

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1091887

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [04184090](#)

Registered 2002-05-03

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

Contact

Address Ascension Church Centre
Baxter Road
London
E16 3HJ

Phone 02075111232

Email sebastianhouse@freeuk.com

Website www.ascensioncommunitytrust.org

Activities

Objects: 1) THE RELIEF OF POVERTY, HARDSHIP OR DISTRESS PARTICULARLY (THOUGH NOT BY WAY OF LIMITATION) AMONGST THE ELDERLY;2) THE ADVANCEMENT OF RELIGION;3) THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION INCLUDING (THOUGH NOT BY WAY OF LIMITATION) THE PROVISION OF TRAINING IN SKILLS RELEVANT TO SECURING EMPLOYMENT;4) THE PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH5) THE PROMOTION OF ANY OTHER CHARITABLE PURPOSE

Activities: The charity's object and its principal activity is to work for the benefit of the public in and around the parish of the Ascension , Victoria Dock, London

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Religious Activities, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Economic/community Development/employment
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LONDON
- Newham

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£470,487	£340,185	-	-
2024-03-31	£331,141	£400,952	-	-
2023-03-31	£508,450	£428,122	£157,773	15
2022-03-31	£243,067	£242,579	-	-
2021-03-31	£197,560	£197,367	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev DAVE CHESNEY	Chair	2013-01-03
ALISTAIR MACDONALD		
Cheryl Georgina Crombie		2015-09-16
Helen Fernandes		2024-07-09
Michael Geoffrey John Yeatts		2020-07-14
Rev Rebecca Jane Rogers		2025-06-23

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1091887

Accounts

Ascension Community Trust
Charity Reg number 1091887
Company registered in England and Wales
Company Number 04184090

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST
Directors' Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Contents of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2025

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Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Companies House Reg Number 04184090
General Information
for the year ended 31 March 2025

Principal Address	Ascension Community Trust Ascension Church Centre Baxter Road Custom House London E16 3HJ
Director/Trustees	Rev'd D Chesney N J Copsy C G Crombie A MacDonald F Johnson (resigned 19 September 2024) MGJ Yeatts H Fernandes (joined 9 July 2024)
Secretary	P H Beaufre
Independent Examiners	Brian Dexter ACMA A Thousand Hills Limited 172 Sandford Road East Ham LONDON E6 3PX

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2025. The Trustees have adopted and followed the provisions of "Accounting and Reporting for Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland" (FRS102, effective 1 January 2019).

2024-25 was again a year of rapid change for Ascension Community Trust (ACT). Our CEO moved on in June 2024 and our new CEO joined in December 2024. We are grateful to staff members and Trustees who worked together to cover the period of the vacancy.

Structure and Governance

Ascension Community Trust is governed under the terms of its trust deed signed on 21 December 1997 and amended on 25 July 2003. Its Trustees meet a minimum of six times a year to manage the activities of the trust.

Charitable Objectives

Five Year Objectives (Set in January 2018):

- To reduce isolation and loneliness amongst the elderly.
- To improve the health and wellbeing of the local community, with a focus on mental health.
- To reduce the vulnerability of struggling families.
- To integrate the community through community spaces, social activities and volunteering.
- To improve the education of local young people through the provision of activities, including sport.
- To improve individuals' own ability to address their issues by providing advice and support for money, benefits and employment.

With the appointment of a new CEO, our aim was to set a new 5-year vision for ACT. However, this has yet to be undertaken, so for 2024/25, the above objectives remain core to our commitment in serving the community of Custom House.

Aims and Objectives

In our last report we set two main objectives:

- establishing an organisational structure that was fit for purpose and to improve sustainability, and
- improving sustainability through an increase of individual donors to the charity.

Make the organisation structure fit for purpose

In January 2025, Trustees agreed to contract out our HR and Health and Safety functions to Croner. With the help and support of Croner our staff handbook, health and safety policy and information for volunteers were reviewed and refreshed. Partnering with Croner has given us access to Bright HR and Bright Safe platforms. Amongst other functions, these platforms have many online CPD (continuing professional development) accredited training courses, enabling us to invest in the skills development of our staff. The Employee Assistance Programme also enables us to invest in the welfare of our staff.

Future plans:

- Adoption of Bright HR/Bright systems.
- Refreshing our IT system.
- Develop a mailing list of supporters.
- Adoption of CRM (customer relationship management) software to better manage relationships with funders and donors.
- Implement Assemble platform for management of volunteers.

Improve sustainability through an increase of individual donors to the charity

Individual giving was down this year to £8,911 compared with £21,986 in 2023/24. This was largely down to the CEO and Foodbank Manager's posts being vacant for part of the year. Both these posts are front-facing posts likely to engage with people wishing to make a donation. However, this is still sustained progress from our initial starting point of £2,995 for year ending March 2020.

...continued

Public Benefit Statement

Ascension Community Trust is achieving public benefit through the delivery of services to those in need in the London Borough of Newham. Services include provision of food, activities, advice and training for some of the most vulnerable people in Newham.

Achievements and Performance

Children's Work (including Ascension Football Academy)

Young Adventurers afterschool club

Following community consultation in 2020, the club was set up and run with support from the Garfield Weston Foundation. For the 2024-2025 period, we ran 40 weeks of afterschool club sessions for 25 children, and 4 weeks of holiday club activities for 150 children.

We continued to operate with a child-centred approach, respecting the individual needs of each child. We also provided nutritious food. The service promotes equality and values diversity. We continue to involve the children and their parents in decision-making. Our partnerships with local schools continued to strengthen through word of mouth and targeted outreach with attendance improved as a result, leading to ongoing positive feedback from parents and the children themselves.

Impact

- 60% of children showed improved life skills (social skills, independence, confidence, emotional resilience, behaviour).
- 25% developed new friendships and community connections.
- 10 young people gained volunteering experience as young leaders during the summer scheme.

Football Academy

Our football academy provides Football Association qualified coaching for children and young people, as well as professional development opportunities and training in life skills. This project utilises football as a means of mentoring young people, providing positive adult role models. It has also fostered a passion for sport in our area, which faces high rates of child obesity amongst other health outcomes. We are open to children in years one to nine, both male and female. The academy takes place throughout the school year at Royal Docks Community School on Saturday mornings. It costs £4 with free places being offered to low-income families. Typically, we coach fifteen to twenty young people per session. The academy has gone from strength to strength. Last year we provided 40 Football Academy sessions with mentoring for 39 children.

Foodbank

Ascension Community Trust continues to be the lead partner for Newham District Foodbank. The other partners are Bonny Down Community Association and St John's Community Centre. Together we are Newham District Foodbank - which is part of the Trussell Foodbank Network. Ascension Community Trust oversees the governance, communication and warehouse function for Newham District Foodbank. We also run one of the three distribution points (the others being St John's at North Woolwich and Bonny Downs Community Association at East Ham).

We are grateful for the support of Trussell, which provides technical support, advice, training and data collection as well as ensuring Newham District Foodbank is adhering to our policies, procedures and delivery. Newham District Foodbank shares Trussell's mission to end the need for foodbanks in the UK. We aim to relieve food insecurity and hardship in Newham. Newham District Foodbank provides emergency food four days a week across the year.

We know that crisis can strike anyone and we also understand how difficult it can be to think about walking through a foodbank door. That's why our foodbank volunteers aim to welcome everyone who comes to the foodbank with compassion, kindness and a listening ear. At ACT a free hot meal is provided each week along with the chance to sit and chat with a volunteer should anyone attending choose to. We have benefitted from a wonderful group of volunteers, including residents, visitors from churches and corporate volunteers.

Impact of Newham District Foodbank:

- This year we received 13,298.3 kg of donated food.
- We distributed 33,205.48 kg of food.
- We fulfilled 1,790 vouchers.
- We supported 751 unique households, comprising 2,770 Adults and 1,502 children.
- In total, 4,272 people benefitted from the foodbank.

Impact of ACT Foodbank (one of the three distribution points of the district foodbank):

- 857 vouchers fulfilled.
- 1,387 adults and 878 children supported.
- In total, 2,265 people benefitted from the foodbank

Advice Service

Our advice service is a face-to-face service delivered in a familiar, welcoming and friendly environment, making it more accessible to people who would struggle to access online provision. The service expanded from initial delivery in Custom House to also having a presence in East Ham and North Woolwich - running at the same time as Newham District Foodbank is open. The provision of welfare benefits advice at the point of need in the foodbank enables people to move through their initial crisis and stabilise their financial situation, reducing their need to use a foodbank.

Support includes advice on:

- welfare benefits
- fuel hardship/arrears
- PIP claims advice
- access to freedom pass
- disabled parking
- signposting for legal advice, housing advice, immigration advice and debt advice via our network of community partners.

The advice service follows an 'advice in a community setting' model, a model that has been evaluated by the Greater London Authority (GLA) and identified as particularly effective. GLA research identified that the best way to engage with service-users was for the advice provided to initially take place in the setting where that person already attends. Of equal importance to the success of this service is not just the programme offered, but the manner in which support is presented. ACT staff provide a person-centred approach, which is accessible and inclusive to a wide range of service-users. Alongside the positive outcomes, we aim to help service-users to achieve through the advice they receive; we also aim to have them leaving the interaction with us feeling seen and heard, thus improving their overall mental wellbeing.

Impact of advice service:

- 192 unique people benefited from our advice service.
- 67 of these people made a financial gain through the advice they received.
- £202,756.56 in financial gains were made by people accessing the service.

Complex Needs Programme

Our complex needs programme supports and empowers adults with learning disabilities or other mental health needs. We provide a range of opportunities to build skills and experience whilst contributing to the local community.

Supported Volunteering

The supported volunteering team are an integral part of our food provision for people who attend our Community Meal and use our foodbank. Each week, across three days, they prepare meals and desserts that feed at least 60 people per week. This empowers volunteers to make vital contributions to their community, whilst learning kitchen skills and growing confidence and resilience. The programme creates opportunities to improve independence and choice through setting goals and choosing meals. Each volunteer has a personalised support plan and regularly reflect over a period of 6 weeks on whether they are still observing, trying with support or are independent with their goal.

External trips are also part of the volunteering placement, and this year included a trip to a pizza-making workshop, visits to Greenwich Market and North Greenwich exhibit, a picnic in the Olympic Park with games, and a visit to Gants Hill station café, which is run by adults with various complex needs.

Impact of supported volunteering:

- 223 volunteering sessions completed.
- 7 supported volunteers.
- 841 hours of volunteering.
- 5 trips (see above).

Inclusive Arts and Crafts

The inclusive arts group is a welcoming creative space to explore different art mediums. Art projects are co-designed with participants based on the group's interests. Participants benefit from increased emotional wellbeing through engagement with art and building relationships with other attendees. Highlights this year have included: clay pinch pots, painting canvases, drawing, making ornaments, a mural and a visit from Eastside Community Heritage, during which they made boats.

Impact of Inclusive Arts and Crafts Group:

- 13 attendees weekly
- 51 hours of group activity delivered.
- 1 trip (Olympic Park picnic and drawing).

Gardening

Our gardening project has provided therapeutic and engaging opportunities to learn gardening skills and be amongst nature. This has paired young people with learning disabilities with support workers. Across the year the group learns a number of skills, including composting, planting, and bed maintenance amongst others. This helps build self-confidence, and throughout the year the tasks completed are recorded by the referring school to track progress. Over the year this has slowly led to an improvement of our garden space as a result of their work, often a source of praise from those visiting it.

Community Meal

Community Meal is part of Newham Community Hot Meals initiative. It provides a warm haven during the winter months, along with hot, two-course meal. The Community Meal is open to all members of the community, but has a particular focus on welcoming people with support needs, people facing poor mental health, and people from refugee/asylum-seeker backgrounds. Each week our hall is decorated to create a warm, bright and welcoming environment, with games and activities alongside a steady supply of tea and coffee. A range of residents attend, including those from local care homes. We see the Community Meal as one of the central pieces of work we do at Ascension Community Trust because the meal brings people together from different walks of life, reducing loneliness and isolation and creating a greater sense of belonging and community cohesion. It is for this reason that we sought additional funding to keep the Community Meal going beyond the winter period

Impact of Community Meal:

- We delivered the Community Meal for 38 weeks.
- An average of 41 people attended each week.
- We provided 1,490 hot, two-course meals across the year.

Quote: "it gives me a reason to leave my house on a Tuesday otherwise I would have been stuck at home not doing anything."

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Trustees Report

for the year ended 31 March 2025

We want to take this opportunity to thank of all of the people who have volunteered their time to make the work of Ascension Community Trust possible. We also want to thank the organisations that have funded our work over the past year.

They are:

Aston Manfield
Catch 22 Charity/ Greater London Authority
Charities Aid Foundation (CAF)
City Bridge Trust
Felsted School Mission
Garfield Weston Foundation
Greggs Foundation
Henry Smityh Charity
Innholders' Charitable Foundation
Jack Petchey Foundation
London Catalyst
London Borough of Newham- Warm Haven
Making a difference locally (NISA)
National Lottery
Sport England
The Joseph Rank Trust
The Souter Trust
Trussell Trust
Vintners Foundation

Risk, Reserves and Financial review

Income for the year was £470,487 (2024: £331,141) of which £97,304 (2024: £81,637) was unrestricted.

Expenditure for the year was £340,185 (2023: £400,952) of which £96,593 (2024: £76,690) was from unrestricted funds.

In the year unrestricted funds of £300 were used to cover deficits in restricted funds. Football Academy £300.

Ascension Community Trust's reserves policy is that between £18,000 and £25,000 will be held in free reserves. This amount is based on a detailed calculation of the amount needed in the eventuality of unexpected events requiring a smooth closure of the charity, over three months, including redundancy payments, and to mitigate any financial risks. This figure is monitored and reviewed by the board of trustees on an annual basis.

On 31 March 2025 Ascension Community trust had funds of £218,265 (2024: £87,963). Of these £194,369 (2024: £64,478) was restricted funds. The total amount of free reserves held is therefore £23,896 (2023: £23,485).

This level is within our reserves policy target range, therefore the trustees are satisfied with this reserves level.

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees.
for the year ended 31 March 2025

To the Trustees,

I report on the Financial Statements of the Charitable company for the year ended 31st March 2025 which are set out in the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011, "the 2011 Act", and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;

To follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and

To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 explanation s from you 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 matter has come to my attention:

Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

To keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the companies Act 2006; and

To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the SORP (FRS102)

"Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2015.

have not been met; or

To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Brian Dexter ACMA
A Thousand Hills Limited
172 Sandford Road
East Ham
London
E6 3PX
Dated.....

