

Thames Valley Churches of Christ

(A company limited by guarantee)

Registered Company Number: 04767513

Registered Charity Number: 1099382

TRUSTEESREPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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Thames Valley Churches of Christ

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

TRUSTEES

Dr Jasminder Mankoo
Mr. Christopher Birtles

MINISTERS

Mr. Timothy Dannatt
Mrs. Siobhan Dannatt

COMPANY SECRETARY AND ADMINISTRATOR

Dennis Obongonyinge

REGISTERED OFFICE

137 Deepcut Bridge Road
Deepcut
Camberley
Surrey
GU16 6SD

LEGAL STATUS

Thames Valley Churches of Christ is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 16th May 2003, Registration No.04767513. Registered with the Charity Commission - Registration No 1099382

Thames Valley Churches of Christ

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 December 2020

The Trustees present their annual report and independently examined financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019

Structure, governance and management

Thames Valley Churches of Christ is a company limited by guarantee (Company Number 4767513). It is also a registered charity (Charity Number 1099382). Both registrations are in England and Wales. The organisations registered address is, 137 Deepcut Bridge Road, Deepcut, Camberley, Surrey, GU16 6SD.

Because of its 'dual status as a company and a charity, the same people serve as its company Directors and charity Trustees. A list of those serving is given on page I. In this document, the term "Trustee" is used, but this should also be taken to imply the role of "Director". Trustees meetings are held face to face at least four times per annum. The day to day administration of the charity is delegated to the "Company Secretary". The day to day "spiritual" leadership and guidance of the charity is delegated to "the Ministry leader and the women's ministry leader".

Thames Valley Churches of Christ continues to have warm links with other churches in the International Churches of Christ, in the UK and overseas. Joint events are arranged with between them from time to time. Thames Valley Churches of Christ also has similarly warm and independent links with a poverty-relief charity called HOPE worldwide and continues to encourage its members support their work.

Public benefit

The trustees have complied with the duty set out in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance by the commission. All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefit from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity by the trustees are set out in note 6 to the accounts.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of Thames Valley Churches of Christ are defined in its Articles of Association as follows:

"the advancement of the Christian religion and the relief of poverty in the United Kingdom and elsewhere throughout the world"

The main ways in which Thames Valley Churches of Christ accomplishes its objects are through:

- adult ministry (this includes prayer, teaching, preaching, counselling and evangelism)
- youth and children's ministry
- assistance to the needy and the sick

Prayer, teaching, counselling and evangelism

Thames Valley Churches of Christ continues to focus on small groups in the counties of Surrey, Hants, Berkshire, Dorset and Buckinghamshire. The charity employed a fulltime pastoral worker and a women's leader. It also continued to use the services of a teaching and worship leader on a consultancy (self-employed) contract. With the help and support of members of the congregations the Sunday worship services and mid week meetings are open to members of the wider community and visitors are welcome. All these activities aim to foster and promote the everyday application of Christ's teachings.

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Trustees' report for the year ended 31 December 2020

Youth and Children's ministry

As in previous years the charity has put resources into building an effective youth ministry for families within the congregations and their surrounding neighbourhoods. All youth and children's activities are organised with the safety and security of the children at its heart. The charity has subscribed to the services of the Churches Child Protection Advisory Service who provide an invaluable service in supporting this work. Weekly classes this year were focused on creating an encouraging environment in which children can build an understanding of God and grow in their confidence and self-esteem and develop an appreciation of the relevance and usefulness of Christ in their everyday lives. The children are encouraged to invite their friends and family along to these events.

Assisting the Needy and the Sick

As in previous years the charity aims to meet the local needs among its members and in the local community. The Charity strives to imitate Jesus concern for those in need by supporting and partnering with HOPE Worldwide (a UK registered charity). This year the charity continued to support the work of HOPE Worldwide in the UK, HOPE Worldwide in India (support for the "Village of Hope"), HOPE Worldwide in Croatia (Orphanage Programme) and HOPE Worldwide in Nepal (support for the school and community projects). As in previous and despite the Covid-19, members of the congregations are encouraged to volunteer their time and to contribute resources to support the work of HOPE Worldwide.

Achievements in the year

Like all other organisations, 2020 was a remarkable and challenging year due to covid-19 and the various Government responses to curb its spread. The small groups developed capabilities to meet weekly online and the small groups continue to thrive and grow in membership. The youth ministry continued to engage and inspire young people from within the church and the local community by using online resources.

Leaders continue to rise up in the small groups and locations and a wealth of talent that is needed for the church to continue to thrive is very encouraging.

Financial review

In overseeing the finances and administration of the charity, the Trustees wish to ensure that it complies with all relevant legislation and regulations. However, they also seek to apply a high standard of self-regulation, as they seek to imitate the standard set in the Bible by the Apostle Paul:

"We want to avoid any criticism of the way we administer this liberal gift. For we are taking pains to do what is right, not only in the eyes of the Lord but also in the eyes of men." 2 Cor 8:20-21,

Most donations are received from congregational members by standing orders..

The Trustees do not believe the charity is involved in risky activity. All necessary employers and public liability insurance policies are held and under constant review.

The organisation was in good financial health during the year ended 31 December 2020. The accumulated funds of £93,776 as at 31 December 2020 [2019: £49,341]

Thames Valley Churches of Christ

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 December 2020

Future Plans

The trustees continue to endorse "the 2020 Vision" within the international Churches of Christ family which incorporates plans including the following:

- encourage and support continued growth in our current congregations
- continue to seek new outreach and church plantings within the Thames Valley region
- continued support for the needy and the sick.

Principle risks

The Trustees periodically review and update the organisation's risk register. Two headline risks concern safeguarding, and maintaining the goodwill of church members. These risks and a summary of our mitigation plans are described as follows:

- Safeguarding the well-being of children (and vulnerable adults) in church care: the Trustees want to have (and be seen to have) the highest standards in child protection. We are informed by advice from Thirtyone:eight (formerly Churches Child Protection Advisory Service). All staff are required to attend suitable training (both on appointment and periodically thereafter), and we are expanding the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks to include all members regularly involved in such activities.
- Trust and goodwill of church members: the financial and operational continuity of the charity is intrinsically tied to the continued trust and goodwill of the church members towards the charity, its leadership and its effectiveness in carrying out its purpose. We seek to protect and strengthen that goodwill through upholding the expectation of wholehearted participation in the life of the church by all its members, healthy engagement with church leadership, and forums such as the Annual Church Meeting where questions about the church's finances and impact can be raised and addressed.

Impact of COVID-19

The 'lockdown' restrictions that came in to force in late March 2020 prevented our churches from conducting their meetings in the usual 'face to face' manner, but they quickly adapted to provide 'online' meetings, which have been very successful. Income dropped slightly compared to the year before due to members who had to reduce their giving as a result of the challenges they were facing. Expenditure reduced significantly through their being no need to rent venues for meetings, and there was less travel and other physical activity resulting in a drop in reimbursable expenses. Consequently the charity's finances saw a noticeable improvement which continued into 2021.

Conclusions

This report has demonstrated that Thames Valley Churches of Christ is accomplishing its objectives to spread the message and teachings of Jesus Christ, and to help those affected by poverty and sickness. In so doing, it is bringing benefits to wider society and community through its activities. The organisation is in a sound financial position and is well placed to build on its work in 2020.

Thames Valley Churches of Christ

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 December 2020

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year. In doing so the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make sound judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose within reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In accordance with company law, as the company's Directors, we certify that:

- so far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and
- as the Directors of the company we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to company's subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the Trustees, and signed on their behalf on 31 October 2021 by



Mr Christopher Birtles

Trustee

Independent Examiners Report

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Thames Valley Churches of Christ.

