lovely drawings. The coordination of the different contributions and the services' editing were done by Bénédicte Fougier (for sixteen of them) and Florence Giger.

Each of those online services were viewed 270 times on average, with a maximum of 966 times for the Easter service on April 12th.

During the second part of the year, nine services were celebrated online and seven in person at the church. To ease the editing workload of those nine online services, only four were uploaded on the church's website and five were live streamed, thanks to the technical help of Paul-Igor Otto and Florence Giger. All in all, those online services were viewed 262 times each in average, with a maximum of 386 views for Remembrance Sunday.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (continued)

With the help of the parents and Nick Levesque, Florence Giger was able to edit a special contribution from the children for the Christmas service.

Pastor Stéphane Desmarais led catechism for 11-16 years old pupils at the French Lycée in South Kensington (12 pupils in 2020) until March 2020. During the first lockdown, regular biblical quizzes and spiritual activities were sent to the 11-16 years old children.

From September, catechism classes were given through Zoom.

Pastor Stéphane Desmarais, as well as members of the consistory, kept regular contact with members of the community through e-mails and phone calls, especially to the more vulnerable members of the community.

No marriage took place at the Church, but Pastor Stéphane Desmarais celebrated two marriages in France in September and October and undertook a lot of preparation times with young couples (5 couples).

Florence Giger coordinated the overall Sunday school planning and Albane Caron the planning of the catechism for 11-16 years old pupils at the French Lycée in South Kensington.

A catechism's weekend planned for the 8th to 10th May had to be cancelled due to the pandemic.

This year, the pastor and his wife Cindy could only host four informal meetings of the young professionals and students' network (15-20 people attending) over a delicious dinner prepared by Cindy and volunteers. Mathilde Chiesa has successfully and enthusiastically coordinated this particularly dynamic group.

A trip planned in Israel in June (11 young professionals were to attend) had to be cancelled due to the pandemic.

Our increasingly dynamic online presence gave Pastor Desmarais the opportunity to revive the biblical study group through weekly zoom meeting during the first lockdown and monthly meetings during the second part of the year.

As a member of the network *Church Together in Westminster*, Pastor Stéphane Desmarais participates in a monthly meeting with other priests and reverends from the borough. Those meetings were held online from March.

The French Protestant Church in London is a member of the *Communion of French-speaking Protestant Churches* (*Communauté des Eglises protestantes francophones*) affiliated to the *Protestant Federation of France*. Linking around thirty churches throughout the world, the Communion is dedicated to the exchange of information and people, mutual financial aid, joint action, theological animation and reciprocal challenge. This year, the annual meeting was held online and focused on the impact of the Covid crisis on the running of the churches and their responses.

Charitable activities

Both directly and via the French Huguenot Church of London, we have been supporting charities such as Dispensaire Français (French Clinic – DF-SFB), the Trustell Trust in London or the West London Mission for their work on Night Shelter for homeless people.

We were also very pleased to be able to help the Jonas Foundation UK, a foundation which was born in the church's basement and which aim is to provide musical education to disadvantaged children in London for the UK branch.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (continued)

Events

Due to the pandemic and renovation works, no event -except for the *culte de rentrée*- could take place at the church this year but several events were organised online to keep the community together. Notably an online game night was organised by Angèle Monod in November and on Friday 4th December a wine and cheese testing evening was organised online by Thibault Lavergne, wine and cheese being delivered ahead of the event to those registered to attend. This last event proved to be highly successful and appreciated by those attending.

The inauguration of our renovated space planned in May 2020 as well as Remembrance Sunday had to be cancelled just ahead of the events.

Our new event manager was able to organise four concerts in December, two of them being live streamed only following London's move into Tier 3. It was really refreshing to be able to open the Church again to musicians and an audience.

Outreach and communication

Our bilingual website (<http://www.egliseprotestantelondres.org.uk/en>), which presents the church activities, its history and heritage as well as the renovation project, became in 2020 our main communication channel.

Launched in June 2017 it had 27 614 views in 2020 (21,604 in 2019, i.e. +27.8%). To adapt it to the pandemic, a new webpage hosting the online services was created. The page presenting our rental spaces was also completely rewritten.

Our monthly electronic newsletter and weekly spiritual newsletter were sent via Mailchimp (to comply with the GDPR regulation) to current and ex-parish members around the world (c. 300 recipients). The monthly newsletter includes a word from the Pastor, as well as focus on the life of the church and the upcoming events.

