

CHELTENHAM NETWORK CHURCH

TRUSTEES REPORT 2020

E F Brown (Chair) – C R Hughes (Treasurer) – R K Atkin – L C Power – S J Robinson – A Tickle

Charity no 1079714

General Management

The trustees continue to be closely involved in the affairs and management of the church. They met formally five times during the year, twice in person before covid restrictions and then three times via 'Zoom'.

The Trustees have focused their efforts as follows:

- Treasurer and Insurance - Chris
- Staff handbook and other documents- Rob. A
- Safeguarding and staff matters- Alison
- Engagement with the South Cheltenham Council – Co-opted by Vicar as required
- Representatives at the BMO Visitor's Council of Reference Meeting – Sarah R.

At the beginning of the year we welcomed three new trustees, Lindsey, Sarah R & Alison.

All the trustees have completed 'Safeguarding' training provided by the Gloucester Diocese

After a year without a vicar the trustees were delighted to welcome Sarah Haden in March to be our new leader. She was officially licensed by the Bishop of Gloucester at a celebration evening on March 6th which was attended by many local dignitaries including the town Mayor and member of Parliament. It was a splendid start for her but, unfortunately, the covid 'lockdown' restrictions came into force two weeks later which changed significantly how she was able to carry out her ministry. We quickly got used to 'Zoom' meetings and church services online.

We continue to be an integral part of the South Cheltenham Team and enjoy an excellent working relationship with the leaders and members of the other churches in our area.

Finance

During the 12-month vacancy in 2019/20 a number of CNC members moved on to pastures new. This led to a significant reduction in our monthly income of approx. £2,000 which we expected would pick up when our new leader arrived in March. The trustees also arranged a meeting with the Diocese in February 2020 and agreed a reduction in our monthly contribution of £500 to be reviewed in the autumn. This would only cover a quarter of the shortfall but shortly after the new vicar arrived, we all began the 'covid' lockdown which saved £850 (average) per month rent. We reviewed the payments to the Diocese in September and the trustees agreed to repay £4000 which brought us up to date to the end of that month. The monthly reduction is a temporary measure, and it is understood that CNC will repay the Diocese when our income allows.

Although income has reduced over the past three years the 'lockdown' due to the covid pandemic meant that we did not have any rent to pay, which combined with the monthly reduction to the Diocese saw us just meeting our monthly expenditure at the end of the year. The trustees are closely monitoring the situation and will be considering what reductions can be made to expenditure in 2021 when things, hopefully, return to more normal activities.

In the past we have had a policy of keeping a reserve of 3 x monthly expenditure which has been somewhere between £23k-£25k. This was because we wanted to be able to pay our leader for at least three months if the church wound up for any reason. However, since the Diocese has taken over the leader's employment this is not so vital as they would continue to pay Sarah, so perhaps we could reasonably reduce the reserve to, say, £20k. We don't think we should go lower than this as we have a duty to maintain a prudent reserve policy. This will enable us to make another repayment to the Diocese. Hopefully as things begin to open up again in 2021 we will see an increase in membership (which we could reasonably have expected in 2020 but for the pandemic) and would lead to a natural increase in monthly giving.

The treasurer attends all the Trustee meetings and keeps the trustees up to date with the financial position.

The annual accounts for 2020 have been independently examined and approved by the Trustees.

Ethiopia

Income for Ethiopia was up by just over £2000 over last year at £8816. We made one donation of £8000 to Addis Ababa during the year which left a year end balance of £4936 after office and postage costs of £75. We receive regular donations from a church in Manchester and a few monthly standing orders from individuals plus occasional one off donations. CNC gives £40 per month to the general work plus a further £60 per month into a sponsorship scheme for the care of the elderly, which is administered by a separate registered charity, The Tesfa Trust. All the monies sent out to Ethiopia were made up of accumulated funds and donations both from individuals and other churches plus gift aid relief. The poor continue to have a huge need and the years of practical success by the local team give confidence that benefit will continue to be provided.

Sadly the founder of the aid project, Jember Teferra, suddenly died in January. I have spoken to the treasurer of Union Hall Church in Manchester, who are the main regular contributors to the Ethiopia fund. I was told that they will remit £335 per month until July 2021 at which point their support will cease. This will leave only a small number of regular personal financial supporters and so the fund will be quite small for the foreseeable future. CNC have been supporting the Ethiopia work ever since the formation of the church and it would seem to be a little too early to make any hasty decisions about our continuing commitment to them.

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that the general guidance on public benefit given by the Charity Commission has been duly considered and that the charity has complied with its duty to have due regard to public benefit. In particular this is seen in several activities :-

- The church has a policy of giving away 10% of our annual income to other charitable causes that come within the objects of the Trust.
- We continue to financially support a local family organisation called 'Family Space'. It provides many services for disadvantaged families and works in partnership with Cheltenham YMCA. Two of our members also work regularly for them.
- We made monetary donations to local food banks including the Mayor's charity
- Three members of the church take a regular part in the work of the "Street Pastors" in Cheltenham. This involves being out on the streets on week-end nights to care for many young people to get them home safely. This had to be suspended in March due to the pandemic but they all intend to continue with this valuable voluntary work once covid restrictions allow.
- For five years in the summer we have held a family 'Fun Day' for the local community. It was largely funded by the church with the co-operation of other local churches. Lots of events and stalls were enjoyed by up to 500 people including many children with their parents. The Cheltenham M.P. also came along each year. All the activities were free of charge to everyone who attended and the event was reported in the local press and was deemed a great success. This activity also had to cease in 2020 but again will hopefully be held when conditions allow.
- With the onset of the pandemic all our church services had to be held via Zoom. These were open to all and several non church members regularly joined us on Sunday mornings.
- A weekly quiz was held on Zoom which attracted a number of people who were not church members. This helped not only members but others to remain connected and also enjoy some time of fun together.
- An 'Alpha' course for those seeking to learn more about the Christian faith was held in the autumn via Zoom. This was a small group and we had two people who did not come to church as well as several members.

- Through our continued support for the Ethiopia project over many years, we provide a channel for anyone who wishes to donate or become more actively involved in this work.
- The church services, children's work and others meetings are open to all and enable individuals and families to have a greater sense of well being and be in community with one another.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'fBrown', with a stylized, wavy line extending from the end.

Mrs E F Brown
(Chair of Trustees)



Charity Name
CHELTENHAM NETWORK CHURCH

No (if any)
1079714

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
01.01.2020

To

Period end date
31.12.2020

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
NON-GIFT AID	7,846		-	7,846	2,307
GIFT AID DONATIONS	47,697	930		48,627	62,792
TAX RECLAIMED	11,682	232		11,914	16,540
OTHER DONATIONS	4,150	4,472		8,622	11,304
BANK INTEREST	207	134		341	510
EVENTS			-	-	-
SUNDRIES	75		-	75	824
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	71,657	5,768	-	77,425	94,277
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	71,657	5,768	-	77,425	94,277
A3 Payments					
EMPLOYMENT COSTS	8,201		-	8,201	10,366
CONFERENCES	-		-	-	246
DONATIONS	8,560		-	8,560	18,915
YOUTH WORK	6,304		-	6,304	6,498
OFFICE COSTS	113		-	113	1,301
RENT	2,920		-	2,920	10,429
OUTREACH	151		-	151	1,349
EVENTS	342		-	342	1,876
GLOUCESTER DIOCESAN QUOTA	46,500		-	46,500	48,000
SUNDRIES	1,630	1,632	-	3,262	4,423
			-		
Sub total	74,721	1,632	-	76,353	103,403
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	109	-	-	-	
Sub total	109	-	-	109	675
Total payments	74,830	1,632	-	76,462	104,078
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 3,173	4,136	-	963	- 9,801
A5 Transfers between funds					
A6 Cash funds last year end	29,510	17,337	#	46,847	
Cash funds this year end	26,337	21,473	#	47,810	56,648

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		26,337	21,473	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	26,337	21,473	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

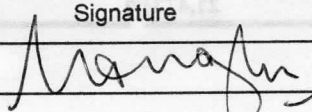
Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	HMRC GIFT AID TAX DUE	1,109	47	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	PUBLIC ADDRESS & PRESENTATION		-	
	EQUIPMENT	UNRESTRICTED	-	850
	MOTOR VAN		-	1,000
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	C. R. HUGHES	24/5/21



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
CHELTENHAM NETWORK CHURCH

On accounts for the year
ended

31st DECEMBER, 2020

Charity no
(if any)

1079714

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 DD / MM / YYYY.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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

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

Signed:

Date:

3/8/21

Name:

D PALMER

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

Address:

10 BAFFORD GROVE
CHARLTON KINGS
CHELTENHAM GL53 9JE

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight 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.

CHELTENHAM NETWORK CHURCH		Report to the trustees/ members of
Charity no (if any)	31 st DECEMBER 2020	On accounts for the year ended
1079714		Set out on pages 1 & 2
I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 st DECEMBER 2020 ("the Act").		Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").		
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(2)(b) of the Act.		
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:		Independent examiner's statement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the accounts do not accord with the accounting records accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or 		
I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.		
* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.		
Signed:	[Signature]	
Name:	P. FOLMER	
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):		
Address:	10 BARTFORD CLAY CHALTON WINDS CHELTENHAM	