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2020 which are set out in the "The Trustees Report & Financial Statements" for year ended 31st December 2020.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and Independent Examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They 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.

It is my responsibility to

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Statement

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 the management committee concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in a full audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matters have come to my attention

1. which give me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with s.130 of the 2011 Act; or
 - to prepare accounts which accord with these accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Johanna Tebbs
(Accountant)
31st October 2021

Thames Valley Churches of Christ

Statement of Financial Activities For the year ended 31 December 2020

		2020	2020	2020	2020	2019
		Unrestrict ed funds	Restricted HOPE Worldwide Projects funds	Restricted Benevolenc e funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:						
Donations	2	179,120	24,500	20,894	224,514	258,648
Total Income		179,120	24,500	20,894	224,514	258,648
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities						
Preaching, teaching, evangelism & counselling	3	128,594			128,594	184,310
Kingdom kids & youth ministry	3	5,880			5,880	25,603
Benevolence & Missions	3	5,405	40,200		45,605	30,094
Total expenditure		139,879	40,200		180,079	240,007
Net income / (Expenditure)		39,241	(15,700)	20,894	44,435	18,641
Balances brought forward at 1 January 2020		(4,157)	27,502	25,996	49,341	30,700
Balances carried forward at 31 December 2020		35,084	11,802	46,890	93,776	49,341

There were no recognised gains and losses for the year other than those included in the Statement of Financial Activities. All activities of the charity were derived from continuing activities.

Thames Valley Churches of Christ

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets for use by the charity			3,683
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	5	34,668	39,953
Cash at bank and in hand		69,219	25,681
		103,887	65,634
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year			
	6	10,111	19,976
Net Current Assets		93,776	45,658
NET ASSETS		93,776	49,341
FUNDS			
Restricted HOPE Worldwide Projects	7	11,802	27,502
Restricted Benevolence	7	46,890	25,996
Unrestricted		35,084	(4,157)
		93,776	49,341

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.'

Approved by the Trustees, and signed on their behalf on 31st October 2021 by



Christopher Birtles

Trustee

Thames Valley Churches of Christ

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

1 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted by the Trustees in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year and in the preceding year.

a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with 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), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011. They are drawn up on the historical accounting basis. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

b) Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the conditions for receipt have been met and there is reasonable assurance of receipt and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Where a claim for repayment of income tax has or will be made, such income is grossed up for the tax recoverable.

The following specific policies are applied to categories of income:

Donations

Voluntary income is received by way of donations and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Donations to which the charity is entitled but which have not been received by the year end are included in income in the Statement of Financial Activities and shown as debtors in the balance sheet.

Tax reclaimed on monies donated under the Gift Aid scheme

Income under this category is recognised in the financial statements on the date that the underlying donation is received by the charity, where the tax reclaim is made within three months of the end of the financial year.

HOPE worldwide UK

Collections are taken up on the Sunday services of the charity on behalf of HOPE *worldwide* UK to support the work of HOPE *worldwide* UK and other HOPE *worldwide* affiliates around the world. These amounts are not included in the accounts of this charity.

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 (continued)

c) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis when a liability is incurred. Expenditure include any VAT which cannot be fully recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Expenditure on **charitable activities** comprise those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

All costs are allocated between expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Costs relating to a activity are allocated directly, others are apportioned on an appropriate basis.

d) Volunteers

The value of services provided by volunteers is not incorporated into these financial statements. Further details of the contribution made by volunteers can be found in the Trustees' report.

e) Fund accounting

The charity maintains various types of funds as follows:

Unrestricted fund

This represents unrestricted income which is expendable at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the objectives of the charity. Such funds may be held to finance both working capital and capital investment. The charity at present has no designated funds.

Restricted fund – HOPE Nepal & India Projects

This represents donations which are given by the donors for work with Hope Nepal and India Projects and are restricted to this use.