The last newsletter devoted to the Renovation and Fundraising project called '*Sauvons notre Temple*' was sent in May 2020. It had been created in March 2017 and sixteen newsletters were sent regularly throughout the project to keep the community and donors informed.

Heritage, Library and Archives

Thanks to grants awarded in 2018 and 2019, a new training session led by the conservator Caroline Bendix of two days took place in March 2020 just before the start of the lockdown. It especially focused on the making of book shoes and boxes for support and preservation.

During the first two months of the year, the team has continued working on a long and painstaking process to identify the books that will need a more thorough studio restoration, and to stabilise the others. The conservation sessions had to be interrupted between March and September due to the pandemic. They were able to resume mid-September.

Consequently, access to the library has been very limited.

Renovation and rental strategy

In 2020, the structure of the renovation committee was unchanged: Carole de Saint Affrique, chair, fundraising; Benedicte Fougier, fundraising (in charge of grants) and heritage aspects of the project; Ghislain Leugue, financial management of the project; Clément Salmon, legal aspects; Stéphane and Cindy Desmarais (stakeholder).

Following the launch in March 2017 of a necessary project to restore and preserve the church's unique building and the parallel specific fundraising campaign, the works on site started in June 2019. The work was extended in 2019 to the rewiring of the ground floor of the church, and the removal of the 1960's cross above the altar, in order to restore the original decorative terracotta cross and inscription panel behind.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (continued)

Renovation and rental strategy (continued)

The renovation works were considered as practically completed in April with some minor works being done during the summer.

The renovation committee could only formally meet at the very beginning of the year, meeting being later conducted on Zoom. Bénédicte Fougier was nonetheless able to continue to go on site regularly during lockdown to follow the works done.

The project has been able to deliver three modern fully accessible multi-purpose rooms, ideal for meetings, lectures, training seminars, school workshops, rehearsals and receptions/dinners. They are fitted with free Wi-Fi, adjustable lighting and projector. State of the art accessible toilets, shower and kitchen are part of the new renovated space.

Following the completion of the project, Elise Lefay was recruited as a part time office and venue manager, in charge of developing a marketing and financial strategy to fill the space up and build a knowledge management strategy. She started her contract in June 2020. During the second half of 2020, she put in place a room hire booking system linked to a new webpage presenting our renovated rooms and reviewed or conceived hire contract, health assessment, fire security, COVID and emergency plans. She also focused on building our social media presence. Despite very challenging conditions she managed to start renting our rooms and organised a series of concert in December.

All in all, our rental income remained minimal this year.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The single largest source of income for the Church are grants from a related charity, the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust (registered charity number: 249017). In 2020, the Church received £130k (2019: £171.7k) from this charity, all of which was unrestricted (2019: £140k, unrestricted).

The French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust manages the assets accumulated by the Huguenot churches of London over the centuries and shares the income generated by them between three permanent endowment funds. The Church Fund goes to our charity, the Education Fund supports students and the Hardship Fund seeks to alleviate poverty. This affiliated charity is managed by three trustees nominated by the Consistory and six to ten co-opted trustees who, though not necessarily members of the Church, have a particular interest for and knowledge of the history of Huguenots in the UK.

The Church also receives donations and gifts from its members and other generous benefactors. Besides voluntary income, our income includes some income from charitable activities (payments for religious education), income from other trading activities (letting of premises) and income from investments. Our total income in the year was £431.3k, which compared to £620.6k in 2019. The substantial decrease in income in 2020 was the result of a slower push on the fundraising drive as the renovation of the church premises nears completion, including the advent of Covid-19.

The church was also able to claim £88.8k (2019: £123.7k) in VAT grants under the government's Listed Buildings Maintenance Fund (LBMF) scheme, to offset VAT on relevant church renovation expenses.

Total expenditure rose from £140.4k in 2019 to £172.0k in 2020, mainly due to extensive repairs to the building and the purchase of small furniture items for the church premises. Funds were also committed to improve IT facilities as the church needed to have a greater presence online when services went online with the emergence of Covid-19. The Consistory continues to maintain tight financial and budgetary controls to ensure resources are applied efficiently.

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (continued)**

Investment powers and performance

The charity has the power to make any investment which the Trustees see fit.