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 March 2025

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments From				
Donations and Legacies	60,639	373,183	433,822	292,104
Charitable Activities	36,665	-	36,665	38,547
Other Trading Activities	-	-	-	491
	-	-	-	-
Total Incoming Resources	<u>97,304</u>	<u>373,183</u>	<u>470,487</u>	<u>331,142</u>
Expenditure on:				
Raising Funds	-	-	-	-
Charitable Activities	96,593	243,592	340,185	400,952
	-	-	-	-
Total Resources Expended	<u>96,593</u>	<u>243,592</u>	<u>340,185</u>	<u>400,952</u>
Net Expenditure for the Year	711	129,591	130,302	- 69,810
net surplus/(deficit)	<u>711</u>	<u>129,591</u>	<u>130,302</u>	<u>- 69,810</u>
Transfer between funds	- 300	300	-	-
Fund Balances 1 April 2024	23,485	64,478	87,963	157,773
Fund Balances 31 March 2025	<u><u>23,896</u></u>	<u><u>194,369</u></u>	<u><u>218,265</u></u>	<u><u>87,963</u></u>

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Statement of Financial Position
as at 31st March 2025


	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2025 Total	2024 Total
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Assets	1,900	7,837	9,737	12,983
Current Assets				
Debtors	5,007	26,000	31,007	37,455
Cash at bank and in hand	50,779	239,151	286,030	4
Total Current Assets	<u>55,786</u>	<u>261,251</u>	<u>317,037</u>	<u>88,128</u>
Creditors: Amounts due within	33,790	74,719	108,509	8
Net Current Assets	<u>21,996</u>	<u>186,532</u>	<u>208,528</u>	<u>0</u>
Creditors due after more than	-	-	-	-
Net Assets	<u>23,896</u>	<u>194,369</u>	<u>218,265</u>	<u>87,963</u>
Funds				
Unrestricted Funds	23,896		23,896	23,485
Restricted Funds		194,369	194,369	64,478
Total Funds	<u>23,896</u>	<u>194,369</u>	<u>218,265</u>	<u>87,963</u>

For the year ended 31 March 2025 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476, and there is no mandatory audit requirement in the charity's governing documents.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small company regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board and signed on its behalf by Dave Chesney.


 Title
 CHAIR OF
 TRUSTEES

date 4/12/2025

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention, except for investments which are included at market value and the revaluation of certain fixed assets in accordance with the Charities SORP Accounting and Reporting for Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland" (FRS102, effective 1 January 2019).

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

Statement of cash flows

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 from including a statement of cash flows in the financial statements on the grounds that the charitable company qualifies as a small company.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift Aid is recognised when the donation to which it relates is received.

Gifts in Kind and pro-bono services are included in income as donations at a sum equal to their market value or the value to the charity. An equivalent sum is added to resources expenditure under the appropriate category.

Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended when there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, are stated at cost or valuation less depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is charged over the lifetime of the asset at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of the fixed asset over their expected useful lives.

The following specific rates apply:

Land and Buildings (Leasehold)	Straight line over the life of the lease
Plant and machinery:	25% Reducing balance

Irrecoverable VAT

VAT, to the extent that it cannot be recovered, is included in the Statement of Financial Activities as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

2. Income from Donations and Legacies	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Donations received	6,242	2,669	8,911	21,986
Grants received	54,397	351,549	405,946	265,118
HMRC Employers allowance	-	-	-	5,000
Gifts In Kind	-	18,965	18,965	-
	<u>60,639</u>	<u>373,183</u>	<u>433,822</u>	<u>292,104</u>
3. Income from charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Ascension Football Academy	624	-	624	1,192
Seniors' activities	-	-	-	10
Café income	-	-	-	4,566
Children and family activities	36,041	-	36,041	32,779
	<u>36,665</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,665</u>	<u>38,547</u>
4. Income from other activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Catering	-	-	-	-
Other activities for generating fun	-	-	-	490
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>490</u>
5. Expenditure on generating funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Support Costs	-	-	-	-
Shop costs	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
6. Cost of charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Advice service	-	38,966	38,966	53,216
Admin and CEO	37,207	65,360	102,566	114,921
Children and Families	49,477	29,469	78,946	59,708
Football Academy	-	9,765	9,765	8,253
Seniors	-	-	-	11,221
Food Bank	-	43,441	43,441	72,721
Complex Needs	-	44,535	44,535	37,452
Emotion in motion	-	2,358	2,358	-
Café	-	-	-	43,460
Community Meals	9,909	9,698	19,607	-
Total	<u>96,593</u>	<u>243,592</u>	<u>340,185</u>	<u>400,952</u>

Note. The costs above include the value of gifts in kind used by the charity in the period:

Foodbank - Value of donated food £ 18,965

These have all been included as coming from restricted funds

7. Net income/expenditure for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting)

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation of Fixed Assets	3,246	4,325
Accountancy Fees	1,000	900
Staff Pension Contributions	2,942	3,835
	<u>7,188</u>	<u>8,960</u>

G. Staff costs

Total staff costs for the year ended 31 March 2025 were

	2025	2024
	£	£
Salaries and Wages	191,426	222,755
Social security costs	12,647	14,575
Pension Costs	2,942	281
	<u>207,014</u>	<u>240,611</u>

The number of staff employed during the year was:

Programme Staff	9.5	13
Support Staff	<u>3</u>	

10. Comparative Statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments From				
Donations and Legacies	43,801	248,303	292,104	455,480
Charitable Activities	37,345	1,202	38,547	51,852
Other Trading Activities	490	-	490	18
Total Incoming Resources	<u>81,636</u>	<u>249,505</u>	<u>331,141</u>	<u>508,450</u>
Expenditure on:				
Raising Funds			-	-
Charitable Activities	76,690	324,262	400,952	428,122
Total Resources Expended	<u>76,690</u>	<u>324,262</u>	<u>400,952</u>	<u>428,122</u>
Net Expenditure for the Year	4,946	(74,757)	(69,811)	80,328
net movement in funds	<u>4,946</u>	<u>(74,757)</u>	<u>(69,811)</u>	<u>80,328</u>
Transfer between funds	(2,980)	2,980		
Fund Balances 1 April 2023	21,518	136,255	157,773	77,445
Fund Balances 31 March 2024	<u>23,484</u>	<u>64,478</u>	<u>87,962</u>	<u>157,773</u>

11. Fixed Assets

	Land and Buildings £	Fixtures and Fittings £	Total £
COST or VALUATION			
At 1 April 2024	44,688	50,232	94,921
Additions		-	-
Disposals		-	-
At 31 March 2025	<u>44,688</u>	<u>50,232</u>	<u>94,921</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2024	44,688	37,249	81,937
Charge for year		3,246	3,246
On Disposals		-	-
At 31 March 2025	<u>44,688</u>	<u>40,495</u>	<u>85,183</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>9,737</u>	<u>9,737</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>12,983</u>	<u>12,983</u>

Ascension Community Trust

Charity No. 1091887

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

12. Debtors	2025	2024
Amounts due within one year	£	£
Accrued Income	21,500	-
Other debtors	9,507	37,455
	<u>31,007</u>	<u>37,455</u>

13. Creditors	2025	2024
Other creditors	£	£
Accruals	3,314	2,314
Deferred restricted income	74,719	7,500
	<u>108,509</u>	<u>13,148</u>

Deferred Income relates to restricted funds received to cover future admin staff costs.

14. Restricted Fund Movements

	01/04/2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Advice Service	6,692	96,362	38,966		64,088
Admin and CEO	8,783	114,850	65,360		58,273
Children and Families	97	30,500	29,469	2,512	3,640
Football Academy	1	9,465	9,765	300	0
Seniors	0	-	-		0
Poverty Response/Foodbank	24,393	39,807	43,441		20,759
Complex Needs	198	60,630	44,535	19,903	36,195
Garden Café	24,315	-	-	24,315	0
Emotion in Motion		8,045	2,358		5,687
Community Meals		13,524	9,698	1,900	5,726
	<u>64,478</u>	<u>373,183</u>	<u>243,592</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>194,369</u>

- prior year

	01/04/2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Advice Service	35,579	24,329	53,216		6,692
Admin and CEO	73	89,250	80,540		8,783
Children and Families	-	21,643	21,546		97
Football Academy	1,243	4,242	8,253	2,768	1
Seniors	4,859	6,150	11,221	212	0
Poverty Response/Foodbank	67,023	30,092	72,721		24,393
Community Work/Complex Need	-	37,650	37,452		198
Garden Café	27,478	36,150	39,313		24,315
	<u>136,255</u>	<u>249,505</u>	<u>324,262</u>	<u>2,980</u>	<u>64,478</u>

Advice service:	Funds to provide practical advice to parishioners
CEO:	Grant to cover employment costs of CEO
Children and Families:	To provide activities and services for children and their families in the community.
Seniors:	To provide activities and services for older members of the community
Foodbank:	To provide food for members of the community in urgent need
Football academy:	To provide training in football for children and young people in the community
Complex Needs:	To provide services to nurture members of the community with complex needs.
Administration:	To support the general running of the organisation
Emotion in Motion:	To provide exercise and increase community cohesion through sharing cultural dance
Community meals :	To increase community cohesion and support vulnerable members of the community by providing a warm haven in winter and a hot meal all the year round.
Transfers:	were made from General funds to support the activities in the Football academy and the Seniors project in 23/24.

15 Unrestricted fund movements

	01/04/2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2025
	£	£	£		£
General funds					
Garden Café	43	500	9,909	9,367	-
Community Meals		-			
Children and families	-	36,041	49,477	13,436	-
Football Academy	-	615	-	300	315
Seniors	117			117	-
General	23,325	60,149	37,207	(22,686)	23,581
	<u>23,484</u>	<u>97,304</u>	<u>96,593</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>23,896</u>

-Prior Year

	01/04/2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2024
	£	£	£		£
Garden Café	-	4,190	4,147	-	43
Children and families	-	33,052	38,162	5,110	-
Seniors	329			212	117
General	21,189	44,394	34,381	(7,878)	23,325
	<u>21,518</u>	<u>81,636</u>	<u>76,690</u>	<u>2,980</u>	<u>23,484</u>

Garden Café: To provide finance for activities within the Garden Café**Children and Families:** To provide activities and services for children and their families in the community.**Seniors:** To provide activities and services for older members of the community**General:** Free reserves for the charity's overall objectives.**Transfers:** In 23/24 transfers were made from Unrestricted General funds to support the Football academy**16. Analysis of net assets between funds as at 31 March 2025**

	Fixed	Current Assets	Creditors	Net Assets
	£	£	£	£
-Current year				
Unrestricted	1,900	55,786	33,790	23,896
Designated	-	-	-	-
Restricted	7,837	261,251	74,719	194,369
	<u>9,737</u>	<u>317,037</u>	<u>108,509</u>	<u>218,265</u>
- Prior year				
Unrestricted	2,533	26,600	5,648	23,485
Designated	-	-	-	-
Restricted	10,450	54,028	-	64,478
	<u>12,983</u>	<u>80,628</u>	<u>5,648</u>	<u>87,962</u>

17. Company limited by guarantee

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have a share capital.

The liability of each member on the winding up of the company is limited to £1.

18. Detailed Fund Schedules

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Closing balance	Deferred Income	Accrued Income
ADVICE							
Fastrack Funding	2,690	45,395	4,928		43,157.70	14,719	
Financial Inclusion Grant	-	41,115	25,518	-	15,596.80		
GLA Grant	3,141	5,852	7,338		1,655.41		
London Catalyst - clients		2,000	-	860	2,860.00		
The Souter Trust		2,000	1,183		817.06		
Restricted	860	-	-	(860)	-		
Unrestricted	-	-	-	-	-		
	6,691	96,362	38,966	-	64,087		
ADMIN and CEO							
Restricted	-	-	-		-		
Garfield Weston Grant	-	-	-		-		0
Henry Smith Grant	4,940	49,150	33,347		20,742.60		0
Felsted Trust		9,000	-		9,000.00		
National lottery	3,843	56,700	32,012		28,530.86		
Unrestricted	23,324	60,149	37,207	(23,184)	23,081.95		
	32,107	174,999	102,566	(23,184)	81,355.41		
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES							
Inholders Charitable Trust	-	2,500	2,495		5.07		
Trusthouse Grant	2,601	-	-		2,601.00		
Vintners	8	5,000	4,040		967.70		
Garfield Weston		23,000	22,934		66.10		
Restricted	-	-	0		-		
Unrestricted	-	36,041	49,477	13,436	-		
	2,609	66,541	78,947	13,436	3,639.42		
FOOTBALL ACADEMY							
Football	-	9,465	9,765	300	0.00		
Unrestricted		615	-	(300)	314.56		
	-	10,079	9,765	-	314.56		
SENIORS							
London Community Foundation	-	-	-		-		
Warm Haven Grant Community Meal	-	-	-		-		
Restricted	-	-	-		-		
Unrestricted	117	-	-	(117)	-		
	117	-	-	(117)	-		
POVERTY RESPONSE							
Container & Storage Grants	-	-	-		-		
East End Foundation	-	-	-		-		
Essex Community Foundation	-	-	-		-		
Julia and Hans Rausing Grant	73	-	-	(73)	0.04		
Trussel trust	10,140	39,807	43,441		6,505.90	60,000	
Strategic Resources Grant		-	-		-		
Restricted Donations and Gifts in	14,181	-	-	73	14,253.96		
	24,394	39,807	43,441	-	20,759.90		
EMOTION IN MOTION							
Emotion in Motion	-	-	-		-		
SportEngland	-	8,045	2,358		5,687.06		
Restricted	-	-	-		-		
	-	8,045	2,358	-	5,687.06		
COMPLEX NEEDS							
Supported Volunteering	2,854	7,500	-		10,354.00		
Restricted	7,962	130	-		8092.00		
City Bridge Trust	9,285	43,000	35,573		16,712.07		21,500
Joseph RANK		10,000	8,962		1,037.80		0
LBN Warm Havens	1,900	-	-	(1,900)	-		
	22,001	60,630	44,535	(1,900)	36,196		
Community Meals							
L.B Newham Community Meals	-	14,024	7,653	(44)	6,326.84		
LBN. Warm Havens	-	-	2,045	1,944	(100.84)		
Restricted	-	-	-		-		
Unrestricted	44	-	9,909	9,865	(0.43)		
	44	14,024	19,607	11,765	6,225.57		
TOTAL	87,963	470,487	340,185	-	218,264.79	0	0
TOTAL Unrestricted	23,485	97,304	96,593	(300.14)	23,896.08		0
TOTAL Restricted	64,478	373,183	243,592	300.14	194,368.71	0	0

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1091887

Accounts

Ascension Community Trust
Charity Reg number 1091887
Company registered in England and Wales
Company Number 04184090

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST

Directors Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Contents of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

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Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Companies House Reg Number 04184090
General Information
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Principal Address
Ascension Community Trust
Ascension Church Centre
Baxter Road
Custom House
London
E16 3HJ

Director/Trustees.
Rev'd D Chesney
N J Copsey
C G Crombie
A MacDonald
F Johnson
MGJ Yeatts
Secretary
P H Beaufriere

Independent Examiners
Brian Dexter ACMA
A Thousand Hills Limited
172 Sandford Road
East Ham
LONDON
E6 3PX

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Trustees Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2024. The Trustees have adopted and followed the provisions of "Accounting and Reporting for Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland" (FRS102, effective 1 January 2019).