Restricted fund – Benevolence

This represents donations which are given by the donors for benevolence work within the church and local communities and are restricted to this use.

g) Tangible Fixed Assets

The charity acquired no large assets during the year. Fixed assets that cost less than £1,000 are written off in the year in the statement of financial activities.

h) Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution scheme through a registered company of investment specialists. Contributions are made on behalf of all qualifying employees who have elected to join the scheme. All required contributions during the period were accrued in accordance with the scheme's rules and charged to the Statement of Financial Activities for the year.

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 (continued)

i) VAT

The charity is exempt from VAT under HMRC registration threshold.

j) Charitable commitments

Charitable commitments which are legally binding on the Trustees are accounted for as expenditure in the Statement of financial Activities. Where the promise of financial support is not binding on the Trustees, such intentions are accounted for by a transfer to a designated reserve. Activities that are to be wholly financed from future income do not form part of such designation and are disclosed in a note to the accounts.

2 Donations

Donations represent restricted and unrestricted income donated by members of the church and visitors at midweek and Sunday meetings of the charity in its various locations and by standing order

	2020	2019
	Total	Total
	£	£
Donations	<u>224,514</u>	<u>258,648</u>

3 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Staff	Support	Direct	2020	2019
	Costs	Costs	Costs	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Direct charitable expenditure:					
Preaching, teaching, evangelism & counselling	79,560	49,034		128,594	184,310
Kingdom kids & youth ministry		5,880		5,880	25,603
Benevolence & Missions	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>45,605</u>	<u>45,605</u>	<u>30,094</u>
	79,560	54,914	45,605	180,079	240,007

Thames Valley Churches of Christ

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 (continued)

Support costs comprise the following:

	Preaching, teaching, evangelism & counselling	Kingdom kids & youth ministry	Benevolence and missions	Total
	£	£	£	£
Hall hire	4,559			4,559
Insurance & finance charges	869			869
IT & Office costs	4,756			4,756
London group support	23			23
Administration costs	7,200			7,200
Church supplies	121			121
Freelance contractor	29,759			29,759
Kids kingdom/Youth ministry supplies		5,880		5,880
Pastoral care	1,747			1,747
	49,034	5,880	0	59,914

4 Employees & trustees

	2019	2019
	Total	Total
	£	£
Staff costs comprise:		
Gross wages and salaries	66,766	89,176
Employer's National insurance	2,800	5,177
Pension contributions	4,490	4,779
	74,057	99,131

No members of staff earned more than £60,000 during the year to 31 December 2020 or in the previous year.

Thames Valley Churches of Christ

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 (continued)

Trustees

No Trustee or person related to or connected by business to them has received any remuneration from the charity during the year for carrying out their duties as Trustees.

5 Debtors

	2020	2019
	£	£
Gift Aid Recoverable	27,871	29,250
Other debtors	<u>6,797</u>	<u>10,703</u>
	34,668	39,953

6 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2020	2019
	£	£
Other taxes and social security costs	4,577	9,260
Accruals	<u>5,534</u>	<u>7,578</u>
	10,111	15,942

7 Restricted funds

	2020 Restricted HOPE Worldwide Projects	2020 Restricted Benevolence funds	2020 Total
	£	£	£
Brought forward as at 1 January 2020	27,502	25,996	53,498
Income	24,500	20,894	45,394
Expenditure	(40,200)		(40,200)
	<u>11,802</u>	<u>46,890</u>	<u>59,692</u>

The HOPE Worldwide Projects restricted fund represents funds donated by members of the congregation to support the charity's HOPE Worldwide projects in UK, Nepal, India and Croatia.

The Benevolence Fund represent donations which are given by the donors for benevolence work within the church and local communities and are restricted to this use.

Thames Valley Churches of Christ

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 (continued)

8 Taxation

The charity's activities are exempt from taxation under Section 505 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1998.

9 Related parties

During the year £7,200 (2018 £7,200) was paid to ATB support LTD for Accountancy and management services. The Company secretary is a director and shareholder in ATB Support LTD.