The Church's investment policy is conservative. It is primarily intended to protect the capital value of investments, as evidenced by the large portion kept in cash. Income from quoted investments in the year amounted to £6,976 (2018: £8,348), which is considerably higher than what is earned on bank deposits. The trustees consider the performance of its investment manager to have been satisfactory and will continue to monitor it closely.

RESERVES POLICY

The Unrestricted General Funds are available for use by the Trustees for any of the Charity's purposes. Restricted funds consist solely of the Property Fund and represent donations received for the renovation works of the premises, including the library and the archives.

At the end of 2020, total funds were £1,912.3k comprising £880.5k in Restricted Funds and £1,031.8k of Unrestricted General Funds. Of the General Funds, fixed assets not covered by the Restricted Property Fund account for £635.7k and financial investments £212k with the remainder of £184.1k (the charity's 'free reserves') held mainly in bank balances.

The intention of the Trustees is to maintain unrestricted reserves at around one year of budgeted expenditure (£170k) and utilise the surplus to complete the renovation works other property issues that come to the attention of trustees.

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The governance of the Consistory has remained unchanged in 2020.

In accordance with the Church's scheme, Trustees are chosen amongst the church's members and elected by the consistory. The consistory decision is thereafter announced during Sunday's service for a 30 day period. In case of any 10 members of the congregation or more opposing the election, it is then submitted to the Church's general assembly.

The day-to-day management of the affairs of the church are delegated to the pastor with requisite support from members of the Consistory and volunteers.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

At the time of writing, the church was open and in person services had resumed since April. In the respect of Covid regulations, room rentals were starting again but Elise Lefay's contract had to be put on hold. The search for a new office and venue manager was to start.

It was the reaffirmed aim of the trustees to provide a spiritual place for everyone to find peace, contemplation and reflection with a strong focus on the French-speaking community (mostly French nationals and francophones from African countries), its new-comers, young students or professionals to facilitate their integration and wellbeing, in the context of Brexit, to ensure that they benefit from our presence and facilities to find friendship, emotional support and a sense of belonging.

We want to focus on strengthening our relationship with the charities we partner with as well as the development of a program of cultural events, e.g. conferences, book clubs, film showings.

The conservation of the rare books and archives held in the library are planned to continue.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (continued)

APPRECIATION AND THANKS

We are most grateful for our pastor's spiritual guidance and his wife Cindy's commitment in exploring new ways to reach out to our community during the pandemic.

We much appreciate the support from individual donors and contributors and thank them wholeheartedly. Without them, our fundraising campaign could not have been successful.

We would also like to thank all the volunteers at the French Church, especially the ones in charge of the religious education and the conservation of the books and archives, as well as the broader community for their continued valuable support and their presence at our side in those hectic months.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees of the charity to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities Statements of Recommended Practices (SORP);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that this basis applies.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and with the charity's own constitution. 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.

Approved by the Trustees on 30th July 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

G Leugue
Trustee



INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRENCH PROTESTANT CHURCH OF LONDON

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The French Protestant Church of London (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

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 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act") and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities 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:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Olayinka Tomori ACA DChA

**Longmeade Consult Ltd
Regus House
Victory Way
Admirals Park
Dartford DA2 6QD**

30th July 2021



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS:					
Voluntary income					
Donations and gifts		39,337	-	39,337	213,954
Grants receivable - the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust		130,000	-	130,000	140,000
Other grants receivable	11	-	254,500	254,500	249,560
Charitable activities					
Religious education		427	-	427	1,651
Other trading activities					
Letting of premises and Library visits		-	-	-	6,711
Investment income					
Bank interest		72	-	72	337
Income from quoted investments		6,976	-	6,976	8,348
		<u>176,812</u>	<u>254,500</u>	<u>431,312</u>	<u>620,561</u>
EXPENDITURE:					
Charitable activities					
Donations		8,344	-	8,344	4,903
Operating expenses of the Church		135,147	28,464	163,611	135,497
		<u>143,491</u>	<u>28,464</u>	<u>171,955</u>	<u>140,400</u>
Net movement in funds before investment gains/(losses)		33,321	226,036	259,357	480,161
Net (losses)/gains on investments	6	(6,204)	-	(6,204)	18,614
Net Income		<u>27,117</u>	<u>226,036</u>	<u>253,153</u>	<u>498,775</u>
Transfers between Funds		-	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>27,117</u>	<u>226,036</u>	<u>253,153</u>	<u>498,775</u>
Fund balances brought forward		1,004,683	654,476	1,659,159	1,160,384
Fund Balances carried forward		<u>£1,031,800</u>	<u>£880,512</u>	<u>£1,912,312</u>	<u>£1,659,159</u>

