

ANNUAL REPORT for 2021



• THE TRUST: Structure, Governance and Management

The Epping Forest Community Church (EFCC) Trust was constituted by Deed of Trust on 5th January 1999 and is a registered charity No 1074617.

The Charity Trustees during the year to 31 December 2021 were as follows:

- Paul Blackham - Chairperson (elected 23.10.18)
- Gill Harryman - Treasurer (elected 27.08.18)
- Janice Westwood (elected 13.01.19)
- Rachel Bartels (elected 13.01.19)

The Deed of Trust allows that any person over the age of 18 meeting the Trust's and the Charity Commissioners criteria is eligible to stand as a Trustee of EFCC. A new Trustee may be appointed by a resolution of the Trustees passed at a meeting of the Trustees at which there is the majority of the Trustees present. There must be a minimum of three Trustees at any one time with no maximum set.

At the beginning of the year the day-to-day affairs of EFCC were managed by our full-time employed Church Leaders, Rich Seaman and Katie Nicholson, ably supported and assisted by the five-strong voluntary Leadership Support Team. This structure was altered during the year as noted below.

EFCC owns, and is based out of, Grosvenor Hall, Grosvenor Drive, Loughton IG10 2LG.

• SUMMARY OF THE PURPOSES OF THE CHARITY

The objects of the charity remain as:

- (a) to advance the Christian faith, in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs, in the Epping Forest District and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the World as the Trustees may from time-to-time think fit
- (b) to relieve persons who are in conditions of need or hardship or who are aged or sick and to relieve the stress caused thereby in the said locality and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees may from time-to-time think fit
- (c) to promote and fulfil such other charitable purposes beneficial to the community in the said locality and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the World as the Trustees may from time-to-time think fit.

In summary Epping Forest Community Church exists to advance the Christian faith and serve the local community (and wider) in accordance with the objects of the charity and provides:

- A public place of worship
- Multiple activities and projects to serve the local community
- International Support to those most marginalized
- A venue for other community organisations to use

● WHAT WE HAVE BEEN DOING IN 2021....

Despite the prevailing global conditions, and building upon what we had learnt through 2020, the emphasis of the church's activities continued to focus upon reaching out to, and serving, the local community.

Sunday morning meetings continued to be via Zoom for the first 7 months of the year. Small groups met via Zoom or in person as restrictions allowed up till July, after which, group leaders were free to make their own decisions about how best to meet and some groups ceased meetings until restrictions were ended.

A new Christians and young adults' group started meeting together weekly from March. Along with support and teaching, part of the intention of the group is to develop young leaders.

We were able to successfully organise a "covid secure" Easter family event at Grosvenor Hall, despite the restrictions in place at that time.

In April, a homework club was set up, aimed initially at those who needed extra help catching up with missed work during the previous year and this ran until early July.

After the government announced an end to all restrictions from 19th July, we resumed Sunday morning in-person meetings, giving due attention to ventilation & spaced seating. Also in July, we introduced a short Sunday afternoon meeting at Grosvenor Hall, focused mainly on sung worship, testimony, words of knowledge, prophecy & encouragement.

Since September whole church meetings have been held in-person. Most small groups are also in-person, others have continued with Zoom to cater for those who are unable or unwilling to meet face to face. Additionally, we instituted a weekly outreach event in Debden Broadway taking place on Thursday mornings, inviting people to hear the gospel of Jesus, offering prayer and letting them know about the Church.

In the Autumn, 3 new groups were launched: an after school club for 8-12s, a recovery meeting for those dealing with addictions and a focus group for training people to hear God in the prophetic and words of knowledge.

On October 31st we ran an alternative Hallowe'en event outside the building, offering hot & cold drinks, snacks, children's activities and giving away children's bibles.

Several important Christmas events were still able to be held in December, including a children's Christmas Party, the children's Nativity Play, a candlelit Carol Service, and Christmas Day Lunch.

Despite everything, and with a bit of ingenuity and a stoic disregard for cold weather, we have been able to continue to baptise a good number of people into new life in Christ all throughout the year.

● CHURCH GROWTH IN 2021....

After almost 2 years navigating through restrictions & guidelines, the impact of not meeting together freely has been keenly felt. It has been helpful to pause and assess the bigger picture of why church exists, what its primary objectives are and what things are important to the people that comprise it - and this is an ongoing process.

There have been large fluctuations in numbers attending meetings and groups, both online and in-person, and this is still evident as we look ahead to entering the third year since the start of the coronavirus pandemic. During this year some people have moved away, or are now at other local churches, and some people regrettably have passed away. On the other hand we have been able to welcome many new people joining us, and we were particularly blessed to be able to welcome back several people who have been working abroad for several years on mission work especially in Africa and Asia – one person in fact has recently returned after nearly 20 years abroad.