This last financial year has been a one of new opportunities alongside challenges. Having moved fully out of the unpredictability and disruption caused by the Covid pandemic we were able to build on the hard work that was achieved in response. One of the major challenges for this financial year was the transition to a new CEO as we said farewell to Hannah Tulloch. After 15 years with the organisation (5 years as CEO), Hannah decided it was the right time to move on and for a new person to lead the next stage of the organisation. We had a very successful recruitment campaign and our new CEO was appointed in May 2023.

Structure and Governance

Ascension Community Trust is governed under the terms of its trust deed signed on 21 December 1997 and amended on 25th July 2003. Its trustees meet a minimum of six times a year to manage the activities of the trust.

Charitable Objectives

Five Year Objectives (Set in January 2018)

- Reduce Isolation and loneliness amongst the elderly
- To improve the health and wellbeing of the local community, with a focus on mental health.
- To reduce the vulnerability of struggling families.
- To integrate the community through community spaces, social activities and volunteering.
- To improve the education of local young people through the provision of activities, including sport.
- To improve individual's own ability to address their issues by providing advice and support for money, benefits and employment.

With the appointment of a new CEO, our aim was to set a new 5 year vision for ACT. However, this has yet to be undertaken, so for 2023/24, the above objectives remain core to our commitment in serving the community of Custom House.

Aims and Objectives

In our last report we set two main objectives:

- establishing an organisational structure that was fit for purpose and to improve sustainability.
- To improve sustainability through an increase of individual donors to the charity

- **Make the organisation structure better fit for purpose**

As per our previous report, over the past two years the organisation has gone through a significant structural change. Our staff and volunteer team has grown and our focus has been towards the infrastructure of the organisation, including administration, marketing and fundraising. This was previously all done by the CEO. The establishment of a Senior Leadership Team has provided that additional layer of management which allowed the CEO to devote more time to the strategic direction of the organisation. These staff are now more involved in the decision making of the organisation at a strategic level and has contributed to supporting the new CEO as he establishes new ways of working.

- **To improve sustainability through an increase of individual donors to the charity**

There have been excellent developments with this. For the year ended March 2020 our donations were £2,995 in total, which increased to £21,986 in 2023/24. This has helped maintain our free reserves around our target level, keeping the organisation in a more stable financial position and given us more flexibility as an organisation.

...continued

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Trustees Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Public Benefit Statement

Ascension Community Trust is achieving public benefit through the delivery of services to those in need in the London Borough of Newham. Services include provision of food, activities, advice and training for some of the most vulnerable in Newham.

Achievements and Performance

Children's Work (including Ascension Football Academy)

- Young Adventurers After School Club

Following community consultation our after school club was set up in 2020 to provide high quality childcare at affordable prices. 'Young Adventurers' has operates as an Ofsted registered affordable after school club. The name reflects our hope that young people will not just be cared for, but through our provision continue to grow a sense of curiosity and adventure through their personal, social and emotional development.

Young Adventurers operates with a child-centred approach, respecting the individual needs of each child. With the aim of providing a relaxed, safe and secure environment the club offers a range of activities to reflect the interests of the children in our care. We provide nutritious food and holistic support to each child. For all attending the club we offer a service that promotes equality, inclusion and values diversity. Children and their parents/carers are be encouraged to participate in the decision making. All our staff and volunteers are suitably qualified and experienced in various aspects of childcare and play, with ongoing training. Through building trusting relationships with local schools and parents, partnerships have grown over the last two years as has attendance. In 2022 our nearest primary school closed extended school provision immediately impacting afterschool care available to parents. Through networking with the school a coffee morning was arranged where parents could find out about Young Adventurers and ask questions specific to their child's needs. After signing up to our afterschool care many parents expressed their gratitude concerning the clubs work and commented 'I don't know what I would've done without you.'

- Football Academy

Our football academy provides Football Association qualified coaching for children and young people, as well as professional development opportunities and training in life skills. We are open to children in years one to nine, both male and female, and typically coach fifteen to twenty young people per session (up to fifty unique attendees a year). The academy takes place throughout the school year at Royal Docks Community School, Custom House, on Saturday mornings between 9:00 - 10:30 am and typically usually costs £4.00, with free places being offered to low-income families. This project has utilised football as a means of mentoring young people, providing positive adult role models. It has also fostered a passion for sport in our area which faces high rates for child obesity amongst other health outcomes.

- Summer Scheme

ACT Summer Scheme operates for three weeks during summer holidays offering affordable, fun and meaningful activities. This includes trips out in central London, team games and arts and crafts.

Our engaging activities have provided new opportunities for personal growth and the broadening of horizons for local children. For example during our trips to local parks and nature reserves a number of attendees commented that they had not been too these sites before, despite being local to them. Ascension Community Trust's Track Record. The scheme complements the aforementioned projects, delivered by staff from our afterschool club and football academy to continue a sense of familiarity and consolidate relationships. One week of summer scheme is facilitated alongside a specialist football coaching organisation with the aim of both introducing a wider range of children to our football academy as well as providing intensive development and social activities for existing members.

...continued

Foodbank

Ascension Community Trust currently oversees Newham District Foodbank, and important partnership with Bonny Downs Community Association (BDCA) and Royal Docks Learning and Activity Centre (RDLAC). Newham District Foodbank was created to do more than just provide food for those in emergency need. The Trussell Trust referral system and emergency food means that we are meeting and supporting those in the greatest need. We then use this opportunity to connect with people and support them out of their crisis. From its beginning as an emergency response during Covid-19 lockdowns, our food banks became officially associated with Trussell Trust in June 2021. At ACT we were able to get funding for a container and porta-cabin which operate as a warehouse and preparation area for all food bank sites for the making up of food parcels. Taken as a whole ACT, BDCA and RDLAC provide emergency food four days a week across the year.

We know that crisis can strike anyone and we also understand how difficult it can be to think about walking through a foodbank door. That's why our foodbank volunteers aim to welcome everyone who comes to the foodbank with compassion, kindness and a listening ear. At ACT a free meal is provided each week along with the chance to sit and chat with a volunteer should anyone attending choose to. We have benefitted from a wonderful group of volunteers including residents, visitors from churches as well as corporate volunteers.

Advice Service

Our Advice programme has grown from a small set-up into a flourishing project, operating in partnership with other local charities. The service provides easy access to advice on benefits, housing, employment and food poverty amongst other key issues; whilst acting as an advocate for the user and signposting to other services if necessary. Before the service started, we had hundreds of users a year who would require some sort of advice or advocacy and when our charity was unable to help, it became increasingly difficult to find services to signpost people to, particularly in regards to benefits and housing. The service has expanded from initial delivery in Custom House to also having a presence in East Ham and North Woolwich.

Support can range from small but important issues such as securing a free bus pass, through to issues such as threat of eviction. This support is provided as 'advice in a community setting', a model which has been identified as particularly effective. Feedback from volunteers and staff at the foodbanks demonstrated that the best way to engage with service users was for the advice provided to initially take place in the setting where that person already attends. Of equal importance to the success of this service is not just the programme offered, but the manner in which support is presented. Staff provide an excellent, person centred approach which is accessible and inclusive to a wide range of service users. We hope that not only are positive outcomes achieved both those seeking help, but also that they leave feeling seen and listened to.

Complex Needs

- Supported Volunteering

Our Supported Volunteering provides opportunities for adults with support needs to learn kitchen and hospitality skills on placement. The scheme involves agreeing training goals with each person on and implementing a support plan which incrementally increases responsibility and independence over time. Through this model, those on placement are empowered to participate and contribute as much as is possible, with the underpinning of support which ensures a sense of security and dignity in how they work. Through this work the team contributes to serving those attending Food Bank and Community Meal. External trips are also part of the placement and have included visits to a Christmas lights events, a community farm, learning about different types of café projects as well as a professional Italian pizza making experience This has helped build social skills, a sense of team amongst all involved.

- Inclusive Arts and Crafts

Our Arts and Crafts Group delivers weekly accessible workshops providing a range of activities which offer a therapeutic engagement with arts and crafts. Delivered through partnership work with Newham Council, this group grown. Through visiting another established learning disability art group, they are now integrating more choice and ownership over the artistic projects developed with the aim of helping the most keen attendees of seeing themselves as artists in their own right. Throughout the year events are held celebrating the work created.

...continued

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Trustees Report
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Complex Needs continued

- Gardening

Our gardening project has provided therapeutic and engaging opportunities to learn gardening skills and be amongst nature. This has paired young people with learning disabilities with support workers. Across the year the group learns a number of skills including composting, planting, and bed maintenance amongst others. This helps build self-confidence throughout the year tasks completed collected by the referring school to log progress. Over the year this has slowly led to an improvement of the garden space as a result of their work, often a source of praise from those visiting it.

- Community Meal

Community Meal launched as part of Newham Council's Warm Havens and Community Meals initiatives. It is open to all members of the community but has a particular focus on welcoming anyone with support needs, facing poor mental health or those from refugee/asylum seeker backgrounds. Each week our hall is decorated to create a warm, bright and welcoming environment with games and activities alongside a steady supply of tea and coffee. A range of local residents attend, including those from local care homes.

Impact

Impact is more than just numbers, it is about the journey individuals and groups go on and the transformation along the way. Whether it is residents receiving support through particular services or volunteers gaining new skills and contributing, the personal stories are as important as numerical ways of measuring outcomes. We hope that these numbers and statistics both demonstrate the reach of ACT's work in Custom House and beyond and that behind each figure is a meaningful experience.

Children and Families

39 people taking part with Ascension Football Academy

25 children attending Young Adventurers Afterschool Club

150 children taking part with Summer Scheme over three weeks.

Foodbank and Advice Service

1,642 food vouchers issued

6,000 people supported with food parcels

95 people directly supported by ACT Advice Service

70% of completed Advice Service casework resulted in a financial outcome for service user.

Complex Needs

8 young people attending gardening

15 adults participating with Inclusive Arts.

8 adults taking part with long term supported volunteering placements and going on **6** trips.

32 weeks of Community Meals delivered, **70+** people attending

...continued

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Trustees Report

for the year ended 31 March 2024

We want to take this opportunity to thank of all of the people who have volunteered their time to make the work of Ascension Community Trust possible. We also want to thank the organisations that have funded our work over the past year.

They are:

- *London Borough of Newham- Warm Haven
- *Felsted School Mission
- *Essex Community Foundation
- *Newham Health Collaboration Ltd
- *Greggs Foundation
- *London over The border
- *City Bridge Trust
- *Charles French Charitable Trust
- *The Percy Bilton Charity
- *East End Community Foundation
- *Helene Hogg
- *Catch 22 Charity
- *Henry Smith Charity
- *Trussell Trust
- *Royal Docks Trust
- *Jack Petchey Foundation
- *National Lottery
- *The Archer Trust
- *TrustHouse
- *The London Community Foundation

Risk, Reserves and Financial review

Income for the year was £331,141 (2023: £508,450) of which £81,637 (2023: £90,178) was unrestricted.
Expenditure for the year was £400,952 (2023: £428,122) of which £76,690 (2023: £87,321) was from unrestricted funds.
In the year unrestricted funds of £2,980 were used to cover deficits in restricted funds. Childrens £2,768 and seniors £212.
Ascension Community Trust's reserves policy is that between £18,000 and £25,000 will be held in free reserves. This amount is based on a detailed calculation of the amount needed in the eventuality of unexpected events requiring a smooth closure of the charity, over three months, including redundancy payments, and to mitigate any financial risks. This figure is monitored and reviewed by the board of trustees on an annual basis.
At 31 March 2024 Ascension Community trust had funds of £87,962 (2023: £157,773). Of these £64,478 (2023: £136,255) was restricted funds. The total amount of free reserves held is therefore £23,485 (2023: £21,518) .

This level is within our reserves policy target range, therefore the trustees are satisfied with this reserves level.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Dave Chesney

Dated

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees.
for the year ended 31 March 2024

To the Trustees.

I report on the Financial Statements of the Charitable company for the year ended 31st March 2023 which are set out in the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011, "the 2011 Act", and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;

To follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and

To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you 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 matter has come to my attention:

Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

To keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the companies Act 2006; and

To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the SORP (FRS102)

"Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2015.

have not been met; or

To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Brian Dexter ACMA
A Thousand Hills Limited
172 Sandford Road
East Ham
London
E6 3PX
Dated.....
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Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887

Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)

for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments From				
Donations and Legacies	43,801	248,303	292,104	455,480
Charitable Activities	37,345	1,202	38,547	51,852
Other Trading Activities	490	-	490	1,118
	-	-	-	-
Total Incoming Resources	<u>81,637</u>	<u>249,505</u>	<u>331,141</u>	<u>508,450</u>
Expenditure on:				
Raising Funds	-	-	-	-
Charitable Activities	76,690	324,262	400,952	428,122
Total Resources Expended	<u>76,690</u>	<u>324,262</u>	<u>400,952</u>	<u>428,122</u>
Net Expenditure for the Year	4,947	(74,757)	(69,810)	80,328
net surplus/(deficit)	<u>4,947</u>	<u>(74,757)</u>	<u>(69,810)</u>	<u>80,328</u>
Transfer between funds	(2,980)	2,980	-	-
Fund Balances 1 April 2023	21,518	136,255	157,773	77,445
Fund Balances 31 March 2024	<u><u>23,485</u></u>	<u><u>64,478</u></u>	<u><u>87,962</u></u>	<u><u>157,773</u></u>

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Statement of Financial Position
as at 31st March 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2024 Total	2023 Total
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Assets	2,533	10,450	12,983	17,308
Current Assets				
Debtors	5,008	32,447	37,455	5,607
Cash at bank and in hand	21,593	29,081	50,674	163,046
Total Current Assets	26,601	61,528	88,128	168,653
Creditors: Amounts due within	5,648	7,500	13,148	52,188
Net Current Assets	20,953	54,028	74,980	116,465
Creditors due after more than one	-	-	-	-
Net Assets	<u>23,486</u>	<u>64,478</u>	<u>87,963</u>	<u>133,773</u>
Funds				
Unrestricted Funds	23,485		23,485	21,518
Restricted Funds		64,478	64,478	136,255
Total Funds	<u>23,485</u>	<u>64,478</u>	<u>87,963</u>	<u>157,773</u>

For the year ended 31 March 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476, and there is no mandatory audit requirement in the charity's governing documents.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small company regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board and signed on its behalf by Dave Chesney.

Title

date

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention, except for investments which are included at market value and the revaluation of certain fixed assets in accordance with the Charities SORP Accounting and Reporting for Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland" (FRS102, effective 1 January 2019).

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

Statement of cash flows

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 from including a statement of cash flows in the financial statements on the grounds that the charitable company qualifies as a small company.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift Aid is recognised when the donation to which it relates is received.

Gifts in Kind and pro-bono services are included in income as donations at a sum equal to their market value or the value to the charity. An equivalent sum is added to resources expenditure under the appropriate category.

Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended when there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, are stated at cost or valuation less depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is charged over the lifetime of the asset at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of the fixed asset over their expected useful lives.

