

Trustees Report for the year ended 31st March 2021

The Trustees present their report along with the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2021. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with our accounting policies and comply with the applicable law and the requirements of the Charities Act 1993, as amended by the Charities Act 2011, and the trust deed. The Trustees have adopted a receipts and payments accounting method.

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Zera Avraham Messianic Synagogue

Charity Registration Number: 1090972

Registered Office:

Zera Avraham Messianic Synagogue
108-116 Chipstead Valley Road
Coulsdon
Surrey
CR5 3BA

Contact Address

Rabbi Boaz Sabey
26 Dennis Close
Redhill
Surrey
RH1 2AX

Board of Trustees:

Sonia Preddie (Chair)
Julie Baird
Fiona Sabey
Victor Chabba

Bank:

HSBC, 18 High Street, Reigate, Surrey. RH2 9AY

Constitution and Objects

Zera Avraham Trust was established by the use of a Constitution and Memoranda as set out in the Declaration of Trust which was formally signed by the future Trustees on 21 November 2001 and subsequently ratified by the Charity Commission. It was amended with our change of name by resolution of the Trustees dated 31 January 2009 and is a registered charity No. 1090972.

The principal objects of Zera Avraham are:

To advance the Messianic faith in accordance with our statement of beliefs which are set out in our charity's constitution in the London Borough of Croydon, County of Surrey and in other parts of the UK and World as the Trustees may see fit.

To relieve those in conditions of need or hardship or who are aged or sick and to relieve distress caused in the above localities and in in other parts of the UK and World as the Trustees may see fit.

To promote and fulfil other charitable purposes beneficial to the community in the above localities and in in other parts of the UK and World as the Trustees may see fit.

Structure, governance, and management

Zera Avraham's governing document is its constitution set out in the Trust Deed, which is reviewed periodically. The Trustees of the charity normally meet officially three times a year and liaise frequently to review the operational and financial activities of the charity. At present all trustees are members of the synagogue.

External affiliations

Zera Avraham is affiliated to the UBMS who provide oversight and employ our Rabbi who we pay the UBMS to employ him. Zera Avraham pays monthly and yearly membership fees and both the Rabbi and Rebbetzin are members of the Executive. Rabbi Boaz is head of the UBMS Bet Din.

Achievement of objectives and review of activities

Zera Avraham's objectives for the benefit of the public are set in the charity's Trust Deed and have been summarised under the constitution and objects section.

The objectives are set to reflect its faith and community aims. Each year the Trustees review the objectives and activities of the charity to ensure they continue to reflect those aims. In carrying out this review the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular its supplementary public guidance on the advancement of religion for the public benefit. Zera Avraham seeks to promote Messianic Judaism in the spheres of public worship, religious, educational, social, cultural, and charitable activities.

Teaching

Zera Avraham's leadership team is well established with the Rabbi and Rebbetzin being founder members. They have benefitted from meeting and discussing with other leaders especially on the Bet Din where study and research has led to halakha being set out based on Torah principles. They both serve on the Executive of the UBMS and benefit from the exchange of ideas. Unfortunately due to Covid they were unable to meet and share in the wider community for the UBMS due to the fact that the UBMS Annual conference and the annual UBMS Leader's conference were both unable to take place. The Leadership are looking forward to the Annual Conference taking place in August 2021 and the Leaders' conference, later in 2021. This year we have continued with the Gateway to Judaism course although it has had to be on-line due to the present pandemic.

Outreach in the Community

Much of our work is around the Zera Avraham community and the leadership is not just involved in teaching but in pastoral and charitable work supporting those in our synagogue community. It has been a difficult year for us and as with many people around the world. Due to the Pandemic we have had to adapt to not meeting face to face with each other in our building. There has been good attendance at activities not only on Shabbat but at festivals. The Leadership and others in the Zera Avraham community have had to embrace technology to enable our weekly services to go ahead. We began by using Periscope but then later moved onto Zoom. As well as weekly Shabbat Services on Shabbat and our festival services we have held early morning prayers two mornings a week, a weekly evening prayer meeting and Rabbi taught a small Hebrew class on line. Through the online meetings we have developed a link with a congregation in South West Kenya who have been regular attenders and we have been able to lead them through the Gateway to Judaism course.

When we have been able, we have met together in our building on a much smaller scale due to the Pandemic. We were able to do this up until the end of December 2020 when we had our last service in the building before packing our possessions and leaving it after 20 years due to the sale of the building and land. While a smaller group were meeting face to face when allowed, through the skills of members of the community we were able to involve those at home through Zoom and provide the service experience for all. Our spring festivals were on line but we were able to meet together for our Autumn celebrations.

It has been sad that due to the pandemic we have not been active with the schools and youth groups. However our Rabbi was interviewed by the Mayor of Croydon in February 2021 and was able to share a little of the Messianic vision. Our community though have been active in working with the Messianic Community in South West Kenya. We have been able through sending donations to help provide communication support, aid of maize and food to the community there especially the widows and orphans. A number of our members are involved in supporting the orphans of the community through donations to provide a midday meal for them in school. There has been material aid through provision of beds and bed linen, shoes, clothes, and bibles etc.