- **WHO DOES IT ALL IN 2021....**

In May 2020 we invited everyone in EFCC to put aside a week to pray, fast and ask God about the church. One outcome of this was the decision to implement a change in the leadership structure. Consequently, at the beginning of 2021 it was agreed to appoint each of the existing 5 members of the former Support Team into voluntary leadership, thus forming the new Leadership Team.

Later in the year, after a sabbatical, one of our former senior leaders made a request to step down from that role, in order to concentrate her skills & gifts in the area of outreach and young people - her growing desire and enthusiasm to work largely in the community made this a natural progression. Consequently, a new role of Community Outreach Worker was created, and she formally resigned from her leadership role on 1st October to take up this position. As well as undertaking both evangelistic & pastoral initiatives in Debden & Loughton the new role involves the mentoring of young adults.

Accordingly, our new Leadership Team now comprises Rich, plus Chris, Helen, Jodi, Nita, and Rob, and Katie is our new Community and Outreach Worker.

In addition to the above we still retain a fantastic group of both paid and voluntary staff and helpers, without whom we would be lost. Together they all look after every aspect of running the Church and I thank God for them!

Regrettably this year we have had again to "furlough" three of our staff for various periods of time during "Lock Down", but we are grateful to the Government for their generous support through CJRS.

Nothing would be possible without the continuing unfailing generosity of everyone who supports us and, particularly this year when again times have been so challenging for everyone, we continue to be amazed by, and are so grateful for, all that has been given to us. This year, even throughout the continuing ravages of the pandemic, we have as you can see in the section below, yet again been able to make ends meet financially. Additionally, we have been greatly blessed with an extremely generous bequest from a wonderful and greatly missed couple.

- **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Trustees were satisfied with the financial statement provided by our wonderful Treasurer and thank her most sincerely for all the work she undertook for the Trust. As referred to above the generosity of the members of EFCC and others continues to amaze us, and we remain so thankful for the financial investment people are making.

In 2021 total income (including legacy) was **£239387** and total expenditure **£147195**.
(The detailed figures are contained in the attached End of Year Financial Statements.)

The above income figure includes special collections and love offerings as follows: -

• Hope House Project	£11350
• Fountain of Life Hospice	£ 1250
• Indian orphanage appeal	£ 3536

From the collections received, we made regular monthly payments to the following:

- Margaret Gordon (Central Asia)
- Emily and Drew Maust (Cameroon)
- Tough Talk (UK)
- Fountain of Life Hospice (Central Asia)
- Samaritan's Purse (UK & US)
- Indian Orphanage

Additionally, we have tithed a total of £10358 out of General Funds to various local, national and international organisations.

We have also received income from Hall Bookings, albeit still significantly reduced from previous years due to "Lock Down", of £2001

AND FINALLY...

In conclusion I must again reiterate that all of the above represents just a fraction of the life and work of the EFCC Family, and I count it a great privilege and honour be a part of it.

Further, I would like to once more express a great big "THANK YOU" to all of you who have made it happen!

DATED 23rdth October 2022

Paul Blackham

Chairperson

For and on behalf of the Trustees – Epping Forest Community Church

EPPING FOREST COMMUNITY CHURCH

End of Year Financial Statements

Year ending 31 December 2021

Notes to the accounts

1. We received a legacy of £525 in March plus £84,479 in December. Total £85,004.
2. The value of the freehold property is an estimate of £500,000, as in the previous year.
3. The gain on the property valuation, the depreciation charges and the adjustment journals are included to bring the accounting records into alignment with the actual position.