The following specific rates apply:

Land and Buildings (Leasehold)	Straight line over the life of the lease
Plant and machinery:	25% Reducing balance

Irrecoverable VAT

VAT, to the extent that it cannot be recovered, is included in the Statement of Financial Activities as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

2. Income from Donations and Legacies	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Donations received	8,774	13,212	21,986	30,307
Grants received	30,027	235,091	265,118	386,653
HMRC Employers allowance	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
Gifts In Kind	-	-	-	33,500
	<u>43,801</u>	<u>248,303</u>	<u>292,104</u>	<u>455,460</u>
3. Income from charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Ascension Football Academy	-	1,192	1,192	7,311
Seniors activities	-	10	10	405
Café income	4,566	-	4,566	20,719
Children and family activities	32,779	-	32,779	23,417
	<u>37,345</u>	<u>1,202</u>	<u>38,547</u>	<u>51,852</u>
4. Income from other activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Catering	-	-	-	576
Other activities for generating funds	490	-	490	542
	<u>490</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>490</u>	<u>1,118</u>
5. Expenditure on generating funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Support Costs	-	-	-	-
Shop costs	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
6. Cost of charitable activities	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Seniors Project	-	11,221	11,221	21,903
Community Work	-	-	-	21,960
Café	18,147	25,313	43,460	93,654
Complex Needs	-	37,452	37,452	-
Children and Families	24,162	35,546	59,708	53,216
Football Academy	-	8,253	8,253	6,087
Food Bank	-	72,721	72,721	63,131
Advice service	-	53,216	53,216	87,843
Admin and CEO	34,381	80,540	114,921	80,328
	<u>76,690</u>	<u>324,262</u>	<u>400,952</u>	<u>428,122</u>
Total	76,690	324,262	400,952	428,122
Note. The costs above include the value of gifts in kind used by the charity in the period:				
7. Analysis of support costs	Unrestricted	Restricted	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Management	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Human Resources	-	-	-	-
Governance	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

8. Net income/expenditure for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting)

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation of Fixed Assets	4,325	5,770
Accountancy Fees	900	800
Staff Pension Contributions	3,839	1,810
	<u>3,839</u>	<u>1,810</u>

9. Staff costs

Total staff costs for the year ended 31 March 2024 were

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries and Wages	222,754	207,172
Social security costs	14,575	11,940
Pension Costs	3,281	1,810
	<u>240,611</u>	<u>220,922</u>

The number of staff employed during the year was:

Programme Staff	13	12
Support Staff	3	3
	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

10. Comparative Statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2023 £	2022 £
Income and Endowments From				
Donations and Legacies	44,692	410,788	455,480	213,542
Charitable Activities	44,541	7,311	51,852	27,703
Other Trading Activities	945	173	1,118	1,822
Total Incoming Resources	<u>90,178</u>	<u>418,272</u>	<u>508,450</u>	<u>243,067</u>
Expenditure on:				
Raising Funds			-	-
Charitable Activities	87,321	340,801	428,122	242,579
Total Resources Expended	<u>87,321</u>	<u>340,801</u>	<u>428,122</u>	<u>242,579</u>
Net Expenditure for the Year	2,857	77,471	80,328	488
net movement in funds	<u>2,857</u>	<u>77,471</u>	<u>80,328</u>	<u>488</u>
Fund Balances 1 April 2022	18,661	58,784	77,445	76,957
Fund Balances 31 March 2023	<u>21,518</u>	<u>136,255</u>	<u>157,773</u>	<u>77,445</u>

11. Fixed Assets

	Land and Buildings £	Fixtures and Fittings £	Total £
COST or VALUATION			
At 1 April 2023	44,688	50,232	94,921
Additions		-	-
Disposals			-
At 31 March 2024	<u>44,688</u>	<u>50,232</u>	<u>94,921</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2022	44,688	32,924	77,613
Charge for year		4,325	4,325
On Disposals			-
At 31 March 2024	<u>44,688</u>	<u>37,249</u>	<u>81,938</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2024	-	12,983	12,983
At 31 March 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>17,308</u>	<u>17,308</u>

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

12. Debtors	2024	2023
Amounts due within one year	£	£
Other debtors	37,455	5,608
13. Creditors	2024	2023
	£	£
Other creditors	3,334	25,134
Accruals	2,314	3,054
Deferred restricted income	7,500	24,000
	13,148	52,188

Deferred Income relates to restricted funds received to cover future admin staff costs.

14. Restricted Fund Movements

	01/04/2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Advice Service	35,579	24,329	53,216		6,692
Admin and CEO	73	89,250	80,540		8,783
Children and Families	-	21,643	21,546		97
Football Academy	1,243	4,242	8,253	2,768	1
Seniors	4,859	6,150	11,221	212	0
Poverty Response/Foodbank	67,023	30,092	72,721		24,393
Complex Needs	-	37,650	37,452		198
Garden Café	27,478	36,150	39,313		24,315
	136,255	249,505	324,262	2,980	64,478

- prior year

	01/04/2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Advice Service	20,876	102,546	87,843		35,579
Admin and CEO	20,000	25,600	45,527		73
Children and Families	0	27,428	27,429		-
Football Academy	-	7,331	6,087		1,243
Seniors	7,388	18,982	21,511		4,859
Poverty Response/Foodbank	5,211	124,943	63,131		67,023
Community Work	2,897	19,063	21,960		-
Garden Café	2,412	92,379	67,313		27,478
	58,784	418,272	340,801		136,255

Advice service: Funds to provide practical advice to parishoners
CEO: Grant to cover employment costs of CEO
Children and Families: To provide activities and services for children and their families in the community.
Seniors: To provide activities and services for older members of the community
Foodbank: To provide food for members of the community in urgent need
Football academy: To provide training in football for children and young people in the community
Complex Needs: To provide services to nurture members of the community with complex needs.
Administration: To support the general running of the organisation
Garden Café: To provide a community café facility within the community
Transfers: were made from General funds to support the activities in the Football academy and the Seniors project

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

15 Unrestricted fund movements

	01/04/2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2024
	£	£	£		£
General funds					
Garden Café	-	4,191	4,147	-	44
Children and families	-	33,052	38,162	5,110	-
Seniors	329			-	212
General	21,189	44,394	34,381	(7,878)	23,325
	<u>21,518</u>	<u>81,637</u>	<u>76,690</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,980</u>
					<u>23,486</u>

-Prior Year

	01/04/2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2023
	£	£	£		£
Garden Café	-	26,341	26,341	-	-
Children and families	-	23,416	25,787	2,370	-
Seniors	316	405	392		329
General	18,345	40,015	34,801	(2,370)	21,189
	<u>18,661</u>	<u>90,178</u>	<u>87,321</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,518</u>

Garden Café: To provide finance for activities within the Garden Café

Children and Families: To provide activities and services for children and their families in the community.

Seniors: To provide activities and services for older members of the community

General: Free reserves for the charities overall objectives.

Transfers: In 23/24 transfers were made from Unrestricted General funds to support the Football academy

16. Analysis of net assets between funds as at 31 March 2024

	Fixed	Current Assets	Creditors	Net Assets
	£	£	£	£
-Current year				
Unrestricted	2,533	26,601	5,648	23,486
Designated	-	-	-	-
Restricted	10,450	54,028	-	64,478
	<u>12,983</u>	<u>80,628</u>	<u>5,648</u>	<u>87,963</u>
- Prior year				
Unrestricted	6,858	18,848	4,188	21,518
Designated	-	-	-	-
Restricted	10,450	125,805	-	136,255
	<u>17,308</u>	<u>144,653</u>	<u>4,188</u>	<u>157,773</u>

17. Company limited by guarantee

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have a share capital. The liability of each member on the winding up of the company is limited to £1.

18. Detailed Fund Schedules

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Closing balance	Deferred Income	Accrued Income
ADVICE							
Fastrack Funding	10,860	-	8,170		2,689.90		
Financial Inclusion Grant	4,601	8,222	33,814	20,991	-		8222
GLA Grant	2,566	11,704	11,129		3,141.02		
Restricted	17,552	4,403	103	(20,991)	860.37		
Unrestricted	-	-	-	-	-		
	35,578	24,329	53,216	-	6,691.29		
ADMIN and CEO							
Restricted	-	7,350	7,350		0.47		
Garfield Weston Grant	38	12,600	12,638		-	0	
Henry Smith Grant	35	58,000	53,095		4,939.63	0	
National lottery	-	11,300	7,457		3,843.20		11300
Unrestricted	21,189	44,394	34,381	(7,878)	23,324.18		1575
	21,262	133,644	114,920	(7,878)	47,864.10	-	
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES							
Awards for All Children	750	-	750		-		
Trusthouse Grant	1,762	10,000	9,161		2,601.22		
Charles ffrench		4,000	3,992		7.53		
Restricted	-	7,643	7,643		-		
Unrestricted	-	33,052	38,162	5,110	-		
	2,512	54,695	59,709	5,110	2,608.30		
FOOTBALL ACADEMY							
Football	1,243	4,242	8,253	2,768	-		
	1,243	4,242	8,253	2,768	(5,535.33)		
SENIORS							
London Community Foundation	4,859	-	4,859		-		
Warm Haven Grant Community Meal	-	6,040	6,309	269	(0.04)		
Restricted	-	110	52	(57)	-		
Unrestricted	329	-	-	(212)	117.00		
	5,188	6,150	11,221	-	116.96		
POVERTY RESPONSE							
Container & Storage Grants	35,299	-	35,299		-		
East End Foundation		1,000	1,000		-		
Essex Community Foundation	6,396	2,500	8,896		-		
Julia and Hans Rausing Grant	3,989	-	3,916		72.96		
Strategic Resources Grant	9,942	12,960	12,762		10,139.97		
Restricted Donations and Gifts in	9,502	13,632	10,849		12,284.69		
	65,127	30,092	72,721	-	22,497.62		
COMMUNITY WORK							
Community Assemblies Gardening (22/23)	-	-	-		-		
Community Assemblies Youth Cafe (21/22)	-	-	-		-		
Restricted	-	-	-		-		
	-	-	-	-	-		
COMPLEX NEEDS							
Supported Volunteering	13,842	-	10,988		2,853.86		
Restricted			-		-		
City Bridge Trust		35,750	26,465		9,285.35		10750
Joseph RANK						7500	
LBN Warm Havens		1,900	-		1,900.00		
	13,842	37,650	37,452	-	14,039		
GARDEN CAFÉ							
Awards for All Youth Cafe	3,539	-	3,539		-		
Fight for Peace Grant Youth Cafe	-	-	-		-		
Royal Docks Trust Cafe	9,481	25,000	24,623		9,857.97		
Supported Volunteering	-	-	-		-		
Felsted School Mission (The Youth)		4,000	4,000		-		
Jack Petchey Found (The Youth)		900	900		-		
London Over The Border(The Youth)		5,000	5,000		-		
Restricted	-	1,250	1,250		-		
Unrestricted	-	4,191	4,147		43.51		
	13,020	40,341	43,460	-	9,901.48		
TOTAL	157,773	331,141	400,951	(0)	84,144.42	7500	31847
TOTAL Unrestricted	21,518	81,637	76,690	(2,980)	23,484.69		1575
TOTAL Restricted	136,255	249,505	324,261	2,980	60,659.73	7500	30272

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1091887

Accounts

Ascension Community Trust
Charity Reg number 1091887
Company registered in England and Wales
Company Number 04184090

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST
Directors Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Contents of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023

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Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Companies House Reg Number 04184090
General Information
for the year ended 31 March 2023

Principal Address
Ascension Community Trust
Ascension Church Centre
Baxter Road
Custom House
London
E16 3HJ

Director/Trustees.
Rev'd D Chesney
N J Copsey
C G Crombie
A MacDonald
F Johnson
MGJ Yeatts
Secretary
P H Beaufriere

Independent Examiners
Brian Dexter ACMA
A Thousand Hills Limited
172 Sandford Road
East Ham
LONDON
E6 3PX

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Trustees Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2023. The Trustees have adopted and followed the provisions of "Accounting and Reporting for Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland" (FRS102, effective 1 January 2019).

This last financial year has been a one of new opportunities alongside challenges. Following two years marked by the unpredictability and disruption caused by the Covid pandemic we have sought to build on the hard work done in response. Whilst as an organisation we experience the strain this brought there have also been unexpected benefits. In particular, our ability to adapt and draw upon our strong local connections in the area has brought greater recognition to our work from the council and Trussell Trust which has enhanced the way in which we can seek to make an impact as a charity.

At the end of March 2023, after over 15 years with the organisation, Hannah will be leaving Ascension Community Trust. She has decided now is the right time to move on and for a new person to lead the next stage of the organisation. We had a very successful recruitment campaign and our new CEO has a wealth of experience and is due to start in the new financial year.

Structure and Governance

Ascension Community Trust is governed under the terms of its trust deed signed on 21 December 1997 and amended on 25th July 2003. Its trustees meet a minimum of six times a year to manage the activities of the trust.

Charitable Objectives

Five Year Objectives (Set in January 2018)

- Reduce Isolation and loneliness amongst the elderly
- To improve the health and wellbeing of the local community, with a focus on mental health.
- To reduce the vulnerability of struggling families.
- To integrate the community through community spaces, social activities and volunteering.
- To improve the education of local young people through the provision of activities, including sport.
- To improve individual's own ability to address their issues by providing advice and support for money, benefits and employment.

Aims and Objectives

In the last report we set these objectives, information on the performance of each is included.

• To increase the number of elderly people we are engaging with on a regular basis

During the year we decided to pilot a new project to both aim to engage with more older people and support residents facing challenges due to the cost of living crises. We became part of Newham Council's "Warm Havens" scheme and have provided a warm space, free hot meal with wraparound support once a week. We have named this community meal and opened it up to all ages, but running during the day we aimed to attract older people who wouldn't necessarily attend an "older person's project", but due to retirement are looking for activities during the day. This has been successful and we are engaging with many more older people on a regular basis than we were. We will seek to clarify the future of the project in the next financial year.

• Make the organisation structure better fit for purpose

The organisation has gone through a significant structural change. We now have additional staff time towards the infrastructure of the organisation, including administration, marketing and fundraising. This was previously all done by the CEO. We have also created a Senior Leadership Team, who are have a responsibility towards the overall success of the organisation in addition to their own projects, this includes safeguarding lead, marketing, reporting, networking and more. These staff are now more involved in the decision making of the organisation at a strategic level and will support during the interim between Hannah leaving and the new CEO starting.

• Improve marketing and communications across the organisation and develop a new strategy. Improve the evaluation and monitoring of projects.

Following a review of the structure of the organisation and the skills gaps we introduced a new role to the organisation of a marketing and communications manager. Following a successful funding bid to Garfield Weston, one of our current staff stepped back from other responsibilities to take on this new role two days a week. They have written a new marketing and communications strategy for the organisation and are pulling together information to produce an annual impact report to be distributed in the next financial year. This post also includes the role of improving the monitoring of the organisation and plans are in place to improve how impact is recorded across all projects.

...continued

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Trustees Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

•To improve sustainability through an increase of individual donors to the charity.