Sadly we end this year without a synagogue building, despite sharing a building with another community for a short while. We were able to give physical help with clearing part of the building and paying rent and fuel charges. Unfortunately things did not work out and we once again packed up and move our possessions in to storage as we look for a new home.

Plans for the future.

We continue to look for a new home for our community, not easy in these times. We will broadcast on line but also look for ways we can meet together as a community especially at our festivals. The relationship with the congregation in Kenya we hope will continue online and possibly in the future with a visit there.

Financial review

The main source of income for the Charity are voluntary donations from the members of our synagogue. During the Pandemic we have lost some donors and others have found it difficult

through furlough etc to continue to support us at times. This has meant that after a big rise last year our donations have gone down again. We have been able to meet our commitment to pay our Rabbi a day and a half a week and also offer to support to those in need. We have through generous donations from members been able to support the community in Kenya.

We continued to keep up the general maintenance of the building but with the news of the sale of the land etc this has been kept to what is necessary. Money was spent out on cameras and microphones etc to enable us to allow online access to the services in the synagogue and this has been our big expenditure for the year. These are items which will prove useful also in any new building we go to.

It is hoped we are able to support other projects in the future and while looking out for new premises we are thinking of ways to be involved in the local community wherever that may be.

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 31st March 2021 is set out in an attached document. It shows an operating surplus of £4,203 This compares with last year's surplus of £10,171.

Reserves policy

The Charity should be held at £2,000 at any one point, if possible. The Charity has complied with the policy throughout the year. The Charity had no funds in deficit during the year.

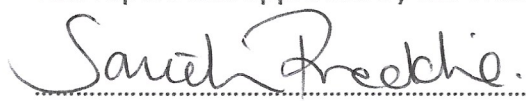
The Charity currently makes no use of restricted funds

Risk Management

The trustees have examined the major strategic, business, and operational risks faced by Zera Avraham and confirm that systems are in place, or arrangements have been established, to manage risks that have been identified. Appropriate DBS checks, supported by appropriate safeguarding policies, are made for those who work with children or vulnerable groups within the synagogue.

Zera Avraham has been covered by Public Liability Insurance and appropriate Buildings and Contents insurance while in the building and while the synagogue items are in the storage facility we will be paying insurance for them.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 31/1/22 and signed on its behalf by

.....Sonia Preddie. (Chair)

..... Fiona Sabey (Treasurer)



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

ZERA AVRAHAM MESSIANIC TRUST

On accounts for the year
ended

31ST MARCH 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1090972

Set out on pages

1

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

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:

31/01/2022

Name:

AMES BRISLEY ACCOUNTING LTD

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

Address:

29 COURT LODGE ROAD

HORLEY

SURREY RH6 8RT

				CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts				
For the period from	1st April 2020	To	31st March 2021	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Number 1 account	Number 2 account	Number 3 account	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
Receipts					
Transfers from saving account	500	-	-	500	880
Offerings	22,491	2,133	-	24,624	34,497
Synagogue events	2,539	-	-	2,539	743
For building	-	-	3,264	3,264	1,550
Conference	-	-	-	-	435
Interest	-	-	1	1	1
Gateway	-	275	-	275	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Receipts (Income) total	25,530	2,408	3,265	31,203	38,106

Payments					
Building	5,994	150	-	6,144	8,041
UBMS	1,270	-	-	1,270	1,820
Synagogue Events	166	-	-	166	1,753
Stationary	-	-	-	-	162
Equipment	1,220	-	-	1,220	407
Ministry	14,305	-	-	14,305	13,595
Travel	735	-	-	735	635
Gifts	2,221	-	-	2,221	-
Hospitality	65	-	-	65	52
Sundries	374	-	-	374	474
Interest	-	-	-	-	21
Youth and Children	-	-	-	-	95
Transfer	-	-	500	500	880
	-	-	-	-	-
Total Payments	26,350	150	500	27,000	27,935

f receipts/(payments)	- 820	2,258	2,765	4,203
A6 Cash funds last year	10,224	1,679	1,106	13,009
h funds this year end	£9,404.00	£3,936.00	£3,871.00	17,211

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

Categories	Details	Number 1 to nearest £	Number 2 to nearest £	Saving Account to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		9,404	3,936	3,871
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	9,404	3,936	3,871
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))			
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets				
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use				
	Torah Scroll and ornaments	1	-	-
	50 chairs	1	-	-
	Ark	1	-	-
	Pulpit	1	-	-
	Bema	1	-	-
	lap top and printer	1	-	-
	Menorah	1	-	-
	PA desk and audio system	1	-	-
B5 Liabilities				

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

F.J. Sobey 31/01/2022

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.