Receipts and Payments Account

	Total funds	Prior year funds
Receipts		
Planned giving		
Cost Recovery for Specific Activities	—	1
General Donations - imported from DC	89,184	83,670
General giving - sundry	30	100
Sunday cash collections	—	440
<i>Total Planned giving</i>	<i>89,214</i>	<i>84,211</i>
Collections and other giving		
Antonia	400	—
Collection - ISF - M Gordon	6,228	6,301
Collection - Samaritan's Purse	1,200	1,200
Collection - Tough Talk	950	550
Collection - Wycliffe - D Maust	5,948	5,423
Collection for Anchor project	5,490	—
Collection for Hope House	11,350	6,370
Collection- Indian Orphanage	3,536	4,867
Collections - Special	—	6,575
Fountain of Life - Hospice	1,250	2,620
<i>Total Collections and other giving</i>	<i>36,352</i>	<i>33,906</i>
Other voluntary receipts		
Legacy	85,004	—
Pastoral Care Fund - External	200	1,935
Pastoral Care Fund - Internal	970	7,922
<i>Total Other voluntary receipts</i>	<i>86,174</i>	<i>9,857</i>
Gift Aid recovered		
Tax recovered on Gift Aid	25,478	28,766
<i>Total Gift Aid recovered</i>	<i>25,478</i>	<i>28,766</i>
Investment Income		
Gross Interest	166	512
Income from Hall Bookings	2,001	2,261
<i>Total Investment Income</i>	<i>2,167</i>	<i>2,774</i>
Total Receipts	239,387	159,516
Payments		
Missionary and Charitable Giving		
Afterschool club	345	—
Children's work (special events)	—	7
Food distribution to needy costs	93	—
Fountain of Life - Hospice	1,500	3,137
Gift - ISF - M Gordon	7,480	7,237
Gift - Samaritans Purse	1,650	1,375
Gift - Tough Talk	3,437	3,100
Gift - Wycliffe - D Maust	7,220	6,720
Gift for Hope House	14,312	10,108
Gift- Indian Orphanage	5,030	3,864
Gifts - Sundry	207	75
Gifts from Pastoral Care Fund - External	1,721	2,891
Gifts from Pastoral Care Fund - Internal	4,405	2,842
Outreach Debden	293	—
Special Collections	—	6,686
Tithe	10,358	11,651
<i>Total Missionary and Charitable Giving</i>	<i>58,053</i>	<i>59,695</i>
Clergy and Staffing costs		

Employer's Nat Ins	2,699	3,266
General staff	3,606	3,472
Leaders Development and Training	445	861
Permanent Insurance	394	390
Salaries - Leaders	65,562	69,747
Staff Pensions	4,387	4,306
Youth Workers	—	1,500
<i>Total Clergy and Staffing costs</i>	<u>77,095</u>	<u>83,544</u>
Church Running Expenses		
Advertising & publicity	93	57
Children's work(Sunday)	547	594
Christian Resources	—	791
Computer Expenses	—	23
Equipment repairs & maintenance	—	6
Events	131	91
Office Supplies	108	102
PA/AV sundry equipment & repairs	1,388	14
Photocopier costs	1	182
Refreshments & Kitchen Supplies	274	395
Subscriptions & licences	508	642
Telephone and Broadband	859	924
Web Site	143	153
Women's Group	—	105
Youth Group Expenses	—	177
Youth Group Holidays & Outings	—	8
Youth Group Soul Survivor	—	(320)
<i>Total Church Running Expenses</i>	<u>4,055</u>	<u>3,951</u>
Hall Running Costs		
Caretaker	100	—
Cleaning	4,150	4,142
Covid 19 exp	9	597
Electricity	275	979
Gas	619	1,290
Hall Maintenance & Repairs	2,544	476
Insurance	1,523	1,492
Water	(87)	631
<i>Total Hall Running Costs</i>	<u>9,134</u>	<u>9,611</u>
Coach/Minibus Costs		
Minibus Expenses	—	57
<i>Total Coach/Minibus Costs</i>	<u>—</u>	<u>57</u>
Assets		
Depreciation - FFF	(2,994)	—
Depreciation - Motor Vehicles	1,706	—
Depreciation - Sheds	144	—
<i>Total Assets</i>	<u>(1,144)</u>	<u>—</u>
Total Payments	147,195	156,860
Excess of Receipts over Payments	92,191	2,656
Brought forward balance	217,767	215,111
Gains & losses on revaluation	348,183	—
Other adjustments	41,966	—
Carried forward balance	700,107	217,767

Statement of assets and liabilities

FIXED ASSETS

Freehold Building (E)	500,000
Furniture Fixtures and Fittings	15,000

Total	£515,000
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CURRENT ASSETS

NatWest Bank Current Account	54,638
NatWest Bank Reserve Account	49,690
Kingdom Bank	50,647
Mission Housing Equity Loan	30,000
Petty Cash	347
Loan Given	830
Total	£186,152

LIABILITIES

CTL	(£1,045)
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NET ASSETS	£700,107
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CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

EPPING FOREST COMMUNITY CHURCH TRUST

On accounts for the year
ended

31st DECEMBER 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1074617

Set out on pages

1 - 2

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2021.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) 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 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

10/10/2022

Name:

Colin Nicholas Carrigan

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

FCA FCCA

(if any):

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Address:

8 BROOKLYN AVENUE

LOUGHTON

ESSEX IA10 13L

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

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