There have been excellent developments with this. For the year ended March 2020 our donations were £2,995 in total, increased to £7,602 for year end March 21, £11,049 for year end March 22, and finally 30,307 for year end March 2023. This has both increased our reserves, putting the organisation in a more stable financial position and given us more flexibility as an organisation.

•Improve the self-sustainability of the Café through various methods

We have not been so successful in this aim, though our income has increased as a result of no Covid-19 lockdowns in the past year. In thinking strategically about the café, we decided that our charitable aims will always be in competition with profit. To be truly profitable this would come at a detriment to our charitable objects. Instead, we have decided to more heavily rely on grants, but in doing so put more of our effort into achieving our charitable aims. This in turn may attract more interest in the café and could improve the longer-term sustainability, but it is not a direct aim.

Public Benefit Statement

Ascension Community Trust is achieving public benefit through the delivery of services to those in need in the London Borough of Newham. Services include provision of food, activities, advice and training for some of the most vulnerable in Newham.

Achievements and Performance

Ascension Seniors

ACT continued to provide weekly social activities for older people alongside pilates classes. This has included coffee mornings and lunch. Our work with older people in Custom House has faced the most challenges in light of the pandemic. These are not unique to our organisation, partners also report experiencing difficulties with sustaining attendance and engagement; with the elderly disproportionately impacted by Covid in terms of poor health and exposure to risk. Our lunch club was notably affected by this, with a large number of service users still cautious about socialising and mixing in public places.

Working with Stay Well, (a borough-wide initiative of partnership working between different organisations engaged with older people) Ascension Community Trust is exploring new ways of supporting older people in light of changing circumstances. We are currently supporting the development of the network and bringing together all organisations in Newham that work with older people. This peer knowledge and research of what services are currently available in Newham should also help Ascension Community Trust to identify the future of our work with older people.

Complex Needs

Our gardening project has continued, with the Ascension Seniors Project Manager and Complex Needs Project manager working on this together over the year. As well as offering a gardening session for local residents, we have partnered with the local specialist school for children with autism to offer them a weekly session doing gardening. This has been very impactful, with many of the young people learning new skills and developing in their abilities.

Our latest project for those with complex needs is an arts and crafts club for cared-for adults. This work grew out of existing relationships where the cafe is often visited by such adults and their carers as a flexible and welcoming space. Particularly following the pandemic, there was a need for activities for adults with complex needs which reduce isolation and increase self-confidence and interaction with others in a supported manner. Through varied and inclusive creative activities attendees have been offered projects which promote self-expression, and reduce anxiety and stress levels. Many completed art and crafts activities have been taken home by attendees with other displayed in the cafe increasing recognition and celebration of the group. Additionally, this project has offered respite to those in a caring role whereby they can observe (and participate if desired) without having the full pressure of caring responsibilities. We are excited to build upon what has already been achieved as well as connect with others trying to achieve similar goals. We also welcome the opportunity to access further support and training which may enhance our delivery.

...continued

Garden Community Café

The Garden Community Cafe has continued to offer a warm welcome to local residents as a 'one-stop' community hub. Alongside affordable meals and a safe space for gathering the cafe has offered supported work placements to young people and adults with complex needs. New 'supported volunteers' have started this year, working in the cafe with the aid of a key worker to develop in hospitality and customer service skills in a manner tailored to their individual needs. In running this project we have established a strong working partnership with a local specialist school for young people with complex needs. This has led to two students starting with us and working between parents/carers, the school and our team with the aim of gaining support and skills which will increase employability as well as foster personal development.

Our Youth Cafe (operating in after school hours) has gone from a successful pilot into becoming an established part of our provision. It provides a meaningful range of activities which occupy young people just at the time when there is the greatest need for engagement. Most recently some attendees have started to gain voluntary experience through delivering fun activities for younger children at our after school club.

Children's Work (including Ascension Football Academy)

The after school club team has worked hard to overcome the prior disruption of the pandemic and has been networking with local schools to increase attendance. We now have partnerships with three local primary schools and over the year have more than doubled in attendance. The service has a child-centred approach, respecting the individual needs of each child, with both children and their parents/carers will be encouraged to participate in the decision making. This year activities have included sessions in our community garden space as well as trips to the local library.

Over the summer, we ran three weeks of activities for children. We had 110 children in total attend over the three weeks, which includes 15 children that attended for free because of their family's difficult financial situation, in particular families accessing our foodbank. All children attending the summer scheme were provided with hot lunches and fun activities. As well as our usual sports, crafts, cooking, gardening and team games, we were once again able to take the children on a trip each week. This was the first trip since Covid and it was the highlight of the week for many of those who came. We took them to Greenwich Park, by the cable car and Mudchute Farm. Despite the close proximity of these places, for many of the children attending this was their first time visiting these

Foodbank

The foodbank has grown significantly and we now have more people accessing our services and more organisations registered as referral agencies. A new manager to oversee both the advice service and foodbank started in August and has done a great job of overseeing this work, supporting people and making the project sustainable. Because of the foodbank we've had a drastic increase in donations from individuals and corporates and our new manager is working hard to maintain good relationships with a variety of corporates. The foodbank will be set up as its own registered charity in the next financial year and three local organisations are interested in partnering with us in this and becoming local distribution centres.

Advice Service

Our advice service has continued to support residents during a time of growing pressures related to the cost of living. The team has worked cohesively to examine the needs presented by attendees and to secure or refer them to the appropriate help. Key to this has been our triage role which quickly maps out the highest priority issues for clients before agreeing a course of actions as to which other advisor or agency to work with. This has created a joined-up way of working with our food bank, a project which is understandably attended by a number of people experiencing issues which benefit from advice. Alongside this we have also been working in partnership with four other Newham Advice Providers: RAMFEL, Community Links, Mary Ward Legal and Citizens Advice East End to create the Newham Advice Partnership.

...continued

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Trustees Report
for the year ended 31 March 2023

We want to take this opportunity to thank of all of the people who have volunteered their time to make the work of Ascension Community Trust possible. We also want to thank the organisations that have funded our work over the past year. They are:

Ascension Church Centre
Aston Mansfield
Charles French Charitable Trust
City Bridge Trust
Douglas Allen
Felsted School Mission Council
Fight for Peace
Garfield Weston
Greater London Authority
Henry Smith Foundation
Hydrock Consulting
Jack Petchey Foundation
Joseph Rank Trust
Julia and Hans Rausing Trust
Kam Project Consulting
London Borough of Newham
London Catalyst
London City Airport
Marks and Spencer
Metro Demo
National Lottery Community Fund
Rame Consulting Ltd
The Invesco Cares Foundation
The Neighbourly Foundation
Tove Valley Baptist Fellowship
Trussell Trust
Trusthouse Charitable Foundation
Waitrose
Westbridge Hotel
Plus, the many individuals and companies that have donated money or food for the foodbank.

Risk, Reserves and Financial review

Income for the year was £531,500 (2022: £243,067) of which £90,178 (2022: £46,508) was unrestricted. Expenditure for the year was £427,172 (2022: £242,579) of which £87,321 (2022: £44,735) was from unrestricted funds

Ascension Community Trust's reserves policy is that between £18,000 and £25,000 will be held in free reserves. This amount is based on a detailed calculation of the amount needed in the eventuality of unexpected events requiring a smooth closure of the charity, over three months, including redundancy payments, and to mitigate any financial risks. This figure is monitored and reviewed by the board of trustees on an annual basis. At 31 March 2022 Ascension Community trust had funds of £181,773 (2022: £77,445). Of these £160,255 (2022: £58,784) was restricted funds. The total amount of free reserves held is therefore £21,518 .

This level is within our reserves policy target range, therefore the trustees are satisfied with this reserves level.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

C G Crombie

Dated

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees.
for the year ended 31 March 2023

To the Trustees.

I report on the Financial Statements of the Charitable company for the year ended 31st March 2023 which are set out in the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011, "the 2011 Act", and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;

To follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and

To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you 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 matter has come to my attention:

Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

To keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the companies Act 2006; and

To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the SORP (FRS102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2015.

have not been met; or

To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

BJ. Dexter

Brian Dexter ACMA
A Thousand Hills Limited
172 Sandford Road
East Ham
London

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Income and Endowments From				
Donations and Legacies	44,692	410,788	455,480	213,542
Charitable Activities	44,541	7,311	51,852	27,703
Other Trading Activities	945	173	1,118	1,822
Total Incoming Resources	<u>90,178</u>	<u>418,272</u>	<u>508,450</u>	<u>243,067</u>
Expenditure on:				
Raising Funds	-	-	-	-
Charitable Activities	87,321	340,801	428,122	242,579
Total Resources Expended	<u>87,321</u>	<u>340,801</u>	<u>428,122</u>	<u>242,579</u>
Net Expenditure for the Year	2,857	77,471	80,328	488
net surplus/(deficit)	<u>2,857</u>	<u>77,471</u>	<u>80,328</u>	<u>488</u>
Fund Balances 1 April 2022	18,661	58,784	77,445	76,957
Fund Balances 31 March 2023	<u>21,518</u>	<u>136,255</u>	<u>157,773</u>	<u>77,445</u>

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Statement of Financial Position
as at 31st March 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Assets	6,858	10,450	17,308	6,858
Current Assets				
Debtors	1,449	4,158	5,607	9,345
Cash at bank and in hand	17,399	145,647	163,046	62,588
Total Current Assets	18,848	149,805	168,653	71,933
Creditors: Amounts due within one	4,188	24,000	28,188	1,346
Net Current Assets	<u>14,660</u>	<u>125,805</u>	<u>140,465</u>	<u>70,587</u>
Creditors due after more than one year	-	-	-	-
Net Assets	<u><u>21,518</u></u>	<u><u>136,255</u></u>	<u><u>157,773</u></u>	<u><u>77,445</u></u>
Funds				
Unrestricted Funds	21,518		21,518	18,661
Restricted Funds		136,255	136,255	58,784
Total Funds	<u><u>21,518</u></u>	<u><u>136,255</u></u>	<u><u>157,773</u></u>	<u><u>77,445</u></u>

For the year ended 31 March 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476, and there is no mandatory audit requirement in the charity's governing documents.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small company regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board and signed on its behalf by C G Crombie.

Signed _____ on _____
Title date

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention, except for investments which are included at market value and the revaluation of certain fixed assets in accordance with the Charities SORP Accounting and Reporting for Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland" (FRS102, effective 1 January 2019).

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

Statement of cash flows

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 from including a statement of cash flows in the financial statements on the grounds that the charitable company qualifies as a small company.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift Aid is recognised when the donation to which it relates is received.

Gifts in Kind and pro-bono services are included in income as donations at a sum equal to their market value or the value to the charity. An equivalent sum is added to resources expenditure under the appropriate category.

Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended when there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, are stated at cost or valuation less depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is charged over the lifetime of the asset at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of the fixed asset over their expected useful lives.

The following specific rates apply:

Land and Buildings (Leasehold)	Straight line over the life of the lease
Plant and machinery:	25% Reducing balance

Irrecoverable VAT

VAT, to the extent that it cannot be recovered, is included in the Statement of Financial Activities as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

2. Income from Donations and Legacies	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
Donations received	7,370	22,937	30,307	11,049
Grants received	32,322	354,351	386,653	177,197
HMRC Employers allowance	5,000	-	5,000	4,000
Gifts In Kind	-	33,500	33,500	18,629
	<u>44,692</u>	<u>410,788</u>	<u>455,460</u>	<u>210,875</u>

3. Income from charitable activities	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
Ascension Football Academy	-	7,311	7,311	-
Seniors activities	405	-	405	436
Café income	20,719	-	20,719	14,566
Children and family activities	23,417	-	23,417	12,701
	<u>44,541</u>	<u>7,311</u>	<u>51,852</u>	<u>27,703</u>

4. Income from other activities	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
Catering	576	-	576	895
Other activities for generating funds	369	173	542	174
	<u>945</u>	<u>173</u>	<u>1,118</u>	<u>1,069</u>

5. Expenditure on generating funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
Support Costs	-	-	-	-
Shop costs	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

6. Cost of charitable activities	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
Seniors Project	392	21,511	21,903	14,938
Community Work	-	21,960	21,960	33,635
Café	26,341	67,313	93,654	50,745
Children and Families	25,787	27,429	53,216	43,263
Football Academy	-	6,087	6,087	-
Food Bank	-	63,131	63,131	23,403
Advice service	-	87,843	87,843	29,530
Admin and CEO	34,801	45,527	80,328	47,064
Total	<u>87,321</u>	<u>340,801</u>	<u>428,122</u>	<u>242,579</u>

Note. The costs above include the value of gifts in kind used by the charity in the period:

Children and Families - Hall hire for Afterschool club	£ 3,750
Seniors - Venue hire for elders sessions	£ 1,000
Foodbank - Value of donated food	£ 28,750

These have all been included as coming from restricted funds

7. Analysis of support costs	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2023 Total	2022 Total
	£	£	£	£
Management	-	-	-	-
Human Resources	-	-	-	-
Governance	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

8. Net income/expenditure for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting)

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation of Fixed Assets	5,770	2,285
Accountancy Fees	800	1,000
Staff Pension Contributions	1,810	1,099
	<u>1,810</u>	<u>1,099</u>

9. Staff costs

Total staff costs for the year ended 31 March 2023 were

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries and Wages	207,172	136,913
Social security costs	11,940	6,997
Pension Costs	1,810	1,099
	<u>220,922</u>	<u>145,009</u>

The number of staff employed during the year was:

Programme Staff	12	9
Support Staff	3	2
	<u>15</u>	<u>11</u>

10. Comparative Statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Income and Endowments From				
Donations and Legacies	17,907	195,635	213,542	196,256
Charitable Activities	27,703	-	27,703	2,796
Other Trading Activities	895	927	1,822	2,508
Total Incoming Resources	<u>46,505</u>	<u>196,562</u>	<u>243,067</u>	<u>201,560</u>
Expenditure on:				
Raising Funds	-	-	-	17,040
Charitable Activities	44,735	197,844	242,579	184,328
Total Resources Expended	<u>44,735</u>	<u>197,844</u>	<u>242,579</u>	<u>201,368</u>
Net Expenditure for the Year	1,770	(1,282)	488	192
net movement in funds	<u>1,770</u>	<u>(1,282)</u>	<u>488</u>	<u>192</u>
Fund Balances 1 April 2021	16,891	60,066	76,957	76,765
Fund Balances 31 March 2022	<u>18,661</u>	<u>58,784</u>	<u>77,445</u>	<u>76,957</u>

11. Fixed Assets

	Land and Buildings £	Fixtures and Fittings £	Total £
COST or VALUATION			
At 1 April 2022	44,688	34,012	78,700
Additions		16,220	16,220
Disposals			-
At 31 March 2023	<u>44,688</u>	<u>50,232</u>	<u>94,920</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2022	44,688	27,154	71,842
Charge for year		5,770	5,770
On Disposals			-
At 31 March 2023	<u>44,688</u>	<u>32,924</u>	<u>77,612</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>17,308</u>	<u>17,308</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>0</u>	<u>6,858</u>	<u>6,858</u>

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

12. Debtors		2023	2022
	Amounts due within one year	£	£
	Other debtors	5,608	9,345

13. Creditors		2023	2022
		£	£
- amounts due within 1 year			
	Other creditors	1,134	346
	Accruals	3,054	1,000
	Deferred restricted income	24,000	-
		28,188	1,346

Deferred Income relates to restricted funds received to cover future admin staff costs.