All amounts arise from continuing activities and there are no recognised gains or losses other than those shown above in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The comparative Statement of Financial Activities is shown in Note 13 of these financial statements.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	5	1,509,460	893,948
Fixed assets investments	6	212,051	218,255
		<u>1,721,511</u>	<u>1,112,203</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	8,020	39,932
Cash at bank and in hand		189,529	513,281
		<u>197,549</u>	<u>553,213</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	8	(6,748)	(6,257)
		<u>190,801</u>	<u>546,956</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		<u>£1,912,312</u>	<u>£1,659,159</u>
TOTAL ASSETS			
		<u>£1,912,312</u>	<u>£1,659,159</u>
FUNDS:			
	10		
Unrestricted General Funds		1,031,800	1,004,683
Restricted Funds		880,512	654,476
		<u>£1,912,312</u>	<u>£1,659,159</u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 30th July 2021 and signed on their behalf:

G Leugue
Trustee

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Second Edition effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The Trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern. In reaching this conclusion, due consideration has been given to the impact of Covid-19 on the activities of the charity.

Donations and Legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised when receivable or when the charity becomes legally entitled to them and the value can be estimated with reasonable certainty. Receipts of property, investments or other gifts in kind are included at market value.

Expenditure

Charitable expenditure consists of all expenditure relating to the objects of the Charity. All costs are directly attributable to the activities under which they have been analysed. Irrecoverable VAT is included with the category of expense to which it relates.

Governance costs which form part of support costs, include expenditure on the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Pension Contributions

The Church makes contributions into a defined contribution pension scheme for the Pastor. Contributions are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as they are paid.

Fixed assets

The Church property at 9 Soho Square dates back to the late nineteenth century and no record of original cost is available. A policy of revaluation is not being adopted. The property is recognised at its deemed historic cost of £1. The Trustees have chosen to adopt this policy as whilst it is believed that the market value, both at the time of acquisition and at the balance sheet date, was significantly in excess of the deemed cost, it is not possible to obtain a reliable estimate of the market value at either date, as conventional valuation techniques are inappropriate for the unique and historical nature of the building. The approximate insurance value is given as £7.0m.

Renovation of the Church property is ongoing. Improvements have been capitalised and will be depreciated over their useful economic life, which is currently estimated at:

- 50 years for renovation costs
- 5 years for the emergency refurbishments to the premises
- 5 years for library and archive costs, and other fixed assets

Individual assets with a cost under £1,000 are generally expensed through the Statement of Financial Activities in the year of acquisition.

Investments

Investments are initially recognized at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

Foreign Currency Transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are recognised at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction or at an average exchange rate for the year. Monetary assets and liabilities are translated into sterling at the exchange rate on the balance sheet date. All exchange differences are recognised through the Statement of Financial Activities. The charity does not own any non-monetary assets abroad.

Statement of cash flows

The charity qualifies as a small charity, hence is exempt from the requirement to produce a Statement of Cash Flows.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (Continued)

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to be spent in accordance with the charitable objectives in furtherance of the purpose of the charity. Restricted funds are those funds where the donor has specified the purpose to which it must be applied and/or where the charity has committed itself to use the funds for a specific purpose when it requested the donation.

2. EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 Total £	2019 Total £
Donations and grants paid (see below)	8,344	-	8,344	4,903
Operating expenses of the church:				
Clergy and church activities				
Activities - Misc expenses	2,018	-	2,018	1,828
Cleaning and Household	4,732	-	4,732	4,430
Electricity, water and gas	7,677	-	7,677	9,830
Food and drink supplies	645	-	645	3,167
Functions and events	1,575	-	1,575	788
Insurance and security	14,435	-	14,435	15,424
Organists and musicians	2,775	-	2,775	4,885
Pastor's benefits	847	-	847	-
Pastor's pension premium	6,395	-	6,395	5,234
Rates	1,556	-	1,556	2,263
Repairs and maintenance	15,878	-	15,878	7,661
Furniture and equipment	15,020	-	15,020	-
Renovation costs – non capital	-	3,271	3,271	-
Library and archives	-	1,222	1,222	3,084
Salaries, National Insurance, Pension	43,900	-	43,900	44,857
Travel expenses	2,164	-	2,164	1,018
	119,617	4,493	124,110	104,469
Church administration				
Accountancy fees	3,948	-	3,948	3,816
Bank charges	34	-	34	53
Computer and website	3,493	-	3,493	-
Internet, telephone and postage	1,034	-	1,034	1,276
Office Administration	6,760	-	6,760	-
Printing, stationery and equipment	261	-	261	2,391
	15,530	-	15,530	7,536
Depreciation	-	23,971	23,971	23,492
Operating expenses of the Church	135,147	28,464	163,611	135,497
Total Expenditure - 2020	£143,491	£28,464	£171,955	£140,400
Total Expenditure - 2019	£113,824	£26,576	£140,400	



