

Trustees Report for the year ended 31st March 2024

The Trustees present their report along with the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024. 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. The report has also followed guidance from the Charity Commission on completing this report

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: Zera Avraham Messianic Synagogue Trust

Charity Registration Number: 1090972

Registered Office:

Zera Avraham Messianic Synagogue
26 Dennis Close
Redhill
Surrey
RH1 2AX

Contact Address

Rabbi Boaz Sabey
26 Dennis Close
Redhill
Surrey
RH1 2AX

Board of Trustees:

Sonia Preddie (Chair)
Julie Baird
Fiona Sabey

Bank:

HSBC, 18 High Street, Reigate, Surrey. RH2 9AY (this branch has closed) Nearest branches are 107 High Street, Surrey, Banstead SM7 2NR or 66 Station Road East, Oxted RH8 0PJ

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 County of Surrey and in its adjoining counties of Kent and in the London Borough of Croydon 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. Any new Trustees are appointed by the Rabbi in partnership with the Trustees. At present they are recruited from among the congregation who are in good standing and have skills and experience which will help in the running of the charity.

External affiliations

Zera Avraham is affiliated to the UBMS who provide oversight and employ our Rabbi through them. The synagogue the monthly salary invoice which includes Employer National Insurance and Employer pension contributions along with the salary. 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 and the Rebbetzin is the administrator and safeguarding officer for the UBMS.

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. The Leadership were able to meet and share with the wider UBMS community at the UBMS Annual Conference in May and the Leaders' conference, later in 2023. Both the Rabbi and Rebbetzin have been involved in preparing and teaching units in the Rabbinic Interns training programme run by the UBMS. We have been able to meet with those who are new to the congregation and discuss the Messianic Judaism 101 course which gives a basic introduction into how Messianic Judaism is worked out in our synagogue and personal lives. We have also begun this year with a group of 9 people the Gateway to Judaism course with congregants who have been with us for over 6 months and the participants are growing in their knowledge of their faith through discussions and teachings. We continue to meet in a hired building on Shabbat and continue building good relationships with those who own the building and meet on other days.

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. We are settled in our rented accommodation and for Mitzvah Day this reporting year we as a congregation cleaned the walls, windows etc in the building we meet in to support the community who run the building. With our own congregation we still offer Zoom on Shabbat for those who are unable to reach the synagogue. As well as weekly Shabbat Services on Shabbat and our festival services we have held early morning prayers two mornings a week. It was also good to meet as a community at our festivals and we had a well-attended Pesach Seder as a community at a local venue with caterers. The Rabbi and Rebbetzin were invited to lead members of the local churches in a Passover celebration which was led by the Rabbi who explained the significance of Passover for us as Messianic Jews. There was a celebration meal afterwards and questions and discussions. We have continued to develop our link with a congregation in Southwest Kenya who join us for the early morning prayers.

This year again the Rabbi and Rebbetzin again led a Jewish day in a local primary school which the year 3 students really enjoyed and learnt a lot through the Rabbi's words and handling the artefacts which we took in. A member of our congregation also spoke and shared artefacts in the primary school which is linked with the church building we rent.

The Congregation has been supporting "The Hygiene Bank" in the Tandridge area this year and suggested that attendees at the Annual Conference brought a product donation either for the Hygiene Bank or the Food Bank at another of the congregation. The donations were shared with the 3 congregations there and we were able to give 20kg of donated hygiene products. We also as a congregation took part in the "It's in the bag campaign" making up bags for older people who receive the support of Carers in the community. We donated a total of 26kg of products and our contributions were collected by the local representative. We continued to provide a collecting box along with one for the local Food bank at the place where we meet and when full it is taken to the local representative.

Our community has been active in working with the Messianic Community in Southwest Kenya. Members in the community have continued to give donations to support the orphans of the Kenyan community to provide a midday meal for them in school. We also enabled some of the orphans to take part in a Science Trip outside the area they live in.

The Rabbi and Rebbetzin have hosted visitors from America, Israel and Malta this year and transported them to the Annual Conference. The Rabbi was also asked to speak at the World Uyghur Christian Union Conference in London in May 2023 sharing the vision of Messianic Judaism.

Our community was saddened and shocked by the Events in Israel on October 7th 2023, and as well as prayers a donation of £500.00 was sent to Abundant Bread of Salvation an organisation in Israel who work with the survivors.

Plans for the future.

With events around the world, we are aware of the need for security and have good links with the local police who visit to check on us. We continue to look for a new home for our community but increasingly realise that this will be difficult for us to fund a place of our home and the community is widely spread out. The relationship with the congregation in Kenya we hope will continue online and possibly in the future with a visit there. We have made links with the community where we meet on Shabbat and these have strengthened in this year with members of Zera Avraham being involved with activities run in the hall during the week and this has strengthen ties with the synagogue and the community. In our services members of the congregation are encouraged to be actively involved both men and women and in the year, ahead we are looking to develop this further with our younger generation.

Financial review

The main source of income for the Charity are voluntary donations from the members of our synagogue. This has also included this year specific donations for the orphans in Kenya. We have continued to be able to keep up our commitment to pay our Rabbi a day and a half a week and offer to support to those in need. Our income has risen this year, but we are aware that these are difficult times for people and that financially our income could fall in the year ahead.

Our biggest outgoings other than for Kenya have been pay for the Rabbi, storage costs for our equipment and rental for the hall. We have moved to a smaller unit to reduce costs, but this still proves a big expense in our budget. Despite moving to a smaller unit costs have risen for storage and rent. We were able to send money to Israel and the congregation has made donations to the local Hygiene Bank throughout the year. It is hoped we can 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. We have also brought new microphones and a portable speaker due to equipment failures.

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 31st March 2024 is set out in an attached document. It shows an operating credit of £67. This compares with last year's deficit of £1598. We did not apply for a Gift Aid Refund this year but will be applying for a Gift Aid refund for this year.

Reserves policy

The Charity reserves 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, reporting procedures and code of conduct are in place to protect children and vulnerable groups within the synagogue and those who support and work with them.

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

and signed on its behalf by

12th day of January 2025 role Chair Soniah Phoebe

12th day of January 2025 And Treasurer Fiona Sebey

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Receipts and payments accounts				
For the period from	1st April 2023	To	31st March 2024	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Number 1 account to the nearest £	Number 2 account to the nearest £	Number 3 account to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
Receipts					
Transfers from other accounts	1,657	-		1,657	282
Offerings	22,391	20	2,539	24,950	21,147
Events	2,317	40		2,357	1,169
Kenya	2,448			2,448	3,552
income building		-		-	332
Interest		-	243	243	53
			-	-	
Gift Aid		-		-	-
Receipts (Income) total	28,813	60	2,782	31,655	26,535

Payments

Building	8,347			8,347	7,471
UBMS	1,010	300		1,310	1,745
Synagogue Events	1,406	100	-	1,506	718
Stationary	58		-	58	22
Equipment	856		-	856	
Ministry	13,734		-	13,734	13,845
Travel	398	150	-	548	103
Gifts	2,831		-	2,831	3,149
Hospitality	109		-	109	
Ministry Zoom etc	436			436	660
Interest and charges	87	60		147	138
Youth and Children	53			53	
Transfer out			1,657	1,657	282
				-	
Total Payments	29,325	610	1,657	31,592	28,133

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Receipts/(payments)	- 512	- 550	1,125	63	
					-
A6 Cash funds last year	8,301	709	13,871	17,211	
Cash funds this year end	7,790	159	15,001	24,480	

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				
		7,790	159	15,001
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	7,790	159	15,001

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

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets				
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

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

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
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	1	-	-
	Menorah	1	-	-
	PA desk and audio system	1	-	-
	Portable speaker	1	-	-

	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

Sarah Reddick
Fiona Sobay - Treasurer



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

ZERA AVRAHAM MESSIANIC TRUST

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31ST MARCH 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1090972

Set out on pages

1

(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

**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
- 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:

30/01/2025

Name:

AMES BRISLEY ACCOUNTING LTD

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

Address:

29 COURT LODGE ROAD

HORLEY

SURREY RH6 8RT

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.