14. Restricted Fund Movements

	01/04/2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Advice Service	20,876	102,546	87,843		35,579
Admin and CEO	20,000	25,600	45,527		73
Children and Families	0	27,095	27,429		(333)
Football Academy	-	7,331	6,087		1,243
Seniors	7,388	18,982	21,511		4,859
Poverty Response/Foodbank	5,211	124,943	63,131		67,023
Community Work	2,897	19,063	21,960		-
Garden Café	2,412	91,763	67,313		26,862
	58,784	417,322	340,801		135,306

- prior year

	01/04/2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Advice Service	5,956	44,450	29,530		20,876
CEO	23,327	32,021	35,349		20,000
Children and Families	11,652	15,613	27,264		0
Seniors	10,249	11,957	14,818		7,388
Foodbank	6,380	22,234	23,403		5,211
Community Work	-	36,532	33,635		2,897
Garden Café	2,502	33,755	33,845		2,412
	60,066	196,562	197,844		58,784

- Advice service:** Funds to provide practical advice to parishoners
- CEO:** Grant to cover employment costs of CEO
- Children and Families:** To provide activities and services for children and their families in the community.
- Seniors:** To provide activities and services for older members of the community
- Foodbank:** To provide food for members of the community in urgent need
- Football academy:** To provide training in football for children and young people in the community
- Community work:** To provide activities and services to support members of the community
- Administration:** To support the general running of the organisation
- Garden Café:** To provide a community café facility within the community

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023

15 Unrestricted fund movements

	01/04/2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2023
	£	£	£		£
General funds					
Garden Café	-	26,341	26,341	-	-
Children and families	-	23,416	25,787	2,370	-
Seniors	316	405	392		329
General	18,345	40,015	34,801	(2,370)	21,189
	<u>18,661</u>	<u>90,178</u>	<u>87,321</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,518</u>
 -Prior Year					
	01/04/2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	44,651
	£	£	£		£
Garden Café	- 2,834	18,128	16,900	1,606	-
Children and families	-	12,701	15,999	3,298	-
Seniors	-	436	120		316
General	19,725	15,240	11,716	(4,904)	18,345
	<u>16,891</u>	<u>46,505</u>	<u>44,735</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,661</u>

Garden Café: To provide finance for activities within the Garden Café

Children and Families: To provide activities and services for children and their families in the community.

Seniors: To provide activities and services for older members of the community

General: Free reserves for the charities overall objectives.

Transfers: In 2022/23 a transfer was made from general unrestricted funds to cover a deficit in the children and families fund.

In 2021/22 transfers were made from general unrestricted funds to cover a deficit in the cafe and children and families funds.

16. Analysis of net assets between funds as at 31 March 2023

	Fixed assets	Current Assets	Creditors	Net Assets
	£	£	£	£
-Current year				
Unrestricted	6,858	18,848	4,188	21,518
Designated	-	-	-	-
Restricted	10,450	125,805	-	136,255
	<u>17,308</u>	<u>144,653</u>	<u>4,188</u>	<u>157,773</u>
 - Prior year				
	Fixed assets	Current Assets	Creditors	Net Assets
Unrestricted	6,858	11,807	1,346	17,319
Designated	-	-	-	-
Restricted	-	60,126	-	60,126
	<u>6,858</u>	<u>71,933</u>	<u>1,346</u>	<u>77,445</u>

17. Company limited by guarantee

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have a share capital.

The liability of each member on the winding up of the company is limited to £1.

18. Detailed Fund Schedules

Fund	Opening balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Closing balance	Deferred Income
ADVICE						
Fasttrack Funding		44,796	33,936		10,860.00	
Financial Inclusion Grant		43,740	39,139		4,600.93	
GLA Grant		11,594	9,028		2,565.70	
Restricted	20,876	2,416	5,740		17,551.74	
Unrestricted	-	-	-	-	-	-
	20,876	102,546	87,843	-	35,578.37	
ADMIN and CEO						
Restricted	20,000	2,100	22,100		-	
Garfield Weston Grant		12,400	12,362		37.88	12600
Henry Smith Grant		11,100	11,065		34.95	11400
Unrestricted	18,345	40,015	34,801	2,370	21,189.31	
	38,345	65,615	80,328	2,370	21,262.61	24,000
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES						
Awards for All Children		10,000	9,250		750.00	
Trusthouse Grant		10,000	8,238		1,762.00	
Restricted	-	8,045	8,045		-	
Unrestricted	-	23,416	25,787	(2,370)	-	
	-	51,461	51,320	(2,370)	2,511.36	
FOOTBALL ACADEMY						
Football		7,331	6,087		1,243.33	
	-	7,331	6,087	-	1,243.33	
SENIORS						
London Community Foundation		8,767	3,909		4,858.41	
Warm Haven Grant Community Meal	7,388	-	7,388		-	
Restricted		10,215	10,215		-	
Unrestricted	316	405	392		328.76	
	7,704	19,387	21,903	-	5,187.81	
POVERTY RESPONSE						
Container & Storage Grants		33,886	-		33,886.00	
Essex Community Foundation		5,000	-		5,000.00	
Julia and Hans Rausing Grant		8,640	4,650		3,989.87	
Strategic Resources Grant		19,680	9,738		9,941.55	
Restricted Donations and Gifts in ki	5,211	57,737	50,638		12,309.84	
	5,211	124,943	65,026	-	65,127.26	
COMMUNITY WORK						
Community Assemblies Gardening (22/23)		4,500	4,500		-	
Community Assemblies Youth Cafe (21/22)	2,897	524	3,421		-	
Restricted		14,039	14,039		-	
	2,897	19,063	21,960	-	-	
GARDEN CAFÉ						
Awards for All Youth Cafe		7,420	7,420		-	
Fight for Peace Grant Youth Cafe		5,000	5,000		-	
Royal Docks Trust Cafe		43,725	34,244		9,480.99	
Supported Volunteering		30,500	16,658		13,841.62	
Restricted	2,412	5,118	3,991		3,539.36	
Unrestricted	-	26,341	26,341		-	
	2,412	118,104	93,655	-	26,861.97	
TOTAL	77,444	508,450	428,122	-	157,772.71	
TOTAL Unrestricted	18,661	90,178	87,321	-	21,518.07	
TOTAL Restricted	58,784	418,272	340,802	-	136,254.64	

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1091887

Accounts

Ascension Community Trust
Charity Reg number 1091887
Company registered in England and Wales
Company Number 04184090

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST
Directors Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Contents of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2022

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Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Companies House Reg Number 04184090
General Information
for the year ended 31 March 2022

Principal Address
Ascension Community Trust
Ascension Church Centre
Baxter Road
Custom House
London
E16 3HJ

Director/Trustees.
Rev'd D Chesney
N J Copsey
C G Crombie
A MacDonald
F Johnson
MGJ Yeatts
Secretary
P H Beaufriere

Independent Examiners
Brian Dexter ACMA
A Thousand Hills Limited
172 Sandford Road
East Ham
LONDON
E6 3PX

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Trustees Report
for the year ended 31 March 2022

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2022. The Trustees have adopted and followed the provisions of "Accounting and Reporting for Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland" (FRS102, effective 1 January 2019).

Structure and Governance

Ascension Community Trust is governed under the terms of its trust deed signed on 21 December 1997 and amended on 25th July 2003. Its trustees meet a minimum of six times a year to manage the activities of the trust.

Charitable Objectives

Five Year Objectives (Set in January 2018)

- Reduce Isolation and loneliness amongst the elderly
- To improve the health and wellbeing of the local community, with a focus on mental health.
- To reduce the vulnerability of struggling families.
- To integrate the community through community spaces, social activities and volunteering.
- To improve the education of local young people through the provision of activities, including sport.
- To improve individual's own ability to address their issues by providing advice and support for money, benefits and employment.

Aims and Objectives

In the last report we set objectives, and have been successful in achieving or made great progress in:

- Provide family support for those attending the foodbank and advice service.
- Ensure the long-term sustainability of the food bank through regular donations.
- To increase representation from BAME backgrounds across all aspects of the organisation so that we are more reflective of the local community.
- To secure long term funding for the advice service on the basis of demand for the currently running project

These objectives we have not been able to progress in and will continue into the next year:

- Improve the self-sustainability of the café through various methods.
- ☒ To increase the number of elderly people we are engaging with on a regular basis
- ☒ To improve sustainability through an increase of individual donors to the charity.

In addition, our aims for 2022/2023 include:

- Make the organisation structure better fit for purpose
- ☒ Improve the evaluation and monitoring of projects
- ☒ Improve marketing and communications across the whole organisation

Public Benefit Statement

Ascension Community Trust is achieving public benefit through the delivery of services to those in need in the London Borough of Newham. Services include provision of food, activities, advice and training for some of the most vulnerable in Newham. The Trustees have given due consideration to the advice given by the charity commission when selecting the services it provides.

Achievements and Performance

Impact of Covid 19

At the start of the financial year many of our regular activities were closed due to lockdown. As we were allowed to reopen activities, some had to adapt to the regulations at the time. The impact of Covid also meant fewer attendees to some of our projects and challenges due to staff and volunteer illness/requiring self-isolation.

Ascension Seniors

In the first part of the year we ran online chair based exercise classes weekly for the seniors group and provided tablets with mobile data and easy to use guides for those who didn't have a way to access these classes themselves. The on-site activities re-started in September, with a welcome back celebration, followed by weekly exercise classes and lunches. At Christmas we were able to once again run the annual Seniors Christmas Party, supported by London City Airport. The numbers of attendees to the exercise class has increased throughout the year, but the numbers for the lunches remain low. We plan to thoroughly research the needs of the older population in Newham and what support we should be providing in the course of the next year.

Complex Needs

The Complex Needs work has included the work placements provided at the Garden Community Café (detailed below) and the gardening project. The space at Ascension Church Centre has had a lot of development to start making it a therapeutic space for all who use the Centre and after a re-launch the numbers attending has increased.

Garden Community Café

The Garden Café reopened after lockdown in April 2021, however the impact of Covid and subsequent regulations has meant the numbers visiting has remained low and was slow to increase over the year. The café provided work placements to 5 individuals with complex needs, all of whom learnt at least one new life skill. We also started to implement personal development plans with each of these individuals so they can set their own targets and track progress. In October 2021 we started the "youth café", a pilot project using the café as a safe space for young people every day after school, managed by two youth workers and aiming to empower the young people. The project to date has been very successful and we secured funding for the project to continue, which we hope it will for an extended period.

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Trustees Report
for the year ended 31 March 2022

Children's (incl AFA)

The after-school club remained open throughout the year and has seen an increase in numbers. The afterschool club was attended by 23 different children, 1 of whom attended for free due to their family's financial situation. All volunteers received safeguarding training and 2 long term volunteers received pediatric first aid training. In summer 2021 we ran our annual summer scheme and Soccer School. These were both well attending and a highlight for all of the children, staff and volunteers involved. Ascension Football Academy restarted its sessions in June 2021. Of the 144 children we've engaged with through the afterschool club, summer scheme and football training, 70% of parents/carers gave feedback that they'd seen an improvement in their child's confidence, emotional well-being or independency and over 50% of the children said they had created a new connection or friendship. The family support work supported 8 families, all who had an improvement in their circumstance.

Foodbank and Advice Service

Our foodbank became part of the Trussell Trust network in June 2021 and partnered with another foodbank in Newham in March 2022. The foodbank provided 465 parcels supporting 728 adults and 498 children. Our advice service is now integrated with the foodbank and all of the attendees to the foodbank were offered an advice appointment. This has led to a large reduction in the number of individuals repeatedly coming to the foodbank, as we have been able to help address their crises.

During the year we have helped develop the Newham Advice Partnership, a network of advice organisations in Newham, who were successful in a joint bid to the Greater London Authority to provide those attending foodbanks better access to advice services.

The foodbank is in the process of being set up as an independent charity. Whilst the on-site work at Ascension will continue under Ascension Community Trust, the foodbank will expand to include other centres in Newham, overseen by one central hub independent of Ascension Community Trust, but with representation on the board. In March 2022 Bonny Downs Community Association was the second foodbank (after Ascension) to join the new Newham District Foodbank. The connection with Trussell Trust has also led to an increase in donations, both financial and of physical items. This has meant we have been able to support all those that attend.

We want to take this opportunity to thank the organisations that have funded our work over the past year. They are:

Arnold Clark Community Foundation
Ascension Church Centre
Charles French Charitable Trust
Felsted School Mission Council
Greater London Authority
Kiln Family Trust
Kilnbridge
Leathersellers
London Borough of Newham
London City Airport
National Lottery Awards for All
Neighbourly Foundation
Postcode Lottery
Riverside Group
Royal Docks Trust
The Mrs Smith and Mount Trust
Trussell Trust
Trusthouse Foundation
Tudor Trust
Plus, the many individuals and companies that have donated money or food for the foodbank.

Risk, Reserves and Financial review

Ascension Community Trust's reserves policy is that between £18,000 and £25,000 will be held in free reserves. This amount is based on a detailed calculation of the amount needed in the eventuality of unexpected events requiring a smooth closure of the charity and to mitigate any financial risks. This figure is monitored and reviewed by the board of trustees on an annual basis. Income was received in At 31 March 2021 Ascension Community trust had funds of £77,445. Of these £58,784 was restricted and £6,858 of fixed assets funds. The total amount of free reserves held is £11,803.

This level is below our reserves policy, therefore the trustees have made plans to increase this by investing in activities to raise additional free reserves. At the time of signing these financial statements the level of free reserves was back within the policy level.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees.
for the year ended 31 March 2022

To the Trustees.