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (Continued)

2. EXPENDITURE (Continued)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 £	2019 £
Donations and grants paid comprise:				
CEEEFE	1,939	-	1,939	2,109
Grants to individual(s) in need	2,400	-	2,400	-
St Martin's in-the-field	-	-	-	794
Trusell Trust	2,630	-	2,630	-
West London Mission	-	-	-	2,000
Other	1,375	-	1,375	-
	<u>£8,344</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£8,344</u>	<u>£4,903</u>

Included in expenditure are:
 Independent examiner's fees – examination
 Independent examiner's fees - other

	£	£
	1,320	1,260
	<u>1,620</u>	<u>900</u>

Donations and grants paid in the prior year were unrestricted and therefore, the relevant comparatives are included in the disclosures above.

3. STAFF COSTS

	2020 £	2019 £
Gross salary	42,764	42,788
Social Security costs	1,136	2,069
Pension costs	6,395	5,234
	<u>£50,295</u>	<u>£50,091</u>

The charity had only one employee in the year (2019: one). No employee's remuneration in the year or in the previous year exceeded £60,000. The one employee is the Pastor. He is key management personnel and is a Trustee of the charity ex officio.

4. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS, TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

	2020 £	2019 £
Salary and related costs	43,900	44,857
Pension contributions	6,395	5,234
	<u>50,295</u>	<u>50,091</u>
Expenses	847	-
	<u>£51,142</u>	<u>£50,091</u>

The only Trustee to receive remuneration is the Pastor. The Charity's trust deed prohibits any other Trustee from being remunerated and from being interested in the supply of goods or services to the Charity. No related-party transaction occurred in 2020 (2019: None).

No expenses were reimbursed to trustees in the year (2019: £nil).



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (Continued)

5. FIXED ASSETS

	Church Property	Property Renovation (ongoing works)	Other Fixed Assets	Total
	£	£	£	£
Valuation:				
At 1 January 2020	1	799,978	117,461	917,440
Additions	-	637,090	2,393	639,483
At 31 December 2020	1	1,437,068	119,854	1,556,923
Depreciation:				
At 1 January 2020	-	-	23,492	23,492
Charge for the year	-	-	23,971	23,971
At 31 December 2020	-	-	47,463	47,463
Net Book Value				
At 31 December 2020	£1	£1,437,068	£72,391	£1,509,460
At 31 December 2019	£1	£799,978	£93,969	£893,948

Renovation costs capitalised include:
Architect fees and building surveys
Main building works

2020 £	2019 £
35,880	45,650
601,210	633,319
£637,090	£678,969

6. INVESTMENTS

	2020 £	2019 £
At market value		
Opening	218,255	199,641
Net revaluation (losses)/gains	(6,204)	18,614
	£212,051	£218,255
Cost of investments	£189,615	£189,615
The breakdown of investments is as follows:		
UK Unit Trusts	212,051	218,255
Portfolio bank accounts	-	-
	£212,051	£218,255

7. DEBTORS

	2020 £	2019 £
Other debtors	8,020	5,882
Prepayments and accrued income	-	34,050
	£8,020	£39,932



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (Continued)

8.	CREDITORS			2020 £	2019 £	
	Other taxes and Social Security			-	2,497	
	Other creditors			3,808	1,600	
	Accruals			2,940	2,160	
				<u>£6,748</u>	<u>£6,257</u>	
9.	STATEMENT OF FUNDS					
		At 1 January 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers/ Gains/(losses) £	At 31 December 2020 £
	Unrestricted Funds	1,004,683	176,812	(143,491)	(6,204)	1,031,800
	Restricted Funds:					
	Property Fund	646,512	254,500	(27,242)	-	873,770
	Religious Education Fund	6,700	-	-	-	6,700
	Library and Archives Fund	1,264	-	(1,222)	-	42
	Total Restricted Funds	654,476	254,500	(28,464)	-	880,512
	TOTAL FUNDS	£1,659,159	£431,312	£(171,955)	£(6,204)	£1,912,312
	2019 COMPARATIVE					
		At 1 January 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers/ Gains/(losses) £	At 31 December 2019 £
	Unrestricted Funds	729,995	369,898	(113,824)	18,614	1,004,683
	Restricted Funds:					
	Property Fund	430,389	239,615	(23,492)	-	646,512
	Religious Education Fund	-	6,700	-	-	6,700
	Library and Archives Fund	-	4,348	(3,084)	-	1,264
	Total Restricted Funds	430,389	250,663	(26,576)	-	654,476
	TOTAL FUNDS	£1,160,384	£620,561	£(140,400)	£18,614	£1,659,159

Unrestricted Fund

This fund is spent at the discretion of the Trustees and is utilised primarily in meeting the expenses of running the church. It is also used to make charitable donations.

Restricted Fund:**Property Fund**

This fund consists mainly of grants and other monies received by the church for the renovation of the church property. Depreciation and other charges connected with the renovation are charged to this fund.

Library and Archives Fund

This fund is a donation from the French Consulate UK for conservation work in the church library and archives.

Religious Education Fund

This fund represents a donation from the French Huguenot Church for the funding of religious education.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (Continued)

10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	628,948	880,512	1,509,460	893,948
Investments	212,051	-	212,051	218,255
Net current assets/(liabilities)	190,801	-	190,801	546,956
	<u>£1,031,800</u>	<u>£880,512</u>	<u>£1,912,312</u>	<u>£1,659,159</u>

2019 COMPARATIVE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2019
	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	239,472	654,476	893,948
Investments	218,255	-	218,255
Net current assets/(liabilities)	546,956	-	546,956
	<u>£1,004,683</u>	<u>£654,476</u>	<u>£1,659,159</u>

11. OTHER GRANTS RECEIVABLE

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 £	2019 £
Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme	-	88,831	88,831	123,681
Meunier Foundation	-	-	-	75,000
City Bridge Trust	-	93,669	93,669	14,831
Clarence	-	30,000	30,000	-
Gecko Trust	-	25,000	25,000	-
Lafayette Centre	-	17,000	17,000	-
The French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust - Property	-	-	-	25,000
The French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust – Religious education	-	-	-	6,700
The French Consulate UK	-	-	-	4,348
	<u>£-</u>	<u>£254,500</u>	<u>£254,500</u>	<u>£249,560</u>
Year ended 31 December 2019	<u>£-</u>	<u>£249,560</u>	<u>£249,560</u>	

12. CONNECTED CHARITIES

The charity is closely connected with the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust (registered charity number: 249017) from which the Church Fund receives substantial grant income. £130,000 was received in 2020 (2019: £171,700) all of which was unrestricted (2019: £140,000 unrestricted and £31,700 restricted for building works and religious education).



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020 (Continued)

13. COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (2019)

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2019 Total £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS:			
Voluntary income			
Donations and gifts	212,851	1,103	213,954
Grants receivable - the French Huguenot Church of London Charitable Trust	140,000	-	140,000
Other grants receivable	-	249,560	249,560
Charitable activities			
Religious education	1,651	-	1,651
Other trading activities			
Letting of premises and Library visits	6,711	-	6,711
Investment income			
Bank interest	337	-	337
Income from quoted investments	8,348	-	8,348
	<u>369,898</u>	<u>250,663</u>	<u>620,561</u>
EXPENDITURE:			
Charitable activities			
Donations	4,903	-	4,903
Operating expenses of the Church	108,921	26,576	135,497
	<u>113,824</u>	<u>26,576</u>	<u>140,400</u>
Net movement in funds before investment gains/(losses)	256,074	224,087	480,161
Net gains/(losses) on investments	18,614	-	18,614
Net Income/(Expenditure)	<u>274,688</u>	<u>224,087</u>	<u>498,775</u>
Transfers between Funds	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	<u>274,688</u>	<u>224,087</u>	<u>498,775</u>
Fund balances brought forward	729,995	430,389	1,160,384
Fund Balances carried forward	<u><u>£1,004,683</u></u>	<u><u>£654,476</u></u>	<u><u>£1,659,159</u></u>