I report on the Financial Statements of the Charitable company for the year ended 31st March 2022 which are set out in the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011, "the 2011 Act", and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;

To follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and

To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 you 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 matter has come to my attention:

Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

To keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and

To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the SORP (FRS102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2015.

have not been met; or

To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

BJ. Dexter

Brian Dexter ACMA
A Thousand Hills Limited
172 Sandford Road
East Ham
London
E6 3PX
Dated.....
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Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Income and Endowments From				
Donations and Legacies	17,907	195,635	213,542	196,256
Charitable Activities	27,703	-	27,703	2,796
Other Trading Activities	895	927	1,822	2,508
Total Incoming Resources	46,505	196,562	243,067	201,560
Expenditure on:				
Raising Funds	-	-	-	17,040
Charitable Activities	44,735	197,844	242,579	184,328
Total Resources Expended	44,735	197,844	242,579	201,368
Net Expenditure for the Year	1,770	(1,282)	488	192
net movement in funds	1,770	(1,282)	488	192
Fund Balances 1 April 2021	16,891	60,066	76,957	76,765
Fund Balances 31 March 2022	18,661	58,784	77,445	76,957

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Statement of Financial Position
as at 31st March 2022

Balance Sheet	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Assets	6,858	-	6,858	5,743
Current Assets				
Debtors	5,187	4,158	9,345	108
Cash at bank and in hand	6,620	55,968	62,588	73,579
Total Current Assets	11,807	60,126	71,933	73,687
Creditors: Amounts due within one year	1,346	-	1,346	2,473
Net Current Assets	<u>10,461</u>	<u>60,126</u>	<u>70,587</u>	<u>71,214</u>
Creditors due after more than one year	-	-	-	-
Net Assets	<u><u>17,319</u></u>	<u><u>60,126</u></u>	<u><u>77,445</u></u>	<u><u>76,957</u></u>
Funds				
Unrestricted Funds	18,661		18,661	16,891
Restricted Funds		58,784	58,784	60,066
	<u>18,661</u>	<u>58,784</u>	<u>77,445</u>	<u>76,957</u>

For the year ended 31 March 2022 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

-The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small company regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

Title _____ on _____ date _____

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention, except for investments which are included at market value and the revaluation of certain fixed assets in accordance with the Charities SORP Accounting and Reporting for Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland" (FRS102, effective 1 January 2019).

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

Statement of cash flows

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 from including a statement of cash flows in the financial statements on the grounds that the charitable company qualifies as a small company.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift Aid is recognised when the donation to which it relates is received.

Gifts in Kind and pro-bono services are included in income as donations at a sum equal to their market value or the value to the charity. An equivalent sum is added to resources expenditure under the appropriate category.

Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended when there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, are stated at cost or valuation less depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is charged over the lifetime of the asset at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of the fixed asset over their expected useful lives.

The following specific rates apply:

Land and Buildings (Leasehold)	Straight line over the life of the lease
Plant and machinery:	25% Reducing balance

Irrecoverable VAT

VAT, to the extent that it cannot be recovered, is included in the Statement of Financial Activities as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

2. Income from Donations and Legacies	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
Donations received	8,633	2,416	11,049	7,602
Grants received	5,274	174,590	177,197	184,547
HMRC Employers allowance	4,000	-	4,000	4,000
Gifts In Kind	-	18,629	18,629	-
Subscriptions received	-	-	-	107
	<u>17,907</u>	<u>195,635</u>	<u>210,875</u>	<u>196,256</u>

3. Income from charitable activities	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
Ascension Football academy	-	-	-	-
Seniors activities	436	-	436	42
Café income	14,566	-	14,566	-
Children and family activities	12,701	-	12,701	2,754
	<u>27,703</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,703</u>	<u>2,796</u>

4. Income from other activities	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
Catering	895	-	895	2,361
Other activities for generating funds	-	927	927	147
	<u>895</u>	<u>927</u>	<u>1,822</u>	<u>2,508</u>

5. Expenditure on generating funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
Support Costs	-	-	-	13,027
Shop costs	-	-	-	4,013
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,040</u>

6. Cost of charitable activities	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
Seniors Project	120	14,818	14,938	18,189
Community Work	-	33,635	33,635	65,379
Café	16,900	33,845	50,745	-
Children and Families	15,999	27,264	43,263	57,174
Food Bank	-	23,403	23,403	24,691
Advice service	-	29,530	29,530	14,895
Admin and CEO	11,716	35,349	47,064	-
Total	<u>44,735</u>	<u>197,844</u>	<u>242,579</u>	<u>180,328</u>

Note. The costs above include the value of gifts in kind used by the charity in the period:

Children and Families - Hall hire for Afterschool club	£ 3,000
Seniors - Venue hire for elders sessions	£ 750
Advice service - Venue hire for advice sessions	£ 1,500
Foodbank - Value of donated food	£ 13,379

These have all been included as coming from restricted funds

7. Analysis of support costs	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
Management	-	-	-	1,932
Human Resources	-	-	-	3,312
Governance	-	-	-	7,783
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,027</u>

8. Net income/expenditure for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting)

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation of Fixed Assets	2,285	1,915
Accountancy Fees	1,000	1,704
Staff Pension Contributions	<u>1,099</u>	<u>937</u>

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

9. Staff costs

Total staff costs for the year ended 31 March 2022 were

	2022	2021
	£	£
Salaries and Wages	136,913	123,113
Social security costs	6,997	5,389
Pension Costs	1,099	937
	145,009	129,439
The number of staff employed during the year was:		
Programme Staff	9	9
Support Staff	2	1
	2	1

10. Comparative Statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021 Total	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments From				
Donations and Legacies	19,759	172,497	192,256	185,538
Charitable Activities	2,796	-	2,796	9,919
Other Trading Activities	2,478	30	2,508	27,785
	-	-	-	-
Total Incoming Resources	25,033	172,527	197,560	223,242
Expenditure on:				
Raising Funds	16,577	463	17,040	64,804
Charitable Activities	-	180,328	180,328	108,132
Total Resources Expended	16,577	180,791	197,368	172,936
Net Expenditure for the Year	8,456	(8,264)	192	50,306
net movement in funds	8,456	(8,264)	192	50,306
Fund Balances 1 April 2021	8,435	68,330	76,765	26,459
Fund Balances 31 March 2022	16,891	60,066	76,957	76,765

11. Fixed Assets

	Land and Buildings	Fixtures and Fittings	Total
	£	£	£
COST or VALUATION			
At 1 April 2021	44,688	30,612	75,300
Additions		3,400	3,400
Disposals			-
At 31 March 2022	44,688	34,012	78,700
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2021	44,688	24,869	69,557
Charge for year		2,285	2,285
On Disposals			-
At 31 March 2022	44,688	27,154	71,842
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2022	-	6,858	6,858
At 31 March 2021	-	5,743	5,743

12. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Amounts due within one year		
Other debtors	9,345	108

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

13. Creditors

- amounts due within 1 year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other creditors	346	973
Accruals and deferred income	1,000	1,500
	<u>1,346</u>	<u>2,473</u>

14. Restricted Fund Movements

	01/04/2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Advice Service	5,956	44,450	29,530		20,876
Admin and CEO	23,327	32,021	35,349		20,000
Children and Families	11,652	15,613	27,264		0
Seniors	10,249	11,957	14,818		7,388
Foodbank	6,380	22,234	23,403		5,211
Community Work	-	36,532	33,635		2,897
Garden Café	2,502	33,755	33,845		2,412
	<u>60,066</u>	<u>196,562</u>	<u>197,844</u>		<u>58,784</u>

- prior year

	01/04/2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Advice Service	-	18,774	12,818		5,956
CEO	20,607	29,150	26,430		23,327
Children and Families	17,962	38,079	47,510	3,121	11,652
Seniors	8,382	17,460	15,593		10,249
Foodbank	-	27,435	21,055		6,380
Football Academy	3,178	1,297	1,354	- 3,121	-
Garden Café	18,201	40,332	56,031		2,502
	<u>68,330</u>	<u>172,527</u>	<u>180,791</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60,066</u>

Advice service: Funds to provide practical advice to parishioners

CEO: Grant to cover employment costs of CEO

Children and Families: To provide activities and services for children and their families in the community.

Seniors: To provide activities and services for older members of the community

Foodbank: To provide food for members of the community in urgent need

Football academy: To provide training in football for children and young people in the community

Community work: To provide activities and services to support members of the community

Administration: To support the general running of the organisation

Garden Café: To provide a community café facility within the community

Transfers: In 2020/21 The Football Academy fund was combined with the Children and Families to simplify accounts, because they achieve the same aims and some funding for this work is combined.

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

15 Unrestricted fund movements

	01/04/2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2022
	£	£	£		£
Designated					
General funds					
Garden Café	- 2,834	18,128	16,900	1,606	-
Children and families	-	12,701	15,999	3,298	-
Seniors	-	436	120		316
General	19,725	15,240	11,716	- 4,904	18,345
	<u>16,891</u>	<u>46,505</u>	<u>44,735</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,661</u>

	01/04/2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2021
-Prior Year					
Designated					
General reserve	5,000			- 5,000	-
General funds					
Garden Café	- 1,299	2,478	4,013	-	2,834
General	4,735	22,555	12,564	5,000	19,725
	<u>8,436</u>	<u>25,033</u>	<u>16,577</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,891</u>

General reserve: A designated fund to secure working capital

Garden Café: To provide finance for activities within the Garden Café

Seniors: To provide activities and services for older members of the community

General: Free reserves for the charities overall objectives.

Transfers: In 2021/22 the transfer was made from general unrestricted funds to cover a deficit in the cafe and children and families funds.

In 2020/21 a designated fund was previously made as an amount to be used for reserves in the case of closure of the charity, but it was decided by the trustees to keep this within the general unrestricted funds for the same purpose.

16. Analysis of net assets between funds as at 31 March 2022

	Fixed assets	Current Assets	Creditors	Net Assets
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted	6,858	11,807	1,346	17,319
Designated	-	-	-	-
Restricted	-	60,126	-	60,126
	<u>6,858</u>	<u>71,933</u>	<u>1,346</u>	<u>77,445</u>

	Fixed assets	Current Assets	Creditors	Net Assets
- Prior year				
Unrestricted	5,743	11,148		16,891
Designated	-	-	-	-
Restricted	-	60,066	-	60,066
	<u>5,743</u>	<u>71,214</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>76,957</u>

17. Company limited by guarantee

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have a share capital.

The liability of each member on the winding up of the company is limited to £1.

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1091887

Accounts

**Charity number:
1091887 Company
number: 04184090
(England and Wales)**

**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST**

Directors' Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2021

**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST Contents
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year ended 31 March 2021**

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**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST Report of the
Trustees For the
year ended 31 March 2021**

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and the financial statements for the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2021. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

**OBJECTIVES AND
ACTIVITIES Objectives
and aims**

Five Years Objectives (Set in January 2018) To reduce isolation and loneliness amongst the elderly.

To improve the health and wellbeing of the local community, with a focus on mental health. To reduce the vulnerability of struggling families.

To integrate the community through community spaces, social activities and volunteering. To improve the education of local young people through the provision of activities, including sport.

To improve individual's own ability to address their issues by providing advice and support for money, benefits and employment.

Aims for 2021/2022

We have identified these aims for the coming year:

- Provide family support for those attending the Food Bank and Advice Service.
- Ensure the long-term sustainability of the Food Bank through regular donations.
- Improve the self-sustainability of the Café through various methods.
- To increase representation from BAME backgrounds across all aspects of the organisation so that we are more reflective of the local community.

These aims have been continued from last year:

- To improve sustainability through an increase of individual donors to the charity.
- To increase the number of elderly people we are engaging with on a regular basis.
- To provide additional support for children with special educational needs through holiday play schemes.
- To secure long term funding for the advice service on the basis of demand for the currently running project.

We thank God for the opportunities we have had this last year to work within our community empowering local people and enabling them to be the best version of themselves.

The trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST Report of the
Trustees Continued For
the year ended 31 March
2021**

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND
PERFORMANCE Significant
activities**

As with other charities, COVID-19 has had a huge impact on the organisation. We have, however, been able to take pride in how quickly we were able to adapt to support the needs of the community. Additionally, the strong financial position of the charity has enabled us to continue our work in the community throughout lockdown. As well as our regular activities we have now opened a Food Bank for the local community.

Project Updates

Ascension Seniors (aka Elders)

Face-to-face Seniors activities was very limited due to government guidelines and the health conditions of those attending. During the lockdowns we made weekly phone calls to the attendees, supported them with shopping and delivered a few cooked meals. The Seniors project manager was involved in the delivery of the foodbank project which supported many of the seniors during this time.

We ran an in-person event in September 2020, where we got feedback from the Seniors about what activities they would like and what support they needed at that time. They were very keen at the time for in person activities to re-start and we attempted to relaunch the chair exercise class but were prevented from continuing due to government lockdowns. Instead, we secured funding to purchase computer tablets, create a guide on how to use zoom and delivered the tablets to the Seniors houses who had no access to a device. The chair-based Pilates classes then ran on zoom for several months, until the Seniors felt safe to come back on site following the last lockdown.

Garden Café

The café also faced many forced closures. During this financial year the café was only open from September to December 2020. Whilst we were closed, we made regular phone calls to vulnerable regular users of the café, ran a weekly online quiz night and made improvements to the café décor and furnishings. The café staff also provided a cooked meal as part of the children's summer scheme based at Ascension Church Centre for 5 weeks of the summer holidays, specifically to support families struggling to feed their children during the long summer holidays.

Children's Work including Ascension Football Academy

Our afterschool club, Young Adventurers, was forced to close for most of the financial year, only opening from September to December 2020. Despite this, the numbers attending have grown and we hope the club will soon become self-sustainable. The after school club project was very successful in supporting parents with training and employability skills. Our first volunteer secured a job directly because of the volunteering and training she had been doing with us.

Ascension Football Academy was closed for most of the financial year, bar one session in October 2020 with the plan to re-launch which was prevented due to the November 2020 lockdown. As part of the 2020 summer scheme we were able to run a football camp in partnership with Ambassadors Football.

The summer scheme 2020 was one of the highlights of the year, with 5 weeks of activities for children. Following months spent indoors with little to do, the scheme provided local children with engaging activities, time outdoors and opportunities to play with friends. Activity packs were provided to SEN children and we were able to run an Easter fun

day completely outside, adhering to government regulations.

Foodbank

In March 2020 we opened a foodbank in response to need in the local community following the Covid-19 outbreak. At the height of lockdown the foodbank was open 6 days a week, which included an emergency weekend and bank holiday delivery service in partnership with Newham Council. In February 2021 we agreed to become part of the Trussell Trust national network of foodbanks and we became the Newham District Foodbank. In this financial year we gave out a total of 1,291 food parcels to people in need.

**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST Report of the
Trustees Continued For
the year ended 31 March
2021**

Advice Service

The Advice Service continued throughout the pandemic, with staff working remotely and providing advice appointments over the phone. The Advice Service team provided an excellent service during a very challenging time for a lot of people. Many new issues around housing and benefits arose during the pandemic and the Advice Service was able to respond to these needs. The team worked remotely for the whole of the financial year.

**FINANCIAL
REVIEW**

Significant events

Principle Funding Sources

We would like to take this opportunity to recognise and thank our many volunteers, donors and funders for their continued support of Ascension Community Trust. Funders during this period include:

Ascension Church Centre
Charles S French
Charitable Trust Diocese
of Chelmsford
East End Community
Foundation Felsted
School Mission Council
London Borough of
Newham London City
Airport
National Lottery
Community Fund Royal
Docks Trust
Tesco
The Archer
Trust
The Invesco Cares
Foundation The
London Community
Foundation Tove Valley
Baptist Fellowship
Trussell Trust
Trusthouse
Charitable Trust
Tudor Trust

Reserves

Reserves Policy 2021

Ascension Community Trust's reserves policy is that £14,000 will be held in free reserves. This amount is based on a detailed calculation of the amount needed in the eventuality of unexpected events requiring a smooth closure of the charity and to mitigate any financial risks. This figure is monitored and reviewed by the board of trustees on an annual basis. At 31 March 2021 Ascension Community trust had funds of £76,957. Of these £60,066 was restricted and £5,745 was held in fixed assets (all of which are restricted funds). The total amount of free reserves held is £16,891.

This level is in line with the reserves policy.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Charity	ASCENSION COMMUNITY
Charity registration number	TRUST
Company registration	04184090
Principal address	Ascension Church Centre Baxter Road Custom House Londo n E16 3HJ

**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST Report of the
Trustees Continued For
the year ended 31 March
2021**

Trustees

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Rev'd D
Chesney Dr.
N J Copsey
C G Crombie
W J B Lake
A MacDonald
F Johnson
(Appointed: 08 September
2020)
MGJ Yeatts
(Appointed: 14 July
2020)

Secretary

P H Beaufrere

**Independent
examiners**

Willis Burnell Ltd.
Unit 3 The
Courtyard
Faversha
m Kent
ME13
0ET

Rev'd D. Chesney.....

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by

17 December 2021

**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST Independent Examiners
Report to the Trustees For the
year ended 31 March 2021**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiners statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.

Willis Burnell Ltd.
Unit 3 The
Courtyard
Parsonage Stocks
Road Faversham
Kent
ME13
0ET

17 December 2021

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and
Expenditure Account) **For the year ended**
31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestric ted funds £	Restric ted funds	2021 £	2020 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2 3	19,759 2,796	172,497 -	192,256 2,796	185,5 9,91
Charitable activities	4	2,478	30	2,508	27,785
		25,033	172,527	197,560	223,2
Other trading activities	5/ 6	(16,57	(463	(17,04	(64,80
Total	7/	(16,57	(180,318,7	(180,319,3	(108,112,9
Expenditure on:	8				
Raising funds		7)	91)	68)	36)
Charitable activities		8,456	(8,264)	19 50,306	
		8,435	68,330 2	76,765	26,459
Total		16,891	60,066	76,957	76,7

**Net
income/expenditur
e Reconciliation
of funds**

Total funds brought forward
Total funds carried forward

76,957

69,107

Registered Number :

041840

90

**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST Statement of
Financial Position**

As at 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets	13	5,745	
Tangible assets		7,658	
		<u>5,745</u>	
Current assets	14	7,658	10
Debtors		73,579	71,469
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>73,686</u>	<u>71,579</u>
		6	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(2,474)	(2,469)
Net current assets		71,212	
Total assets less current liabilities		76,957	
Net assets		76,957	
The funds of the charity			
Restricted income funds	16	60,066	68,333
Unrestricted income funds	16	16,891	
Total funds			

For the year ended 31 March 2021 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

.....

Rev'd D
Chesney
Trustee
17 December
2021

**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST Notes to the
Financial Statements For
the year ended 31 March
2021**

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investments which are included at market value and the revaluation of certain fixed assets and in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Companies Act 2006.

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST 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 note(s).

Statement of cash flows

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in SORP FRS 102 from including a cash flow statement in the financial statements on the grounds that the charitable company is small.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the Charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended when there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to the expenditure:

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, are stated at cost or valuation less depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following basis:

	Over the life of the lease			
	Straight line		25% Reducing	
	balance			
	Unrestric	ted	202	202
	£	£	£	£
Land and buildings	1,30	9,29	7,60	2,99
Plant and machinery	9	3	2	5
2. Income from donations and legacies	18,45	166,09	184,54	182,54
	<u>0</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>
	Unrestric	107	107	-
	ted			
	fun			
	ds			

Donations received

Grants received
Subscriptions
received

19,759	172,497	192,256
185,538		

**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST Notes to the Financial
Statements Continued For
the year ended 31 March 2021**

3. Income from charitable activities

	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
		2021
Unrestricted funds		
<i>Ascension Football Academy</i>	-	6,549
Income from charitable activities	4	
<i>Elders Activities</i>	2	3,370
Income from charitable activities	2,754	
<i>Children and Families</i>	<u>4</u>	<u>-</u>
Income from charitable activities	<u>4</u>	

	£	Restric ted fun ds	2021 £	2020 £
	2,361	-	2,361	26,980
4. Income earned from other activities	117	30	147	805
	<u>Unrestric ted fun ds</u>			

	Unrestric ted funds, £	Restric ted funds, £	2021 £	2020 £
Shop income	2,478	30	2,508	
Other activities for generating funds	27,785	-	-	1,720
	<u>4</u>	<u>463</u>	<u>13,027</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>4</u>		<u>7</u>	<u>34,009</u>

5. Expenditure on generating donations and legacies

Donations	12,564	463	13,027
Support costs			
	35,729		

**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST Notes to the Financial
Statements Continued For
the year ended 31 March 2021**

6. Expenditure on other trading activities	202	202
	1	0
	£	£
Unrestricted funds		
Shop costs	4,01	29,07
	<u>2</u>	5
	4,013	
	29,075	
	202	202
7. Costs of charitable activities by fund type	1	0
	£	£
Restricted funds	-	5,74
Ascension Football	18,18	3
Academy Elders	9	18,77
Activities	65,37	2
Community Work	9	53,06
Art Recovery	-	1
Children and Families	<u>57,17</u>	<u>1,61</u>
Food Bank	<u>4</u>	2
Advice Service	24,69	28,94
	1	4
	180,328	-
	<u>14,89</u>	
	108,032	202
	1	0
	£	£
8. Costs of charitable activities by activity type	-	5,74
	18,18	3
Activities undertaken directly	9	18,77
Ascension Football	65,37	2
Academy Elders	9	53,06
Activities	-	1
Community Work	<u>57,17</u>	<u>1,61</u>
Art Recovery	<u>4</u>	2
	<u>24,69</u>	28,94
Children and Families	1	4
Food Bank	14,89	-
Advice Service	5	-
	180,328	
	108,132	

**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST Notes to the Financial
Statements Continued For
the year ended 31 March 2021**

9. Analysis of support costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Management	1,93	27,51
Human Resources	2	7
Governance costs	3,31	33
	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>
	<u>7,78</u>	6,15
	3	7
	13,027	
	34,009	

10. Net income/(expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2021	2020
	£	£
	1,91	2,55
	5	3
	<u>1,70</u>	<u>1,75</u>
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	4	4
Accountancy fees	937	62
Staff pension contributions		7
	202	202
	1	0
	£	£

11. Staff costs

Total staff costs for the year ended 31 March 2021 were:

	123,11	98,07
	3	2
	<u>1,38</u>	<u>1,84</u>
	<u>9</u>	6
Salaries and wages	937	627
Social security costs	202	202
Pension costs	1	0
	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>
	125,439	
	100,545	

Support staff

**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST Notes to the Financial
Statements Continued For
the year ended 31 March 2021**

12. Comparative for the Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestric ted fun ds	Restrict ed fun ds	202 0
£	£	£	
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	11,453	174,085	185,5
Charitable activities	-	9,919	9,91
Other trading activities	27,290	(24,81	(58,64
Total	38,743	184,499	223,2
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	(33,8	(108,132,9	(108,136,7
Charitable activities	35)	44)	79)
Total	8	9,055	17,404
Net income	13,963	68,959	82,9
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward			
Total funds carried forward			

	Land and buildin gs £	Fixtures and fittings £	Tot a l
13. Tangible fixed assets			
At 01 April 2020	-	4,888	4,888
Additions	44,68	30,614	75,30
Cost or valuation	8	2	
At 31 March 2021	44,688	22,954	67,64
At 01 April 2020	-	1,915	1,915
Charge for year At 31 March 2021	44,688	24,86	69,55
Depreciation		9	7
	-	5,745	
	5,745		
	-	2,772	
Net book values	2,772		
At 31 March 2021			
At 31 March 2020			

**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST Notes to the Financial
Statements Continued For
the year ended 31 March 2021**

14. Debtors

	202	202
	1	0
	£	£
	107	107
Amounts due within one year:		
Other debtors		
	107	
	107	

15. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	202	202
	1	0
	£	£
	974	969
	1,50	1,50
Other creditors	0	0
Accruals and deferred income		
	2,474	
	2,469	

16. Movement in funds

		Incomi ng resourf ces	Outgoi ng resourf ces	Transfe rs £	Balance at 31/03/2£ 021
Unrestricted Funds	5,00 0	-	-	(5,00 0)	-
	Balance at 01/04/2020	2,478	(4,013)	-	(2,834)
	2020	22,555	(12,564)	5,000	19,725
	4 £				

Designated

General Reserve

General

Garden Cafe

General

8,435	25,033	(16,577)	-
16,891			

**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST Notes to the Financial
Statements Continued For
the year ended 31 March 2021**

Unrestricted Funds - Previous year	Balance at 01/04/ 2019	Incomi ng resourf ces	Outgoi ng resourf ces	Transfe rs £	Balanc e at 31/03/20 20
	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
<i>Designated</i>					
General Reserve	25	27,523	(29,075)	-	(1,299)
<i>General</i>	3	11,220	(10,288)	-	4,734
Garden Cafe	3,802				
General					
	9,055	38,743	(39,363)		-
	8,435				

Purpose of unrestricted Funds

Garden Cafe

To provide finance for activities within the Garden Cafe. General Reserve

To provide working capital General

To fulfill the charity's general objectives.

Restricted Funds	£	Incomi ng resourf ces	Outgoi ng resourf ces	Transfe rs £	Balanc at 31/03/20 21
	-	18,774	(12,818)	-	5,956
	Balance at 01/04/ 2020	29,150	(26,430)	3,121	23,327
	8,382	38,079	(47,510)	-	11,652
Advice Service	2	17,460	(15,590)	(3,121)	10,249
CEO	-	0	(3)	1	6,380
Children and families Elders	3,178	27,435	(21,055))	-
Activities	18,201	1,297	(1,354)	-	2,502
Foodbank		40,332	(56,031)		
Football Academy					
Garden Cafe					
	68,330	172,527	(180,791)		-

60,066

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**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST Notes to the Financial
Statements Continued For
the year ended 31 March 2021**

Restricted Funds - Previous year	Balance at £ 01/04/ 2019	Incomi ng resourc ces	Outgoi ng resourc ces	Transfe rs £	Balanc e at 31/03/20 20
	(1,219) 21	47,267	(25,441)	-	20,607
CEO	1,099	46,885	(28,944)	-	17,962
Children and families Elders	2,062	5	4	-	2
Activities	15,441	26,055	(18,772)	-	8,382
Football Academy	<u>1</u>	<u>6,859</u>	<u>(5,743)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,178</u>
Garden Cafe	<u>1</u>	<u>57,433</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,201</u>
	17,404	184,499	(133,573)	-	-
	68,330				

Purpose of restricted funds

Football Academy

To provide equipment and training resources for the Football Academy. Garden Cafe Refurbishments

To finance refurbishments to the Garden Cafe. Elders Activities

To finance a range of activities focused on older members of the community. Ascension Arts

To promote the arts within the community. Garden Cafe

To provide staffing for the Garden Cafe CEO

Provision of employment costs for CEO. Children and families

Provide facilities for families with children in the community. Advice Service

To provide practical advice to parishoners. Foodbank

To provide food for people in urgent need.

**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST Notes to the Financial
Statements Continued For
the year ended 31 March 2021**

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

	fixed assets £	Net current assets / (liabiliti es) £	Net Tangible Assets £
Unrestricted funds			
General	-	(2,834	(2,834
Garden Cafe	5,74))
General	5	13,98	19,72
<i>Designated</i>		0	5
Restricted funds			
Advice Service	-		
CEO	-	5,95	5,95
Children and	-	6	6
families Elders	-	23,32	23,32
Activities	-	7	7
Foodbank	-	11,65	11,65
Garden Cafe	5,74	21,21	26,95
	5	20,24	70,24
		9	9
Previous year			
		6,38	6,38
		2,50	0
	fixed assets £	(liabiliti es) £	Tangible Assets £
Unrestricted funds			
General	-	(1,29	(1,29
General	2,77	9)	9)
Garden Cafe	2	1,96	4,73
General		2	4
<i>Designated</i>			
General Reserve		5,00	5,00
		0	0
Restricted funds			
CEO	-		
Children and	-	20,60	20,60
families Elders	-	7	7
Activities	4,88	17,96	17,96
Football	6	69,10	26,76
Academy		78,38	58,38
Garden Cafe		2	2
		3,17	3,17
		8	8
	7,658	13,31	18,20
		5	1

**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST Notes to the Financial
Statements Continued For
the year ended 31 March 2021**

18. Company limited by guarantee

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have a share capital.

**ASCENSION COMMUNITY
TRUST Detailed Statement of
Financial Activities For the
year ended 31 March 2021**

	202 £ 1	202 £ 0
INCOME AND		
ENDOWMENT	7,60	2,99
Donations and legacies	2	5
Donations	184,54	182,54
Grants	7	3
receivable	<u>192,2</u>	<u>185,5</u>
Subscriptions	56	38
	-	6,54
Charitable activities		9
Income from charitable activities (Ascension Football Academy)	4	3,37
Income from charitable activities (Elders Activities)	2	0
Income from charitable activities (Children and Families)	<u>2,75</u>	<u>9,91</u>
	4	9
	96	-
	2,36	26,98
Other trading activities	1	0
Shop income	<u>14</u>	<u>80</u>
Income from Other activities for generating funds	2,50	27,7
	8	85
	<u>197,5</u>	<u>223,2</u>
	60	(1,72)
		0)
Total incoming	-	(29,07
resources	-	5)(1,72
EXPENDITURE	(4,01	0)
Raising donations and legacies	3)	(29,0
Donations	<u>(4,01</u>	<u>75)</u>
	3)	(5,74
Other trading activities		
Shop costs	-	3)
	(18,18	(18,77
Charitable activities		
Cost of direct charitable activity (Ascension Football Academy)	9)	2)
Cost of direct charitable activity (Elders Activities)	(65,37	(53,06
Cost of direct charitable activity (Community Work)	9) -	1)
Cost of direct charitable activity (Art Recovery)	(57,17	(1,612)
Cost of direct charitable activity (Children and Families)	4)	(28,94
	<u>(24,69</u>	<u>(108,13</u>
Cost of direct charitable activity (Food Bank) Cost of direct charitable activity (Advice	1)	2)
	(14,89	-
	5)	-

Service)

(180,328)

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This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST
Detailed Statement of Financial
Activities Continued For the
year ended 31 March 2021

SUPPORT COSTS

Management	(1,93	(27,51
Management	<u>2)</u>	<u>7)</u>
	(1,93	(27,51
Human Resources	2)	7)
Human Resources	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	(3,31	(335
	2))
Governance costs	<u>(3,31</u>	<u>(33</u>
Governance costs	2)	5)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total resources	<u>(7,78</u>	<u>(6,15</u>
expended Net	<u>3)</u>	<u>7)</u>
Income	(7,7	(6,15
	83)	7)
	(197,3	(172,9
	68)	36)
	192	50,306

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements