

SKYLARK CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1109961

Details

Other names	CHRISTIAN GROWTH CENTRE, CHRISTIAN GROWTH CENTRE CHELMSFORD
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	05442866
Registered	2005-06-10
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Skylark Church 4 Hanbury Road Chelmsford Essex CM1 3AE
Phone	01245255775
Email	admin@skylarkchurch.com
Website	www.skylarkchurch.com

Activities

Objects: (A) TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATEMENT OF BELIEFS APPEARING IN THE SCHEDULE HERETO IN CHELMSFORD AND THE SURROUNDING AREA AND IN SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT AND OTHER SUCH PURPOSES WHICH ARE EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE ACCORDING TO THE LAW OF ENGLAND AND WALES AND ARE CONNECTED WITH THE CHARITABLE WORK OF THE CHARITY;(B) TO FURTHER CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN SUCH PARTS OF CHELMSFORD AND THE SURROUNDING AREA AND IN SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT.(C) TO RELIEVE PERSONS WHO ARE IN CONDITION OF NEED OR HARDSHIP OR WHO ARE AGED OR SICK AND TO RELIEVE THE DISTRESS CAUSED THEREBY IN SUCH PARTS OF CHELMSFORD THE SURROUNDING AREA AND IN SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT.(D) TO PROVIDE AND MAINTAIN FACILITIES (WHETHER IN A PURPOSE-BUILT COMMUNITY CENTRE OR OTHERWISE) FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY OF CHELMSFORD AND THE SURROUNDING NEIGHBOURHOOD WHICH FACILITIES MAY WITHOUT LIMITATION INCLUDE THE PROVISION OF CHILD-CARE SERVICES AND MEETINGS, LECTURES AND CLASSES AND OTHER FORMS OF EDUCATION, RECREATION AND LEISURE-TIME OCCUPATION WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF RACE, SEX, POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS OR OTHER OPINION AND WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR THE SAID INHABITANTS AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME IN THEIR DISCRETION DETERMINE.

Activities: We are a church. We have several groups that work into the community, providing support for young and old including self esteem programmes, youth club, Toddlers and carers group, and community support.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** WORLDWIDE IN PARTICULAR CHELMSFORD AND THE SURROUNDING AREA.
- Essex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£558,877	£565,886	£509,941	7
2024-03-31	£622,578	£549,369	£516,950	7
2023-03-31	£532,052	£526,420	£443,740	8
2022-03-31	£454,606	£450,415	-	-
2021-03-31	£484,194	£508,553	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Charles Kemp		2014-01-30
JOHN ANTONY GRAYSTON BA, ALBC		
Nicola Alice Sims		2014-01-30
Peter Sims		2014-01-30
WAYNE JON BISHOP		2016-09-30
Wendy Ward		2016-09-30

SKYLARK CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1109961

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

SKYLARK CHURCH

(A company limited by guarantee)

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1109961

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 05442866

SKYLARK CHURCH

CONTENTS

Page 2 Reference and Administrative Information

Page 3 Independent Examiner's Report

Pages 4 to 7 Director's Report

Page 8 Statement of Financial Activities

Page 9 Balance Sheet

Pages 10 to 19 Notes to the Financial Statements

SKYLARK CHURCH
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

WORKING NAME	Skylark Church
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1109961
COMPANY NUMBER	05442866
START OF FINANCIAL YEAR	1st April 2024
END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	31st March 2025
	John Grayston Peter Sims Nicola Sims Charles Kemp Wendy Ward Wayne Bishop

The existing directors appoint any new directors, following the provisions laid out in the Articles of Association

LEGAL STATUS	Company Limited by Guarantee
GOVERNING INSTRUMENT	Registered as a Company on 4th May 2005 and as a charity on 10th June 2005.

OBJECTS

The advance of the Christian faith in Essex and other parts of the United Kingdom or the World as the Directors may from time to time think fit and other such purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the law in England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the Charity.

REGISTERED AND MAIN ADDRESS	Unit 4 Hanbury Way Chelmsford Essex CM1 3AE
BANKERS	HSBC 99 High Street Chelmsford CM1 1EQ
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS	Xeinadin South East The Old Grange Lordship Road Writtle Chelmsford Essex, CM1 3WT
LENDERS	Kingdom Bank Ltd Media House Padge Road Beeston Nottingham, NG9 2RS

**SKYLARK CHURCH
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages 8 to 19.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company 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 period under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW).

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:

- to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given to me 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 as 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 examiners statements

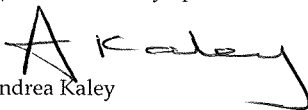
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) 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 accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities; and
- that the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102)

have not been met; or

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



Andrea Kaley
Chartered Accountant
for and on behalf of Xeinadin South East
The Old Grange
Warren Estate
Writtle
Chelmsford
Essex, CM1 3WT

Date: 5 November 2025

**SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

The Board of Trustees, who are also directors of the Company for the purpose of the Companies Act 2006, present their annual report and financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Structure, Governance and Management

The Memorandum and Articles of Association administered by a Board of Directors govern the Centre. During the year these Directors were:

John Grayston
Charles Kemp
Peter Sims
Nicola Sims
Wendy Ward
Wayne Bishop

Other Officers of the Centre are:

Secretary: Lesley Kemp
Administrator: C Kowalski
Treasurer: Marcus Ward

The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity

Organisational structure and appointment of trustees

Newly appointed directors are provided with an informal induction to the charity and mentoring by established directors.

The company endeavours to maintain a balance of skills and expertise when seeking new or replacement directors. New directors undergo an induction process which involves meeting with directors and senior trust staff and are provided with an information pack detailing their responsibilities, governance, financial and other information relating to the structure and operation of the company. All directors are invited to attend a range of training events relating to both governance issues and specific areas of the charity's work.

The Board is constituted with a number of directors to bring a blend of different experience and capacities to make good judgement and contributions. New directors may be recruited from leaders within the church, key personnel of Skylark International, members of others churches in the locality or Christians in the local business community. Following proposal by one of the existing directors, new directors are appointed after review by the whole board, and are subject to induction training and continuous involvement in viewing the activities of the charity and understanding of its objectives.

The directors present the attached financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2025.

Activities, Achievements and Performance

When reviewing the aims and objectives of the centre and when planning future activities, we have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The aims of the Centre are to advance the Christian faith, to further Christian education, to relieve persons in need and to provide facilities for the community. The Church continues its hybrid Sunday Gatherings with between 30 and 80 people watching live online during an average Sunday service, with the ability to engage online after the service has ended. In-person attendance on a Sunday has also continued to grow and we find ourselves nearly at capacity for our larger services throughout the year such as Christmas and Easter. We have run popular connect lunches through the year to encourage connection and relationship within the Church congregation.

SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

Activities, Achievements and Performance (continued)

We continue to support the overseas mission of Cherish Uganda, Romania, as well as supporting UK based organisations, Kintsugi Hope, CHESS, Care for the Family and Lighthouse Charity. We continue to be a Restored "Beacon" Church to support those who are victim to domestic violence, as well as running Kintsugi Hope groups to support those with mental health and wellness challenges, as well as seeing great inroads in our prison ministry where these groups have been run, along with supporting their regular Sunday services.

Towards furthering Christian education, Life Groups remain the principle mid-week meetings for Church and some continue to offer online engagement as well as in person to facilitate older people or families with young children. These provide a smaller forum and enable the congregation to grow together in their education. The groups are flexible in style and content, to cater for a wide range of needs and recently we have run training to facilitate 4 new groups starting in Apr 25, as well as support the existing groups in their leadership.

Within this framework, one group, DNA, exists for the benefit of new members, to give them an overview of the various events and ministries happening within the church and also to find out our core vision and values. We continue to see new people seek out church after engaging online or via social media. The Church continues its men's and women's brunches/breakfasts with between 40-80 attendees to foster relationship and discuss and equip people on specific topics relevant to the Christian life, and we had around 50 people at our Christmas day meal to engage those in our community who were lonely over the Christmas period. The church's pastoral and counselling services have been able to continue and we've been able to run another bereavement course, supporting people through the common stages of grief.

The senior generation continue their twice monthly in-person meeting, providing a time of worship and fellowship with one another for between 10 and 20 members. Our deaf congregation continue to meet in-person again and have roughly 20 attendees. Monthly BSL interpreted services are provided, and our Christmas and Easter services have online BSL interpretation.

Skylark Kids continues to facilitate kids work at Sunday services. Little Ones toddler group continues, with more than 70 young children and parents/carers attending. There remains over 200 children on our register at present and following our successful all ages services, we have continued to offer kids worship with actions in our Sunday Gatherings which has grown in popularity and engagement.

Skylark Youth continue to engage church and community young people with Tuesday evening sessions and a Youth Life Group meeting on a Thursday evening, as well as a popular "Taste and See" ice cream event to engage both Church and community youth.

For those who are in financial need, the church gives gifts to members and others locally on an ad-hoc basis in response to known circumstances. Meals are also delivered to people who have had new babies, moved house, are unwell to mental or physical sickness or just struggling. Food box provision continues to rise with the referral of new families from local schools, whilst we continue to provide pre-paid supermarket cards on an ad-hoc basis and to support families in extreme need over the Christmas period as well as a bursary fund to support specific needs of families referred by schools. Local churches and agencies are now approaching us for support which facilitates our goal of working together to build Kingdom in Chelmsford. Pastoral care is going from strength to strength with a fantastic team now in place to love our people and a robust system to ensure no-one is missed. Our intergenerational group "Belong" is growing and flourishing, now having regular kids and carers from a local school for children with additional needs in tandem with its current intergenerational members.

SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

Activities, Achievements and Performance (continued)

This year we have continued our work with Fairshare regularly distribute food to those in need, including some refugee families, Safer Places Women's Refuge and to Chess, a Chelmsford local homeless charity, along with our food parcels and vouchers. We still maintain our support of Lighthouse Centre, an independent charity responding to need in the area of crisis pregnancy and loss.

The church is in healthy relationship with Skylark International, (formerly CGI), a growing organisation currently overseeing a number of churches in the UK and overseas as well as other Christian ministries. The church draws support, encouragement, inspiration from Skylark International and is pleased to give a minimum of 10% of its offering to it to help facilitate the work of our wider movement.

The church remains dependent on volunteers for a great number of its activities. It is impossible to gauge the financial benefits of such acts of service, but the spiritual returns are exponentially greater. Without the volunteers the church would not be able to function at its current level of output and the directors wish to take this opportunity to express their heartfelt thanks to all who have given freely of their time, talents, resources and energy, and for those who have stepped into new challenges and volunteering roles.

Future Plans

Since taking ownership of the building in Hanbury Road we have assessed the suitability of the building for our future requirements and a number of improvements to the building. Further improvements may take place depending on funding.

Our 4 new life groups are due to start in the coming months, as well as increasing engagement into the prison and specifically running Messy Church to engage prisoners and their families. Our Youth Weekend Away is planned to allow concentrated youth work and to build friendships and community. We plan to update redo the toilets in the building to provide a nicer space for visitors and congregation. This year we will continue our summer rhythm of all-ages services and picnics in the park to build on our sense of intergenerational community as a Church.

Major Risks and Controls

The major risk is in respect of the value and volatility of income, as the charity is dependant on voluntary giving. This is partly managed through cash flow monitoring and altering the timing of expenditure to reflect that on the income.

Financial Review

The Centre's funds are applied to support Christian Mission through local teaching and worship, Christian missionary work in the UK and abroad.

In the year ended 31st March 2025 major expenses were applied as follows:

In support of full and part time staff £297,923

By way of a tithe to Skylark International £40,800

Maintenance of premises for worship and teaching locally, including mortgage interest of £33,885

In support of Christian Ministry workers in the UK and abroad £13,750

During the year there was a deficit of £7009 primarily due to investment in office and kitchen improvements but adequate reserves were maintained.

Accounting practices remained unchanged for the financial year. The reserves policy is stated in note 15 to the financial statements. Sundry restricted funds were continued during the past financial year for the purposes of raising funds for specified individuals and circumstances, as detailed in the notes to the financial statements.

SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Skylark Church for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the overall management of the Charity, ensuring compliance with the Charity's objects and relevant legislation and also to define and agree the strategic aims and objectives of the Charity.

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charitable Company's financial activities during the year and its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue to operate

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The trustees are responsible for ensuring that proper accounting records are kept which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They 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.

Statement as to Disclosure of Information to Independent Examiners

So far as the Directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information (as defined by section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the charities independent examiner's are unaware, and each director has taken all the steps they ought to have taken as director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant examination information and to establish that the charity's independent examiners are aware of that information.

Approval of Annual Report

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 05/11/2025



Peter Sims
Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors

SKYLARK CHURCH
(Company number 5442866)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total to 31	Total to 31
	Notes	Funds	Funds	March	March
		£	£	2025	2024
				£	£
INCOME					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Donations and legacies	2a	504,816	11,306	516,122	589,316
Other trading activities	2b	39,406	-	39,406	30,655
Investment income	2c	2,803	545	3,349	2,607
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	2	547,026	11,851	558,877	622,578
EXPENDITURE					
Cost of generating funds					
Charitable activities	3a	512,470	42,481	554,951	539,763
Governance costs	3b	10,535	400	10,935	9,606
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	3	523,005	42,881	565,886	549,369
NET (OUTGOING) / INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		24,021	(31,030)	(7,009)	73,210
Transfers between funds	4	(17,994)	17,994	-	-
NET (OUTGOING) INCOMING RESOURCES FOR YEAR		6,027	(13,036)	(7,009)	73,210
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	4	451,136	65,814	516,950	443,740
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	4	457,163	52,778	509,941	516,950

The notes on pages 11 to 19 form part of these financial statements

SKYLARK CHURCH
(Company number 5442866)
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31 March 2025 £	Total 31 March 2024 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	6	298,565	454,579	753,144	765,654
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	16,363		16,363	11,357
Cash at bank and in hand	10	167,937	28,287	196,224	203,887
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>184,300</u>	<u>28,287</u>	<u>212,587</u>	<u>215,244</u>
LIABILITIES					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	25,701	1,531	27,233	20,491
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>158,599</u>	<u>26,756</u>	<u>185,355</u>	<u>194,753</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>457,163</u>	<u>481,335</u>	<u>938,498</u>	<u>960,408</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	12	-	67,494	67,494	58,587
Creditors: amounts falling due after five years	12	-	361,063	361,063	384,871
NET ASSETS		<u>457,163</u>	<u>52,778</u>	<u>509,941</u>	<u>516,950</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted income funds	4	457,163	-	457,163	451,136
Restricted income funds	4	-	52,778	52,778	65,814
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	4	<u>457,163</u>	<u>52,778</u>	<u>509,941</u>	<u>516,950</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2025.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit for its financial statements for the financial year ended 31st March 2025 in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006
The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements , so far as applicable to the company

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 05/11/2025



Peter Sims
Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors

The notes on pages 10 to 19 form part of these financial statements

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting Convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the provisions of Section 1A "Small Entities" of Financial Reporting Standard 102, "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Companies Act 2006. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general activities of the charity.

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions placed on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

There are no designated funds that the directors have earmarked for specific purposes.

Incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, the directors are virtually certain they will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income), the incoming resource and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resource.

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SOFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SOFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Donated services and facilities are included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended), where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the Financial Statements, but is described in the director's report.

Investment Income is included in the Financial Statements when receivable.

Resources Expended and Creditors

Liabilities are recognised when incurred or a commitment is made.

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory financial statements, the costs of director's meetings and legal advice to directors on governance or constitutional matters.

Where the charity has given a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SOFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Resources Expended and Creditors (Cont.)

Grants made or received without performance conditions are only recognised in the SOFA, when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to a grant which remain in the control of the charity.

Support costs including central functions have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Value Added Tax

The Charity's activities are classified as exempt for the purposes of value added tax and the Charity is unable to reclaim the value added tax which it suffers on its expenses. Expenditure in these financial statements is therefore shown inclusive of value added tax.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or if gifted at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation is calculated at a rate to write off the cost of the tangible fixed asset on a straight line basis over their estimated useful life. The rates applied per annum are as follows:

Fixed Asset Class	Depreciation Rate
Freehold Land	0%
Freehold Buildings	2.5%
Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment	33%
Leasehold building improvements	33%
Motor Vehicles	25%

There has been no changes to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year. The legal, banking, valuation and other expenses related to the purchase are expensed rather than capitalised.

Pension Scheme

The charity contributes to a Skylark International group scheme with Royal London at rates set by the scheme actuary and advised to the board by the scheme administrator. The scheme is a multi employer charity Scheme and advice to the board is by the scheme actuary. In accordance with FRS17 the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme.

Operating Leases

Rentals payable under operating lease agreements are charged as expenditure on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at the transaction price, less any impairment.

Financial Instruments

The company only enters into basic financial instrument transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like other debtors, creditors, loans from banks.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

2. INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total to 31 March 2025 £	Total to 31 March 2024 £
a) Donations and Legacies				
General and Weekly Offerings	397,203	10,156	407,359	419,194
Donations and CAF Vouchers	2,339	1,150	3,488	83,289
Tax Recovered	92,639	-	92,639	79,423
Vision Offerings	12,635	-	12,635	7,411
	<u>504,816</u>	<u>11,306</u>	<u>516,122</u>	<u>589,316</u>
b) Other Trading Activities				
Fees Received	18,117	-	18,117	19,153
Sales	20,060	-	20,060	10,337
Rental Income	1,230	-	1,230	1,165
	<u>39,406</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,406</u>	<u>30,655</u>
c) Investment Income				
Bank Interest	2,803	545	3,349	2,607
	<u>2,803</u>	<u>545</u>	<u>3,349</u>	<u>2,607</u>
d) Other Income				
None	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>547,026</u>	<u>11,851</u>	<u>558,877</u>	<u>622,578</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

3. EXPENDITURE

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total to March 2025 £	Total to March 2024 £
a) Costs of Charitable Activities					
Salaries National Insurance and Pensions	5)	297,923	-	297,923	284,197
Training and Education		2,576	-	2,576	1,250
Mission and Support Grants:	3 c)	54,500	50	54,550	81,531
Building Mortgage interest		33,885	-	33,885	35,230
Building Repairs and Maintenance		14,985	-	14,985	5,919
Cleaning		5,622	-	5,622	4,688
Security and Safety		6,105	-	6,105	2,892
Water, Heat and Light		15,578	-	15,578	12,055
Bank Charges		572	-	572	496
Books, CD's and DVDs		481	705	1,186	685
Computer and Internet		2,377	-	2,377	1,166
Depreciation		5,022	17,500	22,522	22,798
Entertainment and Catering		4,087	-	4,087	2,988
Equipment and Materials		10,993	744	11,737	9,171
Food and Accommodation		25,636	5,886	31,521	24,788
Hire of Facilities		58	-	58	1,445
Insurances		7,831	-	7,831	8,983
Outside Support Services		8,166	9,318	17,483	16,996
Pastoral Gifts and Expenses		4,532	7,942	12,474	9,056
Postage and Courier		160	-	160	25
Printing and Stationery		4,184	-	4,184	2,921
Outside Speakers		850	160	1,010	830
Telephone and Fax		4,996	-	4,996	7,527
Travel Costs		2,613	176	2,789	2,119
Vehicle Running Costs		-	-	-	1,071
Event & Transaction Refunds		(1,260)	-	(1,260)	(1,064)
		<u>512,470</u>	<u>42,481</u>	<u>554,951</u>	<u>539,763</u>
b) Governance Costs					
Subscriptions and Licenses		7,895	400	8,295	7,103
Independent Examination fees - current year		2,640	-	2,640	2,503
		<u>10,535</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>10,935</u>	<u>9,606</u>
		<u>523,005</u>	<u>42,881</u>	<u>565,886</u>	<u>549,369</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

3 c) Mission and Support Grants:

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total to 31 March 2025	Total to 31 March 2024
Local and UK Organisations				
Skylark International	40,800	-	40,800	54,731
Lighthouse Family Trust	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
CHESS	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
Care for the Family	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
Kintsugi Hope	3,000	-	3,000	3,000
Restored	-	50	50	100
Made for More	-	-	-	3,000
Stewardship - Martin Young	-	-	-	2,000
Churches Together in Chelmsford	500	-	500	500
Overseas Mission Organisations				
Cherish a Child	6,600	-	6,600	6,600
I Got Shoes	-	-	-	5,000
Bev Murrill	-	-	-	3,000
	<u>54,500</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>54,550</u>	<u>81,531</u>

The mission and support grants are for the following purposes:

- The tithe to Skylark International is towards supporting the movement to which SC belongs.
- Lighthouse Family Trust is a pregnancy advice service operating in Chelmsford.
- CHESS is a charity providing shelter and support for the homeless.
- Care for the Family's aim is to promote strong family life and to help those who face family difficulties.
- Kintsugi Hope exists to create safe and supportive spaces for those experiencing mental and emotional health challenges
- Cherish a Child supports AIDs orphans in Uganda.
- Churches Together in Chelmsford arranges joint events and provides a forum for churches and Christian organisations to work together in Chelmsford.
- Made for More provide mental health, mentoring and Christian support to the secondary schools in Chelmsford, Essex.
- I Got Shoes assists and enables the education of children in Uganda, providing grants, supplying shoes, uniforms and school fees.
- Martin Young has been leading and planting churches for 25 years and now works with churches and leaders on creative ways to present the Christian message.
- Bev Murrill co-founded Christian Growth Centre which became Skylark Church and is active in teaching and encouraging church leaders internationally from her home base in Australia - this gift was to assist with further academic study.
- Restored is a charity which speaks up about violence against women and equips churches across the UK to respond to domestic abuse and provide support for victims of abuse.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

4. FUNDS OF THE CHARITY

	Opening Balance at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Closing Balance at 31 March 2025 £
Restricted Funds					
Community Fund	40,607	3,871	(16,189)	494	28,783
Pastoral Fund	22,409	7,980	(9,192)	-	21,197
Petchey Achievement Awards	2,338	-	-	-	2,338
Other	459	-	(17,500)	17,500	459
	<u>65,814</u>	<u>11,851</u>	<u>(42,881)</u>	<u>17,994</u>	<u>52,778</u>
Unrestricted Fund	451,136	547,026	(523,005)	(17,994)	457,163
	<u>516,950</u>	<u>558,877</u>	<u>(565,886)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>509,941</u>

The Community fund covers work that Skylark Church performs in and for the Community and includes assets transferred from ROC Chelmsford.

The Pastoral fund holds donations for pastoral care of individuals within the Church and to support individuals in the community and homes run by local charities.

The Petchey achievement awards scheme is to support monthly awards to youth groups.

The Other category contains restricted funds for items related to buildings.

5. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

	31-Mar-25 £	31-Mar-24 £
Gross Wages and Salaries	257,097	246,031
Employer's National Insurance	16,176	13,613
Employer's Pension Contribution	24,650	24,554
	<u>297,923</u>	<u>284,197</u>

The average number of employees who were engaged in the year is as follows:

	31-Mar-25	31-Mar-24
Activities in furtherance of organisation's objects	12	13
Full time equivalent	7	7

The charity operates a PAYE scheme to pay all employed members of staff. No individual employee received emoluments over £60,000.

The charity contributes to a Pension Fund with Royal London (previously branded as Scottish Life). Contributions are made by the employees at 4% and the employer at 10% for those employees who are members of the scheme.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold Land and Buildings £	Building Renovations £	Fixtures Fittings and Equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 31st March 2024	965,074	28,093	119,101	1,112,268
Additions			10,012	10,012
Disposals				-
As at 31st March 2025	965,074	28,093	129,113	1,122,280
Depreciation				
As at 1st April 2024	206,142	26,077	114,395	346,614
Charge for the year	17,500	1,136	3,886	22,522
Elimination on disposals				-
As at 31st March 2025	223,642	27,213	118,281	369,136
Net Book Value				
At 1st April 2024	758,932	2,017	4,706	765,654
At 31st March 2025	741,432	880	10,832	753,144

The freehold land and buildings comprise of the chapel on Chignal Road, Chelmsford and Unit 4 on Hanbury Road, Chelmsford. The unit at Hanbury Road was purchased for £845,000 in June 2012. The directors have allocated £145,000 to land and £700,000 to the building, with the building being depreciated. Both premises are used for the charity's activities and therefore are included at cost. As there are few similar properties in the area the market value is difficult to calculate. As part of the purchase of Hanbury Road the chapel was valued by the bank securing the loan against it and the directors believe that the valuation is similar to the £120,000 which is included in the above. The additions this year relate to the installation of new ovens in the kitchen and new furniture and equipment for the church office.

7. COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

The Charity has a rental and copy charges agreement on a photocopier which will now finish on 31st Dec 25. The outstanding obligations as at 31st Mar 25 including regular lease payments, the cost for terminating the contract on this date and removal of the machine is as shown below.

	31-Mar-25 £	31-Mar-24 £
Obligation per annum:		
Within One Year	1,894	873
Between one and five years		1,454
	<u>1,894</u>	<u>2,327</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

8. TAXATION

As a charity, Skylark Church is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 478 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 (CTA 2010) to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the Charity.

9. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	31-Mar-25	31-Mar-24
	£	£
Tax Recoverable	11,028	8,985
Sundry Debtors and Prepayments	5,335	2,372
	<u>16,363</u>	<u>11,357</u>

10. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	31-Mar-25	31-Mar-24
Current Account	15,797	13,943
Deposit Account	158,552	153,437
Community Account	21,846	36,478
Cash	29	29
	<u>196,224</u>	<u>203,887</u>

11. CREDITORS AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31-Mar-25	31-Mar-24
	£	£
Accruals	7,069	2,451
Audit and Accountancy	2,520	2,400
Credit Cards	3,283	3,425
Mortgage payable within one year	14,360	12,215
	<u>27,233</u>	<u>20,491</u>

12. CREDITORS AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR

	31-Mar-25	31-Mar-24
	£	£
Mortgage repayable over 30 years to June 2042 due as follows:		
Between one and five years	67,494	58,587
In more than five years	361,063	384,871
	<u>428,557</u>	<u>443,458</u>

The mortgage is a repayment loan and bears a interest of 6.75 % at 31st March 25

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

13. RISK ASSESSMENT

The directors actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated, combined with the annual review of the controls over key financial systems carried out, will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The directors have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

14. RELATED PARTIES

The following amounts were paid to or on behalf of related parties:

Related Party	Salary £	Pension contributions £	Grant £	Other £	Total to 31 March 2025 £	Total to 31 March 2024 £
Peter & Nicola Sims	79,576	7,958	-	647	88,181	82,684
Lesley Kemp	6,462	646	-	-	7,108	6,674
Skylark International	-	-	40,800	-	40,800	54,731
	<u>86,038</u>	<u>8,604</u>	<u>40,800</u>	<u>647</u>	<u>136,089</u>	<u>144,089</u>

Subject to certain conditions, the Memorandum of association permits directors who offer their services to the Charity as a religious pastor, to be remunerated out of income or property of the charity.

In the Related Party list above, Peter & Nicola Sims are Pastors & Trustees, Lesley Kemp is the wife of Charles Kemp who is a trustee.

Skylark International is a charity which supports a network of churches and ministries, organising joint events, leadership conferences and training. Its primary funding comes from contributions made by the churches within the Skylark International network. Skylark Church is one of these churches.

Peter & Nicola Sims are also Leaders & Trustees of Skylark International

Two of the directors have received payment for travel, subsistence and study expenses totalling £647 (prior year £493) in relation to services provided to the Company.

During the year the following amounts were received from related parties:

Related Party	Total to March 2025	Total to March 2024
Skylark International - Payment for Admin Support	18,056	15,675
	<u>18,056</u>	<u>15,675</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

15. RESERVES POLICY

The directors have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs. The directors consider it appropriate to retain a level of reserves held in liquid assets equal to one week of running costs. This is based on the charity's size and the level of commitments held. The directors aim to ensure the charity will be able to continue to fulfil their charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income. The directors will endeavour to not 'sit' on funds unnecessarily.

SKYLARK CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1109961

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

SKYLARK CHURCH

(A company limited by guarantee)

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1109961

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 05442866

SKYLARK CHURCH CONTENTS

Page 2 Reference and Administrative Information

Page 3 Independent Examiner's Report

Pages 4 to 7 Director's Report

Page 8 Statement of Financial Activities

Page 9 Balance Sheet

Pages 10 to 19 Notes to the Financial Statements

SKYLARK CHURCH
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

WORKING NAME	Skylark Church
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1109961
COMPANY NUMBER	05442866
START OF FINANCIAL YEAR	1st April 2023
END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	31st March 2024

John Grayston
Peter Sims
Nicola Sims
Charles Kemp
Wendy Ward
Wayne Bishop

The existing directors appoint any new directors, following the provisions laid out in the Articles of Association

LEGAL STATUS	Company Limited by Guarantee
GOVERNING INSTRUMENT	Registered as a Company on 4th May 2005 and as a charity on 10th June 2005.

OBJECTS

The advance of the Christian faith in Essex and other parts of the United Kingdom or the World as the Directors may from time to time think fit and other such purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the law in England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the Charity.

REGISTERED AND MAIN ADDRESS	Unit 4 Hanbury Way Chelmsford Essex CM1 3AE
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BANKERS	HSBC 99 High Street Chelmsford CM1 1EQ
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INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS	Xeinadin South East The Old Grange Lordship Road Writtle Chelmsford Essex, CM1 3WT
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LENDERS	Kingdom Bank Ltd Media House Padge Road Beeston Nottingham, NG9 2RS
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SKYLARK CHURCH
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2024, which are set out on pages 8 to 19.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company 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 period under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW).

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:

- to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given to me 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 as 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 examiners statements

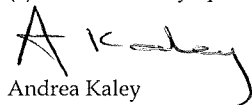
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) 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 accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities; and
- that the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102)

have not been met; or

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



Andrea Kaley
Chartered Accountant
for and on behalf of Xeinadin South East
The Old Grange
Warren Estate
Writtle
Chelmsford
Essex, CM1 3WT

Date: 23 December 2024

**SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

The Board of Trustees, who are also directors of the Company for the purpose of the Companies Act 2006, present their annual report and financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Structure, Governance and Management

The Memorandum and Articles of Association administered by a Board of Directors govern the Centre. During the year these Directors were:

John Grayston
Charles Kemp
Peter Sims
Nicola Sims
Wendy Ward
Wayne Bishop

Other Officers of the Centre are:

Secretary: Lesley Kemp

Administrator: N Raggett (resigned 19/10/2023) C Kowlaski (appointed 01/06/2024)

Treasurer: Marcus Ward

The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity

Organisational structure and appointment of trustees

Newly appointed directors are provided with an informal induction to the charity and mentoring by established directors.

The company endeavours to maintain a balance of skills and expertise when seeking new or replacement directors. New directors undergo an induction process which involves meeting with directors and senior trust staff and are provided with an information pack detailing their responsibilities, governance, financial and other information relating to the structure and operation of the company. All directors are invited to attend a range of training events relating to both governance issues and specific areas of the charity's work.

The Board is constituted with a number of directors to bring a blend of different experience and capacities to make good judgement and contributions. New directors may be recruited from leaders within the church, key personnel of Skylark International, members of others churches in the locality or Christians in the local business community. Following proposal by one of the existing directors, new directors are appointed after review by the whole board, and are subject to induction training and continuous involvement in viewing the activities of the charity and understanding of its objectives.

The directors present the attached financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Activities, Achievements and Performance

When reviewing the aims and objectives of the centre and when planning future activities, we have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The aims of the Centre are to advance the Christian faith, to further Christian education, to relieve persons in need and to provide facilities for the community. The Church continues its hybrid Sunday Gatherings with between 30 and 80 people watching live online during an average Sunday service, with the ability to engage online after the service has ended. In-person attendance on a Sunday has also continued to grow and we find ourselves nearly at capacity for our larger services throughout the year such as Christmas and Easter. We have run popular connect lunches through the year to encourage connection and relationship within the Church congregation.

Towards advancing the Christian faith, the Church continues its regular Sunday services that are also accessible via Live Stream and after the service has ended. We were able to run an Easter service and multiple Christmas celebration services, all live streamed, which were well attended and received by regular church members and visitors alike.

SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

Activities, Achievements and Performance (continued)

We continue to engage in overseas mission, drawing on the resources and experience of several congregational members and partner organisations. We continue to support overseas organisations Cherish Uganda and I Got Shoes, as well as in the UK, Kintsugi Hope, CHESS, Care for the Family and Lighthouse Family Trust.

Towards furthering Christian education, Life Groups remain the principle mid-week meetings for Church and some continue to offer online engagement as well as in person to facilitate older people or families with young children. These provide a smaller forum and enable the congregation to grow together in their education. The groups are flexible in style and content, to cater for a wide range of needs and we currently have 17 groups across the life of the Church.

Within this framework, one group, DNA, exists for the benefit of new members, to give them an overview of the various events and ministries happening within the church and also to find out our core vision and values. We have continued to see new people seek out church after engaging in service online or via social media. The Church has also run a number of mens and womens brunches/breakfasts with between 40 and 80 attendees to foster relationship and discuss and equip people on specific topics relevant to the Christian life.

The senior generation continue their twice monthly in-person meeting, providing a time of worship and fellowship with one another for between 10 and 20 members. Our deaf congregation continue to meet in-person again and have roughly 20 attendees. Monthly BSL interpreted services are provided, and our Christmas and Easter services have online BSL interpretation.

Skylark Kids continues to facilitate kids work at Sunday services. Little Ones toddler group continues, with more than 70 young children and parents/carers attending. There remains over 200 children on our register at present and we have converted a new room to facilitate kids work on a Sunday.

Skylark Youth have expanded their Tuesday evening sessions so as to be more accessible for those young people who don't come to Church, providing a vital link for youth within the Church as well as from our wider local community. Our No Limits wider youth event has run twice and engaged young people from across the community as well as the local church. The Young Adults group continues to meet monthly with between 10 and 15 members undertaking events or being hosted in homes by church members.

For those who are in financial need, the church gives gifts to members and others locally on an ad-hoc basis in response to known circumstances. Meals are also delivered to people who have had new babies, moved house, are unwell due to mental or physical sickness or just having a difficult time. Food box provision has risen with the referral of new families from local schools, whilst we continue to provide pre-paid supermarket cards on an ad-hoc basis and to support families in extreme need over the Christmas period.

The church's pastoral and counselling services have been able to continue. We were also able to continue running online marriage courses as well as a bereavement course to help those struggling with grief. Demand for our flourish self-esteem course continues to grow and we have appointed a new facilitator. We continue to be a Restored "Beacon" Church to support those who are victim to domestic violence, as well as running Kintsugi Hope groups to support those with mental health and wellness challenges. In partnership with the NHS, Sanctus and CHESS we launched a one-stop "healthcare for the homeless" service which has seen over 300 people so far. A new group Belong, has been formed to create intergenerational relationships within the community and a bursary fund setup for schools to access funding for those children and families most in need.

SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

Activities, Achievements and Performance (continued)

This year we have continued our work alongside Tesco to regularly distribute food to those in need, including some refugee families, Safer Places Women's Refuge and to Chess, a Chelmsford local homeless charity, along with our food parcels and vouchers. We still maintain our support of Lighthouse Family Trust, an independent charity responding to need in the area of crisis pregnancy and loss.

The church is in healthy relationship with Skylark International, (formerly CGI), a growing organisation currently overseeing a number of churches in the UK and overseas as well as other Christian ministries. The church draws support, encouragement, inspiration from Skylark International and is pleased to give a minimum of 10% of its offering to it to help facilitate the work of our wider movement.

The church remains dependent on volunteers for a great number of its activities. It is impossible to gauge the financial benefits of such acts of service, but the spiritual returns are exponentially greater. Without the volunteers, the church would not be able to function at its current level of output and the directors wish to take this opportunity to express their heartfelt thanks to all who have given freely of their time, talents, resources and energy, and for those who have stepped into new challenges and volunteering roles.

Future Plans

Since taking ownership of the building in Hanbury Road we have assessed the suitability of the building for our future requirements and a number of improvements to the building. Further improvements may take place depending on funding.

We will continue to grow our presence in the community, including looking to start running services in Chelmsford Prison, including a Kintsugi Hope group. We aim to start providing breakfasts for a local school, and to grow Life Groups in number as well as those who are in each group. Another room is in plans to be converted for use with kids on a Sunday to help with growing numbers and we are planning a Christmas Day meal for those within the community who are lonely and isolated on Christmas Day.

Major Risks and Controls

The major risk is in respect of the value and volatility of income, as the charity is dependant on voluntary giving. This is partly managed through cash flow monitoring and altering the timing of expenditure to reflect that on the income.

Financial Review

The Centre's funds are applied to support Christian Mission through local teaching and worship, Christian missionary work in the UK and abroad.

In the year ended 31st March 2024 major expenses were applied as follows:

In support of full and part time staff £284,197

By way of a tithe to Skylark International £54,731

Maintenance of premises for worship and teaching locally, including mortgage interest of £35,230

In support of Christian Ministry workers in the UK and abroad £26,800

During the year there was a surplus of £73,210

Accounting practices remained unchanged for the financial year. The reserves policy is stated in note 15 to the financial statements. Sundry restricted funds were continued during the past financial year for the purposes of raising funds for specified individuals and circumstances, as detailed in the notes to the financial statements.

SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Skylark Church for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the overall management of the Charity, ensuring compliance with the Charity's objects and relevant legislation and also to define and agree the strategic aims and objectives of the Charity.

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charitable Company's financial activities during the year and its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue to operate

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The trustees are responsible for ensuring that proper accounting records are kept which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They 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.

Statement as to Disclosure of Information to Independent Examiners

So far as the Directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information (as defined by section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the charities independent examiner's are unaware, and each director has taken all the steps they ought to have taken as director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant examination information and to establish that the charity's independent examiners are aware of that information.

Approval of Annual Report

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 23/12/2024.....



Peter Sims
Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors

SKYLARK CHURCH
(Company number 5442866)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total to 31	Total to 31
	Notes	Funds	Funds	March	March
		£	£	2024	2023
				£	£
INCOME					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Donations and legacies	2a	561,826	27,490	589,316	499,994
Other trading activities	2b	30,655	-	30,655	31,610
Investment income	2c	1,955	652	2,607	447
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	2	594,436	28,142	622,578	532,052
EXPENDITURE					
Cost of generating funds					
Charitable activities	3a	499,535	40,228	539,763	517,760
Governance costs	3b	9,156	450	9,606	8,659
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	3	508,691	40,678	549,369	526,420
NET (OUTGOING) / INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		85,745	(12,536)	73,210	5,632
Transfers between funds	4	(16,858)	16,858	-	-
NET (OUTGOING) INCOMING RESOURCES FOR YEAR		68,887	4,323	73,210	5,632
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	4	382,250	61,491	443,740	438,108
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	4	451,136	65,814	516,950	443,740

The notes on pages 11 to 19 form part of these financial statements

SKYLARK CHURCH
(Company number 5442866)
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31 March 2024 £	Total 31 March 2023 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	6	275,653	490,001	765,654	784,124
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	11,357		11,357	10,470
Cash at bank and in hand	10	167,409	36,478	203,887	124,371
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>178,766</u>	<u>36,478</u>	<u>215,244</u>	<u>134,840</u>
LIABILITIES					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	18,960	1,531	20,491	20,354
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>159,806</u>	<u>34,947</u>	<u>194,753</u>	<u>114,487</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>435,460</u>	<u>524,948</u>	<u>960,408</u>	<u>898,611</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	12	-	58,587	58,587	53,984
Creditors: amounts falling due after five years	12	-	384,871	384,871	400,887
NET ASSETS		<u>435,460</u>	<u>81,490</u>	<u>516,950</u>	<u>443,740</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted income funds	4	451,136	-	451,136	382,250
Restricted income funds	4	-	65,814	65,814	61,491
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	4	<u>451,136</u>	<u>65,814</u>	<u>516,950</u>	<u>443,740</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2024.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit for its financial statements for the financial year ended 31st March 2024 in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006
The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 23/12/2024



Peter Sims
Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors

The notes on pages 10 to 19 form part of these financial statements

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting Convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the provisions of Section 1A "Small Entities" of Financial Reporting Standard 102, "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Companies Act 2006. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general activities of the charity.

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions placed on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

There are no designated funds that the directors have earmarked for specific purposes.

Incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, the directors are virtually certain they will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income), the incoming resource and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resource.

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SOFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SOFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Donated services and facilities are included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended), where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the Financial Statements, but is described in the director's report.

Investment Income is included in the Financial Statements when receivable.

Resources Expended and Creditors

Liabilities are recognised when incurred or a commitment is made.

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory financial statements, the costs of director's meetings and legal advice to directors on governance or constitutional matters.

Where the charity has given a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SOFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Resources Expended and Creditors (Cont.)

Grants made or received without performance conditions are only recognised in the SOFA, when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to a grant which remain in the control of the charity.

Support costs including central functions have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Value Added Tax

The Charity's activities are classified as exempt for the purposes of value added tax and the Charity is unable to reclaim the value added tax which it suffers on its expenses. Expenditure in these financial statements is therefore shown inclusive of value added tax.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or if gifted at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation is calculated at a rate to write off the cost of the tangible fixed asset on a straight line basis over their estimated useful life. The rates applied per annum are as follows:

Fixed Asset Class	Depreciation Rate
Freehold Land	0%
Freehold Buildings	2.5%
Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment	33%
Leasehold building improvements	33%
Motor Vehicles	25%

There has been no changes to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year. The legal, banking, valuation and other expenses related to the purchase are expensed rather than capitalised.

Pension Scheme

The charity contributes to a Skylark International group scheme with Royal London at rates set by the scheme actuary and advised to the board by the scheme administrator. The scheme is a multi employer charity Scheme and advice to the board is by the scheme actuary. In accordance with FRS17 the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme.

Operating Leases

Rentals payable under operating lease agreements are charged as expenditure on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at the transaction price, less any impairment.

Financial Instruments

The company only enters into basic financial instrument transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like other debtors, creditors, loans from banks.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

2. INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total to 31 March 2024 £	Total to 31 March 2023 £
a) Donations and Legacies				
General and Weekly Offerings	409,130	10,064	419,194	360,415
Donations and CAF Vouchers *	65,863	17,426	83,289	41,893
Tax Recovered	79,423	-	79,423	84,983
Vision Offerings	7,411	-	7,411	12,703
	<u>561,826</u>	<u>27,490</u>	<u>589,316</u>	<u>499,994</u>
b) Other Trading Activities				
Fees Received	19,153	-	19,153	18,772
Sales	10,337	-	10,337	12,394
Rental Income	1,165	-	1,165	445
	<u>30,655</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,655</u>	<u>31,610</u>
c) Investment Income				
Bank Interest	1,955	652	2,607	447
	<u>1,955</u>	<u>652</u>	<u>2,607</u>	<u>447</u>
d) Other Income				
None	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>594,436</u>	<u>28,142</u>	<u>622,578</u>	<u>532,052</u>

* Donations included this year a legacy totalling £59,130.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

3. EXPENDITURE

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total to March 2024 £	Total to March 2023 £
a) Costs of Charitable Activities					
Salaries National Insurance and Pensions	5)	284,197	-	284,197	285,538
Training and Education		1,250	-	1,250	2,129
Mission and Support Grants:	3 c)	81,431	100	81,531	55,800
Building Mortgage interest		35,230	-	35,230	27,401
Building Repairs and Maintenance		5,919	-	5,919	2,924
Cleaning		4,688	-	4,688	5,982
Security and Safety		2,892	-	2,892	1,132
Water, Heat and Light		12,055	-	12,055	17,158
Bank Charges		496	-	496	481
Books, CD's and DVDs		685		685	359
Computer and Internet		1,166	-	1,166	2,033
Depreciation		4,876	17,922	22,798	23,386
Entertainment and Catering		2,855	133	2,988	3,767
Equipment and Materials		8,314	857	9,171	8,444
Food and Accommodation		18,794	5,994	24,788	21,158
Hire of Facilities		1,445		1,445	3,856
Insurances		8,983		8,983	8,914
Outside Support Services		10,106	6,890	16,996	17,035
Pastoral Gifts and Expenses		804	8,252	9,056	11,660
Postage and Courier		25		25	64
Printing and Stationery		2,921		2,921	4,651
Outside Speakers		750	80	830	1,610
Telephone and Fax		7,527		7,527	6,916
Travel Costs		2,119		2,119	3,352
Vehicle Running Costs		1,071	-	1,071	954
Event & Error Refunds	-	1,064	- -	1,064	1,056
		<u>499,535</u>	<u>40,228</u>	<u>539,763</u>	<u>517,760</u>
b) Governance Costs					
Subscriptions and Licenses		6,653	450	7,103	6,126
Independent Examination fees - current year		2,503	-	2,503	2,533
		<u>9,156</u>	<u>450</u>	<u>9,606</u>	<u>8,659</u>
		<u>508,691</u>	<u>40,678</u>	<u>549,369</u>	<u>526,420</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

3 c) Mission and Support Grants:

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total to 31 March 2024	Total to 31 March 2023
Local and UK Organisations				
Skylark International	54,731	-	54,731	37,200
Lighthouse Family Trust	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
CHESS	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
Care for the Family	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
Kintsugi Hope	3,000	-	3,000	3,000
Restored	-	100	100	150
Made for More	3,000	-	3,000	-
Stewardship - Martin Young	2,000	-	2,000	-
Churches Together in Chelmsford	500	-	500	250
Overseas Mission Organisations				
Cherish a Child	6,600	-	6,600	6,600
I Got Shoes	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
Bev Murrill	3,000	-	3,000	-
	<u>81,431</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>81,531</u>	<u>55,800</u>

The mission and support grants are for the following purposes:

- The tithe to Skylark International is towards supporting the movement to which SC belongs.
- Lighthouse Family Trust is a pregnancy advice service operating in Chelmsford.
- CHESS is a charity providing shelter and support for the homeless.
- Care for the Family's aim is to promote strong family life and to help those who face family difficulties.
- Kintsugi Hope exists to create safe and supportive spaces for those experiencing mental and emotional health challenges
- Cherish a Child supports AIDs orphans in Uganda.
- Churches Together in Chelmsford arranges joint events and provides a forum for churches and Christian organisations to work together in Chelmsford.
- Made for More provide mental health, mentoring and Christian support to the secondary schools in Chelmsford, Essex.
- I Got Shoes assists and enables the education of children in Uganda, providing grants, supplying shoes, uniforms and school fees.
- Martin Young has been leading and planting churches for 25 years and now works with churches and leaders on creative ways to present the Christian message.
- Bev Murrill co-founded Christian Growth Centre which became Skylark Church and is active in teaching and encouraging church leaders internationally from her home base in Australia - this gift was to assist with further academic study.
- Restored is a charity which speaks up about violence against women and equips churches across the UK to respond to domestic abuse and provide support for victims of abuse.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

4. FUNDS OF THE CHARITY

	Opening Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Closing Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Restricted Funds					
Community Fund	43,228	10,789	(13,268)	(142)	40,607
Pastoral Fund	14,966	17,353	(9,910)	-	22,409
Petchey Achievement Awards	2,338	-	-	-	2,338
Other	959	-	(17,500)	17,000	459
	<u>61,491</u>	<u>28,142</u>	<u>(40,678)</u>	<u>16,858</u>	<u>65,814</u>
Unrestricted Fund	382,250	594,436	(508,691)	(16,858)	451,136
	<u>443,740</u>	<u>622,578</u>	<u>(549,369)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>516,950</u>

The Community fund covers work that Skylark Church performs in and for the Community and includes assets transferred from ROC Chelmsford.

The Pastoral fund holds donations for pastoral care of individuals within the Church and to support individuals in the community and homes run by local charities.

The Petchey achievement awards scheme is to support monthly awards to youth groups.

The Other category contains restricted funds for items related to buildings.

5. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

	31-Mar-24 £	31-Mar-23 £
Gross Wages and Salaries	246,031	247,277
Employer's National Insurance	13,613	13,538
Employer's Pension Contribution	24,554	24,723
	<u>284,197</u>	<u>285,538</u>

The average number of employees who were engaged in the year is as follows:

	31-Mar-24	31-Mar-23
Activities in furtherance of organisation's objects	13	14
Full time equivalent	7	8

The charity operates a PAYE scheme to pay all employed members of staff. No individual employee received emoluments over £60,000.

The charity contributes to a Pension Fund with Royal London (previously branded as Scottish Life). Contributions are made by the employees at 4% and the employer at 10% for those employees who are members of the scheme.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold Land and Buildings £	Building Renovations £	Fixtures Fittings and Equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 31st March 2023	965,074	28,093	114,773	1,107,940
Additions			4,328	4,328
Disposals				-
As at 31st March 2024	<u>965,074</u>	<u>28,093</u>	<u>119,101</u>	<u>1,112,268</u>
Depreciation				
As at 1st April 2023	188,642	24,351	110,823	323,816
Charge for the year	17,500	1,726	3,572	22,798
Elimination on disposals				-
As at 31st March 2024	<u>206,142</u>	<u>26,077</u>	<u>114,395</u>	<u>346,614</u>
Net Book Value				
At 1st April 2023	776,432	3,742	3,950	784,124
At 31st March 2024	<u>758,932</u>	<u>2,017</u>	<u>4,706</u>	<u>765,654</u>

The freehold land and buildings comprise of the chapel on Chignal Road, Chelmsford and Unit 4 on Hanbury Road, Chelmsford. The unit at Hanbury Road was purchased for £845,000 in June 2012. The directors have allocated £145,000 to land and £700,000 to the building, with the building being depreciated. Both premises are used for the charity's activities and therefore are included at cost. As there are few similar properties in the area the market value is difficult to calculate. As part of the purchase of Hanbury Road the chapel was valued by the bank securing the loan against it and the directors believe that the valuation is similar to the £120,000 which is included in the above. The additions this year relate to the purchase of further lighting and video equipment to support online broadcasting of services and chairs for counselling rooms.

7. COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

The Charity had a rental and copy charges on a photocopier in the office for five years which started in 2017 and was due to expire in April 2022. A renewal of the photocopier rental was agreed in October 2020 with the lease commencing in November 2020. The new lease is due to expire in November 2025.

At year end the minimum lease payments under non cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	31-Mar-24 £	31-Mar-23 £
Obligation per annum:		
Within One Year	873	873
Between one and five years	1,454	2,327
	<u>2,327</u>	<u>3,200</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

8. TAXATION

As a charity, Skylark Church is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 478 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 (CTA 2010) to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the Charity.

9. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	31-Mar-24	31-Mar-23
	£	£
Tax Recoverable	8,985	8,466
Sundry Debtors and Prepayments	2,372	2,004
	<u>11,357</u>	<u>10,470</u>

10. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	31-Mar-24	31-Mar-23
Current Account	13,943	17,106
Deposit Account	153,437	65,883
Community Account	36,478	41,349
Cash	29	34
	<u>203,887</u>	<u>124,371</u>

11. CREDITORS AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31-Mar-24	31-Mar-23
	£	£
Accruals	2,451	2,941
Audit and Accountancy	2,400	2,310
Credit Cards	3,425	2,998
Mortgage payable within one year	12,215	12,105
	<u>20,491</u>	<u>20,354</u>

12. CREDITORS AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR

	31-Mar-24	31-Mar-23
	£	£
Mortgage repayable over 30 years to June 2042 due as follows:		
Between one and five years	58,587	53,984
In more than five years	384,871	400,887
	<u>443,458</u>	<u>454,871</u>

The mortgage is a repayment loan and bears a interest of 7.75 % at 31st March 24

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

13. RISK ASSESSMENT

The directors actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated, combined with the annual review of the controls over key financial systems carried out, will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The directors have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

14. RELATED PARTIES

The following amounts were paid to or on behalf of related parties:

Related Party	Salary	Pension contributions	Grant	Other	Total to 31 March 2024	Total to 31 March 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Peter & Nicola Sims	74,719	7,472	-	493	82,684	78,032
Lesley Kemp	6,067	607	-	-	6,674	6,296
Skylark International	-	-	54,731	-	54,731	37,200
	<u>80,787</u>	<u>8,079</u>	<u>54,731</u>	<u>493</u>	<u>144,089</u>	<u>121,528</u>

Subject to certain conditions, the Memorandum of association permits directors who offer their services to the Charity as a religious pastor, to be remunerated out of income or property of the charity.

In the Related Party list above, Peter & Nicola Sims are Pastors & Trustees, Lesley Kemp is the wife of Charles Kemp who is a trustee.

Skylark International is a charity which supports a network of churches and ministries, organising joint events, leadership conferences and training. Its primary funding comes from contributions made by the churches within the Skylark International network. Skylark Church is one of these churches.

Peter & Nicola Sims are also Leaders & Trustees of Skylark International

Two of the directors have received payment for travel, subsistence and study expenses totalling £374 (prior year £493) in relation to services provided to the Company.

During the year the following amounts were received from related parties:

Related Party	Total to March 2024	Total to March 2023
Skylark International - Payment for Admin Support	15,675	17,167
	<u>15,675</u>	<u>17,167</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

15. RESERVES POLICY

The directors have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs. The directors consider it appropriate to retain a level of reserves held in liquid assets equal to one week of running costs. This is based on the charity's size and the level of commitments held. The directors aim to ensure the charity will be able to continue to fulfil their charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income. The directors will endeavour to not 'sit' on funds unnecessarily.

SKYLARK CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1109961

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

SKYLARK CHURCH

(A company limited by guarantee)

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1109961

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 05442866

SKYLARK CHURCH

CONTENTS

Page 2 Reference and Administrative Information

Page 3 Independent Examiner's Report

Pages 4 to 7 Director's Report

Page 8 Statement of Financial Activities

Page 9 Balance Sheet

Pages 10 to 19 Notes to the Financial Statements

SKYLARK CHURCH
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

WORKING NAME	Skylark Church
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1109961
COMPANY NUMBER	05442866
START OF FINANCIAL YEAR	1st April 2022
END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	31st March 2023

John Grayston
Peter Sims
Nicola Sims
Charles Kemp
Wendy Ward
Wayne Bishop

The existing directors appoint any new directors, following the provisions laid out in the Articles of Association.

LEGAL STATUS	Company Limited by Guarantee
GOVERNING INSTRUMENT	Registered as a Company on 4th May 2005 and as a charity on 10th June 2005.

OBJECTS

The advance of the Christian faith in Essex and other parts of the United Kingdom or the World as the Directors may from time to time think fit and other such purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the law in England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the Charity.

REGISTERED AND MAIN ADDRESS	Unit 4 Hanbury Way Chelmsford Essex CM1 3AE
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BANKERS	HSBC 99 High Street Chelmsford CM1 1EQ
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INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS	Fisher Michael The Old Grange Lordship Road Writtle Chelmsford Essex, CM1 3WT
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LENDERS	Kingdom Bank Ruddington Fields Business Park Mere Way Ruddington Nottingham, NG11 6JS
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SKYLARK CHURCH
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 8 to 19.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company 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 period under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW).

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:

- to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given to me 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 as 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 examiners statements

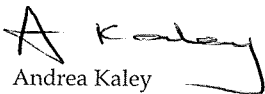
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) 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 accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities; and
- that the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102)

have not been met; or

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



Andrea Kaley

Chartered Accountant

for and on behalf of Fisher Michael

The Old Grange

Warren Estate

Writtle

Chelmsford

Essex, CM1 3WT

Date: 15 December 2023

**SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

The Board of Trustees, who are also directors of the Company for the purpose of the Companies Act 2006, present their annual report and financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Structure, Governance and Management

The Memorandum and Articles of Association administered by a Board of Directors govern the Centre. During the year these Directors were:

John Grayston
Charles Kemp
Peter Sims
Nicola Sims
Wendy Ward
Wayne Bishop

Other Officers of the Centre are:

Secretary: Lesley Kemp
Administrator: Naomi Raggett
Treasurer: Marcus Ward

The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity

Organisational structure and appointment of trustees

Newly appointed directors are provided with an informal induction to the charity and mentoring by established directors.

The company endeavours to maintain a balance of skills and expertise when seeking new or replacement directors. New directors undergo an induction process which involves meeting with directors and senior trust staff and are provided with an information pack detailing their responsibilities, governance, financial and other information relating to the structure and operation of the company. All directors are invited to attend a range of training events relating to both governance issues and specific areas of the charity's work.

The Board is constituted with a number of directors to bring a blend of different experience and capacities to make good judgement and contributions. New directors may be recruited from leaders within the church, key personnel of Skylark International, members of others churches in the locality or Christians in the local business community. Following proposal by one of the existing directors, new directors are appointed after review by the whole board, and are subject to induction training and continuous involvement in viewing the activities of the charity and understanding of its objectives.

The directors present the attached financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Activities, Achievements and Performance

When reviewing the aims and objectives of the centre and when planning future activities, we have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The aims of the Centre are to advance the Christian faith, to further Christian education, to relieve persons in need and to provide facilities for the community. After the downturn following the Covid-19 pandemic, the church has returned to its previous levels in terms of attendance and face-to-face operations and activity. We have continued on with a hybrid model of Church which has proved very successful and now incorporates live worship. Between 30 and 80 people watch live online during an average Sunday service, as well as the ability to engage online after the service has ended.

Towards advancing the Christian faith, the Church continues its regular Sunday services that are also accessible via Live Stream and after the service has ended. We were able to run an Easter service and multiple Christmas celebration services, all live streamed, which were well attended and received by regular church members and visitors alike.

SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Activities, Achievements and Performance (continued)

We continue to engage in overseas mission, drawing on the resources and experience of several congregational members and partner organisations. We continue to support the overseas mission of Cherish Uganda and Outstretched Hands, Romania, as well as supporting UK based organisations English for Women, Kintsugi Hope, CHESS, Care for the Family and Lighthouse Charity.

Towards furthering Christian education, Life Groups remain the principle mid-week meetings for Church and have returned to meeting physically again however a select few have chosen to offer online engagement as well as in person to facilitate older people or families with young children. These provide a smaller forum with emphasis on detailed study based on the previous week's sermon and enable the congregation to grow together in their education. The groups are flexible in style and content, to cater for a wide range of needs and we currently have 17 groups across the life of the Church.

Within this framework, one group, DNA, exists for the benefit of new members, to give them an overview of the various events and ministries happening within the church and also to find out our core vision and values. We have continued to see the numbers attending church returning to pre-pandemic levels and new people continue to seek out church after engaging in service online or via social media.

The senior generation have returned to their twice monthly in person meeting, providing a time of worship and fellowship with one another for between 10 and 20 members. Our deaf congregation continue to meet in person again and have roughly 20 attendees. Monthly BSL interpreted services are provided, and our Christmas and Easter services have online BSL interpretation.

Skylark Kids continues to facilitate kids work in line with Sunday services with around 60 kids each Sunday. Little Ones toddler group is growing on a Thursday morning, with more than 70 young children and parents/carers attending. There remains over 200 children on our register at present.

Skylark Youth have expanded their Tuesday evening sessions so as to be more accessible for those young people who don't come to Church, providing a vital link for youth within the Church as well as from our wider local community. The Young Adults group continues to meet monthly with between 10 and 15 members undertaking events or being hosted in homes by church members. The church is currently running an Alpha course with 11 attendees, providing an introductory exposure to the Christian faith, with guests enjoying a hot meal and time to discuss with one another and the group facilitators.

For those who are in financial need, the church gives gifts to members and others locally on an ad-hoc basis in response to known circumstances. Meals are also delivered to people who have had new babies, moved house, are unwell to mental or physical sickness or just having a difficult time. Food box provision has risen with the referral of new families from local schools, whilst we continue to provide pre-paid supermarket cards on an ad-hoc basis and to support families in extreme need over the Christmas period.

The church's pastoral and counselling services have been able to continue, mainly with face-to-face appointments but some clients continue to choose to access counselling online. We were also able to continue running online marriage courses to help people invest into their marital health, as well as a hybrid bereavement course to help those struggling with grief. Demand for our flourish self-esteem course continues to grow and now has groups in 6 secondary schools. We have also become a Restored "Beacon" Church to support those who are victim to domestic violence, having run restored groups in Open Road Drug and Alcohol services and the Chelmsford Womens Refuge, Safer Places, as well as a group here at Skylark Church accessible by anyone. Each group had around 6-8 attendees.

SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Activities, Achievements and Performance (continued)

This year we have continued our work alongside Tesco to regularly distribute food to those in need, including some refugee families, Safer Places Women's Refuge and to Chess, a Chelmsford local homeless charity, along with our food parcels and vouchers. We still maintain our support of Lighthouse Centre, an independent charity responding to need in the area of crisis pregnancy and loss.

The church is in healthy relationship with Skylark International, (formerly CGI), a growing organisation currently overseeing a number of churches in the UK and overseas as well as other Christian ministries. The church draws support, encouragement, inspiration from Skylark International and is pleased to give a minimum of 10% of its offering to it to help facilitate the work of our wider movement.

The church remains dependent on volunteers for a great number of its activities. It is impossible to gauge the financial benefits of such acts of service, but the spiritual returns are exponentially greater. Without the volunteers the church would not be able to function at its current level of output and the directors wish to take this opportunity to express their heartfelt thanks to all who have given freely of their time, talents, resources and energy, and for those who have stepped into new challenges and volunteering roles following the pandemic, at a time when many churches and charities have been struggling for volunteers.

Future Plans

Since taking ownership of the building in Hanbury Road we have assessed the suitability of the building for our future requirements and a number of improvements to the building. Further improvements may take place depending on funding.

We will continue to develop our relationships with partner schools and organisations throughout our city and wider community. As our kids work expands we are looking to convert another room within the church for use on a Sunday. 1-1 youth mentoring will soon be starting. We plan on starting a regular county wide Youth event to be accessible to young people throughout Essex. The development of a media suite is planned to increase the volume and standard of video recording to allow better engagement through online activities in one-off and regular provision.

Major Risks and Controls

The major risk is in respect of the value and volatility of income, as the charity is dependant on voluntary giving. This is partly managed through cash flow monitoring and altering the timing of expenditure to reflect that on the income.

Financial Review

The Centre's funds are applied to support Christian Mission through local teaching and worship, Christian missionary work in the UK and abroad.

In the year ended 31st March 2023 major expenses were applied as follows:

In support of full and part time staff £285,538

By way of a tithe to Skylark International £37,200

Maintenance of premises for worship and teaching locally, including mortgage interest of £27,401

In support of Christian Ministry workers in the UK and abroad £18,600

During the year there was a small surplus of £5,632.

Accounting practices remained unchanged for the financial year. The reserves policy is stated in note 15 to the financial statements. Sundry restricted funds were continued during the past financial year for the purposes of raising funds for specified individuals and circumstances, as detailed in the notes to the financial statements.

SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Skylark Church for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the overall management of the Charity, ensuring compliance with the Charity's objects and relevant legislation and also to define and agree the strategic aims and objectives of the Charity.

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charitable Company's financial activities during the year and its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue to operate

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The trustees are responsible for ensuring that proper accounting records are kept which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They 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.

Statement as to Disclosure of Information to Independent Examiners

So far as the Directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information (as defined by section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the charities independent examiner's are unaware, and each director has taken all the steps they ought to have taken as director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant examination information and to establish that the charity's independent examiners are aware of that information.

Approval of Annual Report

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 12/12/2023.....



Peter Sims

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors

SKYLARK CHURCH
(Company number 5442866)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

INCOME	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total to 31 March 2023 £	Total to 31 March 2022 £
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Donations and legacies	2a	471,898	28,096	499,994	432,921
Other trading activities	2b	31,610	-	31,610	21,674
Investment income	2c	244	203	447	11
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	2	503,752	28,300	532,052	454,606
EXPENDITURE					
Cost of generating funds					
Charitable activities	3a	473,215	44,545	517,760	441,722
Governance costs	3b	8,409	250	8,659	8,693
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	3	481,625	44,795	526,420	450,415
NET (OUTGOING) / INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		22,127	(16,495)	5,632	4,190
Transfers between funds	4	(5,676)	5,676	-	-
NET (OUTGOING) INCOMING RESOURCES FOR YEAR		16,451	(10,819)	5,632	4,190
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	4	365,798	72,310	438,108	433,918
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	4	382,250	61,491	443,740	438,108

The notes on pages 11 to 19 form part of these financial statements

SKYLARK CHURCH
(Company number 5442866)
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31 March 2023 £	Total 31 March 2022 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	6	294,123	490,001	784,124	803,690
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	10,470		10,470	7,273
Cash at bank and in hand	10	83,022	41,349	124,371	113,442
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>93,492</u>	<u>41,349</u>	<u>134,840</u>	<u>120,715</u>
LIABILITIES					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	18,822	1,531	20,354	19,443
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>74,669</u>	<u>39,818</u>	<u>114,487</u>	<u>101,272</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>368,793</u>	<u>529,819</u>	<u>898,611</u>	<u>904,963</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	12	-	53,984	53,984	53,259
Creditors: amounts falling due after five years	12	-	400,887	400,887	413,596
NET ASSETS		<u>368,793</u>	<u>74,948</u>	<u>443,740</u>	<u>438,108</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted income funds	4	382,250	-	382,250	365,798
Restricted income funds	4	-	61,491	61,491	72,310
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	4	<u>382,250</u>	<u>61,491</u>	<u>443,740</u>	<u>438,108</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2023.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit for its financial statements for the financial year ended 31st March 2023 in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 12/12/2023



Peter Sims

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors

The notes on pages 10 to 19 form part of these financial statements

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting Convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the provisions of Section 1A "Small Entities" of Financial Reporting Standard 102, "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Companies Act 2006. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general activities of the charity.

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions placed on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

There are no designated funds that the directors have earmarked for specific purposes.

Incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, the directors are virtually certain they will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income), the incoming resource and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resource.

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SOFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SOFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Donated services and facilities are included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended), where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the Financial Statements, but is described in the director's report.

Investment Income is included in the Financial Statements when receivable.

Resources Expended and Creditors

Liabilities are recognised when incurred or a commitment is made.

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory financial statements, the costs of director's meetings and legal advice to directors on governance or constitutional matters.

Where the charity has given a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SOFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Resources Expended and Creditors (Cont.)

Grants made or received without performance conditions are only recognised in the SOFA, when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to a grant which remain in the control of the charity.

Support costs including central functions have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Value Added Tax

The Charity's activities are classified as exempt for the purposes of value added tax and the Charity is unable to reclaim the value added tax which it suffers on its expenses. Expenditure in these financial statements is therefore shown inclusive of value added tax.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or if gifted at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation is calculated at a rate to write off the cost of the tangible fixed asset on a straight line basis over their estimated useful life. The rates applied per annum are as follows:

Fixed Asset Class	Depreciation Rate
Freehold Land	0%
Freehold Buildings	2.5%
Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment	33%
Leasehold building improvements	33%
Motor Vehicles	25%

There has been no changes to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year. The legal, banking, valuation and other expenses related to the purchase are expensed rather than capitalised.

Pension Scheme

The charity contributes to a Skylark International group scheme with Royal London at rates set by the scheme actuary and advised to the board by the scheme administrator. The scheme is a multi employer charity Scheme and advice to the board is by the scheme actuary. In accordance with FRS17 the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme.

Operating Leases

Rentals payable under operating lease agreements are charged as expenditure on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at the transaction price, less any impairment.

Financial Instruments

The company only enters into basic financial instrument transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like other debtors, creditors, loans from banks.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

2. INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total to 31 March 2023 £	Total to 31 March 2022 £
a) Donations and Legacies				
General and Weekly Offerings	347,483	12,932	360,415	313,038
Donations and CAF Vouchers	26,728	15,164	41,893	23,890
Tax Recovered	84,983	-	84,983	69,969
Vision Offerings	12,703	-	12,703	26,023
	<u>471,898</u>	<u>28,096</u>	<u>499,994</u>	<u>432,921</u>
b) Other Trading Activities				
Fees Received	18,772	-	18,772	16,827
Sales	12,394	-	12,394	4,262
Rental Income	445	-	445	585
	<u>31,610</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,610</u>	<u>21,674</u>
c) Investment Income				
Bank Interest	244	203	447	11
	<u>244</u>	<u>203</u>	<u>447</u>	<u>11</u>
d) Other Income				
None	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>503,752</u>	<u>28,300</u>	<u>532,052</u>	<u>454,606</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

3. EXPENDITURE

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total to March 2023 £	Total to March 2022 £
a) Costs of Charitable Activities					
Salaries National Insurance and Pensions	5)	285,538	-	285,538	255,285
Training and Education		2,129	-	2,129	3,370
Mission and Support Grants:	3 c)	55,650	150	55,800	56,060
Building Mortgage interest		27,401	-	27,401	27,113
Building Repairs and Maintenance		2,924	-	2,924	9,893
Cleaning		5,982	-	5,982	4,508
Security and Safety		1,132	-	1,132	2,106
Water, Heat and Light		17,158	-	17,158	12,364
Bank Charges		481	-	481	475
Books, CD's and DVDs		342	17	359	559
Computer and Internet		2,033	-	2,033	988
Depreciation		5,253	18,133	23,386	24,674
Entertainment and Catering		3,767	-	3,767	2,174
Equipment and Materials		7,387	1,057	8,444	4,946
Food and Accommodation		15,611	5,548	21,158	9,395
Hire of Facilities		3,856		3,856	300
Insurances		8,914		8,914	8,430
Outside Support Services		7,695	9,340	17,035	12,497
Pastoral Gifts and Expenses		2,157	9,503	11,660	11,512
Postage and Courier		64		64	-
Printing and Stationery		4,120	531	4,651	2,774
Outside Speakers		1,450	160	1,610	650
Telephone and Fax		6,916	-	6,916	10,826
Travel Costs		3,246	107	3,352	31
Vehicle Running Costs		954	-	954	603
Event Refunds		1,056	-	1,056	-
Bank Charge Refund		-	-	-	(19,811)
		<u>473,215</u>	<u>44,545</u>	<u>517,760</u>	<u>441,722</u>
b) Governance Costs					
Subscriptions and Licenses		5,876	250	6,126	6,493
Independent Examination fees - current year		2,533	-	2,533	2,200
		<u>8,409</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>8,659</u>	<u>8,693</u>
		<u>481,625</u>	<u>44,795</u>	<u>526,420</u>	<u>450,415</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

3 c) Mission and Support Grants:

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total to 31 March 2023	Total to 31 March 2022
Local and UK Organisations				
Skylark International	37,200	-	37,200	37,200
Lighthouse Family Trust	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
CHESS	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
Care for the Family	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
Kintsugi Hope	3,000	-	3,000	3,000
Restored	-	150	150	-
Churches Together in Chelmsford	250	-	250	-
Overseas Mission Organisations				
Cherish a Child	6,600	-	6,600	6,760
CRED Foundation	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
	-	-	-	500
	<u>55,650</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>55,800</u>	<u>56,060</u>

The mission and support grants are for the following purposes:

- The tithe to Skylark International is towards supporting the movement to which SC belongs.
- Lighthouse Family Trust is a pregnancy advice service operating in Chelmsford.
- CHESS is a charity providing shelter and support for the homeless.
- Care for the Family's aim is to promote strong family life and to help those who face family difficulties.
- Kintsugi Hope exists to create safe and supportive spaces for those experiencing mental and emotional health challenges
- Cherish a Child supports AIDs orphans in Uganda.
- Churches Together in Chelmsford arranges joint events and provides a forum for churches and Christian organisations to work together in Chelmsford.
- CRED Foundation partner with organisations in Ethiopia, India and Uganda to transform individuals, communities and the environment for the better. This gift was to assist Faith in Action Ministries in India
- Restored is a charity which speaks up about violence against women and equips churches across the UK to respond to domestic abuse and provide support for victims of abuse.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

4. FUNDS OF THE CHARITY

	Opening Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Closing Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Restricted Funds					
Community Fund	44,945	15,900	(15,294)	(2,324)	43,228
Pastoral Fund	14,567	12,400	(12,001)	-	14,966
Petchey Achievement Awards	2,338	-	-	-	2,338
Other	10,459	-	(17,500)	8,000	959
	<u>72,310</u>	<u>28,300</u>	<u>(44,795)</u>	<u>5,676</u>	<u>61,491</u>
Unrestricted Fund	365,798	503,752	(481,625)	(5,676)	382,250
	<u>438,108</u>	<u>532,052</u>	<u>(526,420)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>443,740</u>

The Community fund covers work that Skylark Church performs in and for the Community and includes assets transferred from ROC Chelmsford.

The Pastoral fund holds donations for pastoral care of individuals within the Church and to support individuals in the community and homes run by local charities.

The Petchey achievement awards scheme is to support monthly awards to youth groups.

The Other category contains restricted funds for items related to buildings.

5. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

	31-Mar-23 £	31-Mar-22 £
Gross Wages and Salaries	247,277	221,188
Employer's National Insurance	13,538	12,058
Employer's Pension Contribution	24,723	22,039
	<u>285,538</u>	<u>255,285</u>

The average number of employees who were engaged in the year is as follows:

	31-Mar-23	31-Mar-22
Activities in furtherance of organisation's objects	14	13
Full time equivalent	8	8

The charity operates a PAYE scheme to pay all employed members of staff. No individual employee received emoluments over £60,000.

The charity contributes to a Pension Fund with Royal London (previously branded as Scottish Life). Contributions are made by the employees at 4% and the employer at 10% for those employees

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold Land and Buildings £	Building Renovations £	Fixtures Fittings and Equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 31st March 2022	965,074	25,273	113,773	1,105,121
Additions		2,820	1,000	3,820
Disposals				-
As at 31st March 2023	965,074	28,093	114,773	1,108,941
Depreciation				
As at 1st April 2022	171,142	23,506	105,781	301,431
Charge for the year	17,500	844	5,042	23,386
Elimination on disposals				-
As at 31st March 2023	188,642	24,351	110,823	324,817
Net Book Value				
At 1st April 2022	793,932	1,767	7,992	803,690
At 31st March 2023	776,432	3,742	3,950	784,124

The freehold land and buildings comprise of the chapel on Chignal Road, Chelmsford and Unit 4 on Hanbury Road, Chelmsford. The unit at Hanbury Road was purchased for £845,000 in June 2012. The directors have allocated £145,000 to land and £700,000 to the building, with the building being depreciated. Both premises are used for the charity's activities and therefore are included at cost. As there are few similar properties in the area the market value is difficult to calculate. As part of the purchase of Hanbury Road the chapel was valued by the bank securing the loan against it and the directors believe that the valuation is similar to the £120,000 which is included in the above. The additions this year relate to a replacement office front door and the purchase of lighting and video equipment to support online broadcasting of services.

7. COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

The Charity had a rental and copy charges on a photocopier in the office for five years which started in 2017 and was due to expire in April 2022. A renewal of the photocopier rental was agreed in October 2020 with the lease commencing in November 2020. The new lease is due to expire in November 2025. The Charity also had a rental charge on a cloud telephone system for five years which was due to expire in April 2024. This was paid off early in July 2021 and a new system purchased outright with a monthly rental to cover running costs.

	31-Mar-23 £	31-Mar-22 £
Obligation per annum:		
Within One Year	873	873
Between one and five years	2,327	3,200
	<u>3,200</u>	<u>4,073</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

8. TAXATION

As a charity, Skylark Church is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 478 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 (CTA 2010) to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the Charity.

9. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	31-Mar-23	31-Mar-22
	£	£
Tax Recoverable	8,466	5,437
Sundry Debtors and Prepayments	2,004	1,836
	<u>10,470</u>	<u>7,273</u>

10. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	31-Mar-23	31-Mar-22
Current Account	17,106	20,594
Deposit Account	65,883	48,434
Community Account	41,349	44,345
Cash	34	69
	<u>124,371</u>	<u>113,442</u>

11. CREDITORS AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31-Mar-23	31-Mar-22
	£	£
Accruals	2,941	1,362
Audit and Accountancy	2,310	2,100
Credit Cards	2,998	2,666
Mortgage payable within one year	12,105	13,315
	<u>20,354</u>	<u>19,443</u>

12. CREDITORS AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR

	31-Mar-23	31-Mar-22
	£	£
Mortgage repayable over 30 years to June 2042 due as follows:		
Between one and five years	53,984	53,259
In more than five years	400,887	413,596
	<u>454,871</u>	<u>466,855</u>

The mortgage is a repayment loan and bears a interest of 6.75 % at 31st March 23
There was a subsequent increase in interest rate to 7% as from 12th May 23

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

13. RISK ASSESSMENT

The directors actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated, combined with the annual review of the controls over key financial systems carried out, will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The directors have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

14. RELATED PARTIES

The following amounts were paid to or on behalf of related parties:

Related Party	Salary	Pension contributions	Grant	Other	Total to 31 March 2023	Total to 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Peter & Nicola Sims	70,490	7,049	-	493	78,032	73,709
Lesley Kemp	5,724	572	-	-	6,296	5,940
Skylark International	-	-	37,200	-	37,200	37,200
	<u>76,214</u>	<u>7,621</u>	<u>37,200</u>	<u>493</u>	<u>121,528</u>	<u>116,849</u>

Subject to certain conditions, the Memorandum of association permits directors who offer their services to the Charity as a religious pastor, to be remunerated out of income or property of the charity.

In the Related Party list above, Peter & Nicola Sims are Pastors & Trustees, Lesley Kemp is the wife of Charles Kemp who is a trustee.

Skylark International is a charity which supports a network of churches and ministries, organising joint events, leadership conferences and training. Its primary funding comes from contributions made by the churches within the Skylark International network. Skylark Church is one of these churches.

Peter & Nicola Sims are also Leaders & Trustees of Skylark International

Two of the directors have received payment for travel, subsistence and study expenses totalling £493 (prior year £559) in relation to services provided to the Company.

During the year the following amounts were received from related parties:

Related Party	Total to March 2023	Total to March 2022
Skylark International - Payment for Admin Support	17,167	12,307
	<u>17,167</u>	<u>12,307</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

15. RESERVES POLICY

The directors have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs. The directors consider it appropriate to retain a level of reserves held in liquid assets equal to one week of running costs. This is based on the charity's size and the level of commitments held. The directors aim to ensure the charity will be able to continue to fulfil their charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income. The directors will endeavour to not 'sit' on funds unnecessarily.

SKYLARK CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1109961

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

SKYLARK CHURCH

(A company limited by guarantee)

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1109961

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 05442866

SKYLARK CHURCH

CONTENTS

Page 2	Reference and Administrative Information
Pages 3	Independent Examiner's Report
Pages 4 to 7	Director's Report
Page 8	Statement of Financial Activities
Page 9	Balance Sheet
Pages 10 to 19	Notes to the Financial Statements

SKYLARK CHURCH

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

WORKING NAME	Skylark Church
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1109961
COMPANY NUMBER	05442866
START OF FINANCIAL YEAR	1st April 2021
END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	31st March 2022

John Grayston
Peter Sims
Nicola Sims
Charles Kemp
Wendy Ward
Wayne Bishop

The existing directors appoint any new directors, following the provisions laid out in the Articles of Association.

LEGAL STATUS	Company Limited by Guarantee
GOVERNING INSTRUMENT	Registered as a Company on 4th May 2005 and as a charity on 10th June 2005.

OBJECTS

The advance of the Christian faith in Essex and other parts of the United Kingdom or the World as the Directors may from time to time think fit and other such purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the law in England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the Charity.

REGISTERED AND MAIN ADDRESS	Unit 4 Hanbury Way Chelmsford Essex CM1 3AE
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BANKERS	HSBC 99 High Street Chelmsford CM1 1EQ
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INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS	Fisher Michael The Old Grange Lordship Road Writtle Chelmsford Essex, CM1 3WT
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LENDERS	Kingdom Bank Ruddington Fields Business Park Mere Way Ruddington Nottingham, NG11 6JS
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SKYLARK CHURCH
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2022, which are set out on pages 8 to 19.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company 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 period under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW).

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:

- to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given to me 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 as 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 examiners statements

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) 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 accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities; and
- that the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102)

have not been met; or

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

Andrea Kaley

Andrea Kaley
Chartered Accountant
for and on behalf of Fisher Michael
The Old Grange
Warren Estate
Writtle
Chelmsford
Essex, CM1 3WT

Date: 22/12/2022

**SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022**

The Board of Trustees, who are also directors of the Company for the purpose of the Companies Act 2006, present their annual report and financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Structure, Governance and Management

The Memorandum and Articles of Association administered by a Board of Directors govern the Centre. During the year these Directors were:

John Grayston
Charles Kemp
Peter Sims
Nicola Sims
Wendy Ward
Wayne Bishop

Other Officers of the Centre are:

Secretary: Lesley Kemp
Administrator: Eddie Lawless/Naomi Raggett
Treasurer: Marcus Ward

The Charity is a Public Benefit Entity

Organisational structure and appointment of trustees

Newly appointed directors are provided with an informal induction to the charity and mentoring by established directors.

The company endeavours to maintain a balance of skills and expertise when seeking new or replacement directors. New directors undergo an induction process which involves meeting with directors and senior trust staff and are provided with an information pack detailing their responsibilities, governance, financial and other information relating to the structure and operation of the company. All directors are invited to attend a range of training events relating to both governance issues and specific areas of the charity's work.

The Board is constituted with a number of directors to bring a blend of different experience and capacities to make good judgement and contributions. New directors may be recruited from leaders within the church, key personnel of Skylark International, members of others churches in the locality or Christians in the local business community. Following proposal by one of the existing directors, new directors are appointed after review by the whole board, and are subject to induction training and continuous involvement in viewing the activities of the charity and understanding of its objectives.

The directors present the attached financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Activities, Achievements and Performance

When reviewing the aims and objectives of the centre and when planning future activities, we have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The aims of the Centre are to advance the Christian faith, to further Christian education, to relieve persons in need and to provide facilities for the community. Following the reduction of Covid-19 infection levels we have been able to return to more normal and face-to-face operations and seen a steady growth in attendance and activity, both in-person and online using our new 'hybrid' service model.

Towards advancing the Christian faith, following a return to in-person services (with a gradual reduction in Covid restrictions) we have moved to a 'hybrid' church model allowing for an active online congregation to join us for services and events via Livestream. We were able to run multiple Christmas Cafe Church services which were well attended and received by regular church members and visitors alike.

SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

Activities, Achievements and Performance (continued)

We are engaging in overseas mission, drawing on the resources and experience of several congregational members. We continue to support the overseas mission of Cherish Uganda and partnered with Big Love Charity to help fund food boxes in Romania and begin to send financial and gift assistance to Romania following the outbreak of the war in Ukraine.

Towards furthering Christian education, Life Groups are the principle mid-week meetings for Church and are mainly meeting physically again although some remain online to facilitate older people or families with young children. These provide a smaller forum with emphasis on detailed study based on the previous week's sermon and enable the congregation to grow together in their education. The groups are flexible in style and content, to cater for a wide range of needs and we have seen a rapid growth of new groups to cope with the increased need as people seek deeper connection following Covid isolation.

Within this framework, one group, DNA, exists for the benefit of new members, to give them an overview of the various events and ministries happening within the church and also to find out our core vision and values and since returning to in-person has had a large number of attendees as the church has seen an increasing influx of new members post-pandemic, in part due to the wealth of community outreach during the Covid-19 pandemic as well as the move to online livestreaming.

The senior generation, being the most vulnerable, have yet to return to in-person meetings and are served by a fortnightly praise CD which is recorded and sent to their homes, along with a message recorded by a member of the Church, to allow those who are less able to access our online hybrid services to continue to engage with Church. Our deaf congregation have begun to meet in-person again and have roughly 20 attendees, as well as monthly BSL interpreted online services being produced.

Skylark Kids has returned to facilitate kids work in line with Sunday services, and Little Ones toddler group has resumed on a Thursday morning, with more than 50 young children and parents/carers attending. There remains over 190 children on our register at present.

Skylark Youth continues to meet both during Sunday services and weekly on Sunday evenings at our second site, providing a vital link for youth within the Church as well as from our wider local community. We have also started a regular Young Adult's group for 18-30s and a transitional group called "The Gap" which aims to help youth transition into young adults within the church.

Regular welfare checks as well as monthly meals have restarted at Duke's Orchard, a local care home.

For those who are in financial need, the church gives gifts to members and others locally on an ad-hoc basis in response to known circumstances. Meals are also delivered to people who have had new babies, moved house, are unwell to mental or physical sickness or just having a difficult time. Whilst the provision of pre-paid supermarket cards has slowed with the decrease in Covid-19 levels, these are still given out where necessary and provision of food boxes to bless those most vulnerable, highlighted to us by local schools, continues to grow.

The church's pastoral and counselling services have been able to continue with a mix of online and face-to-face appointments, and continue to operate at high volume due to the increased mental health burden from Covid-19. We were also able to continue running online marriage courses to help people invest into their marital health. Flourish and Shine, self-esteem courses working with teenage girls and female victims of domestic violence respectively, have been able to restart and Flourish has been able to run in 3 schools with several more keen to start courses.

SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

Activities, Achievements and Performance (continued)

This year we have continued our work alongside Tesco to regularly distribute food to those in need, including some refugee families, Safer Places Women's Refuge and to Chess, a Chelmsford local homeless charity, along with our food parcels and vouchers. We still maintain our support of Lighthouse Centre, an independent charity responding to need in the area of crisis pregnancy and loss.

The church is in healthy relationship with Skylark International, (formerly CGI), a growing organisation currently overseeing a number of churches in the UK and overseas as well as other Christian ministries. The church draws support, encouragement, inspiration from Skylark International and is pleased to give a minimum of 10% of its offering to it to help facilitate the work of our wider movement.

The church remains dependent on volunteers for a great number of its activities. It is impossible to gauge the financial benefits of such acts of service, but the spiritual returns are exponentially greater. Without the volunteers the church would not be able to function at its current level of output and the directors wish to take this opportunity to express their heartfelt thanks to all who have given freely of their time, talents, resources and energy, and for those who have stepped into new challenges and volunteering roles following the pandemic, at a time when many churches and charities have been struggling for volunteers.

Future Plans

Since taking ownership of the building in Hanbury Road we have assessed the suitability of the building for our future requirements and a number of improvements to the building. Further improvements may take place depending on funding.

We will continue to develop our relationships with partner schools and organisations throughout our city and wider community now that our face-to-face community activities have restarted. We are partnering with Restored charity to become a "Beacon Church", training Core members of the church and a new team on how to support and respond to victims of domestic abuse. We intend to continue the development of our Hybrid Church model to include live worship streamed to our online congregation.

Major Risks and Controls

The major risk is in respect of the value and volatility of income, as the charity is dependant on voluntary giving. This is partly managed through cash flow monitoring and altering the timing of expenditure to reflect that on the income.

Financial Review

The Centre's funds are applied to support Christian Mission through local teaching and worship, Christian missionary work in the UK and abroad.

In the year ended 31st March 2022 major expenses were applied as follows:

In support of full and part time staff £255,285

By way of a tithe to Skylark International £37,200

Maintenance of premises for worship and teaching locally, including mortgage interest of £27,113

In support of Christian Ministry workers in the UK and abroad £18,860

During the year there was a small surplus of £4,190.

Accounting practices remained unchanged for the financial year. The reserves policy is stated in note 15 to the financial statements. Sundry restricted funds were continued during the past financial year for the purposes of raising funds for specified individuals and circumstances, as detailed in the notes to the financial statements.

SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Skylark Church for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the overall management of the Charity, ensuring compliance with the Charity's objects and relevant legislation and also to define and agree the strategic aims and objectives of the Charity.

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charitable Company's financial activities during the year and its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015
- Make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue to operate

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The trustees are responsible for ensuring that proper accounting records are kept which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They 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.

Statement as to Disclosure of Information to Independent Examiners

So far as the Directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information (as defined by section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the charities independent examiner's are unaware, and each director has taken all the steps they ought to have taken as director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant examination information and to establish that the charity's independent examiners are aware of that information.

Approval of Annual Report

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 22/12/2022



Peter Sims
Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors

SKYLARK CHURCH
(Company number 5442866)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total to 31	Total to 31
	Notes	Funds	Funds	March	March
		£	£	2022	2021
				£	£
INCOME					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Donations and legacies	2a	422,221	10,699	432,921	465,659
Other trading activities	2b	21,674	-	21,674	18,495
Investment income	2c	8	3	11	40
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	2	443,904	10,702	454,606	484,194
EXPENDITURE					
Cost of generating funds					
Charitable activities	3a	405,265	36,457	441,722	500,458
Governance costs	3b	8,693	-	8,693	8,094
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	3	413,958	36,457	450,415	508,552
NET (OUTGOING) / INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		29,946	(25,755)	4,190	(24,359)
Transfers between funds	4	(12,837)	12,837	-	-
NET (OUTGOING) INCOMING RESOURCES FOR YEAR		17,109	(12,918)	4,190	(24,359)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	4	348,689	85,229	433,918	458,276
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	4	365,798	72,310	438,108	433,918

The notes on pages 11 to 19 form part of these financial statements

SKYLARK CHURCH
(Company number 5442866)
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31 March 2022 £	Total 31 March 2021 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	6	295,556	508,134	803,690	822,097
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	7,273		7,273	8,474
Cash at bank and in hand	10	69,097	44,345	113,442	102,923
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>76,370</u>	<u>44,345</u>	<u>120,715</u>	<u>111,397</u>
LIABILITIES					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	6,128	13,313	19,443	19,239
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>70,242</u>	<u>31,032</u>	<u>101,272</u>	<u>92,158</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>365,799</u>	<u>539,165</u>	<u>904,963</u>	<u>914,256</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	12	-	53,259	53,259	50,504
Creditors: amounts falling due after five years	12	-	413,596	413,596	429,834
NET ASSETS		<u>365,799</u>	<u>72,310</u>	<u>438,108</u>	<u>433,918</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted income funds	4	365,798	-	365,798	348,689
Restricted income funds	4	-	72,310	72,310	85,229
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	4	<u>365,798</u>	<u>72,310</u>	<u>438,108</u>	<u>433,918</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2022.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit for its financial statements for the financial year ended 31st March 2022 in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

22/12/2022

Approved by the Board of Directors on



Peter Sims

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors

The notes on pages 10 to 19 form part of these financial statements

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting Convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the provisions of Section 1A "Small Entities" of Financial Reporting Standard 102, "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Companies Act 2006. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general activities of the charity.

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions placed on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

There are no designated funds that the directors have earmarked for specific purposes.

Incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, the directors are virtually certain they will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income), the incoming resource and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resource.

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SOFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SOFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Donated services and facilities are included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended), where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the Financial Statements, but is described in the director's report.

Investment Income is included in the Financial Statements when receivable.

Resources Expended and Creditors

Liabilities are recognised when incurred or a commitment is made.

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory financial statements, the costs of director's meetings and legal advice to directors on governance or constitutional matters.

Where the charity has given a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SOFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Resources Expended and Creditors (Cont.)

Grants made or received without performance conditions are only recognised in the SOFA, when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to a grant which remain in the control of the charity.

Support costs including central functions have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Value Added Tax

The Charity's activities are classified as exempt for the purposes of value added tax and the Charity is unable to reclaim the value added tax which it suffers on its expenses. Expenditure in these financial statements is therefore shown inclusive of value added tax.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or if gifted at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation is calculated at a rate to write off the cost of the tangible fixed asset on a straight line basis over their estimated useful life. The rates applied per annum are as follows:

Fixed Asset Class	Depreciation Rate
Freehold Land	0%
Freehold Buildings	2.5%
Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment	33%
Leasehold building improvements	33%
Motor Vehicles	25%

There has been no changes to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year. The legal, banking, valuation and other expenses related to the purchase are expensed rather than capitalised.

Pension Scheme

The charity contributes to a Skylark International group scheme with Royal London at rates set by the scheme actuary and advised to the board by the scheme administrator. The scheme is a multi employer charity Scheme and advice to the board is by the scheme actuary. In accordance with FRS17 the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme.

Operating Leases

Rentals payable under operating lease agreements are charged as expenditure on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at the transaction price, less any impairment.

Financial Instruments

The company only enters into basic financial instrument transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like other debtors, creditors, loans from banks.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

2. INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total to 31 March 2022 £	Total to 31 March 2021 £
a) Donations and Legacies				
General and Weekly Offerings	308,997	4,041	313,038	334,283
Donations and CAF Vouchers	17,232	6,658	23,890	59,310
Tax Recovered	69,969	-	69,969	66,633
Vision Offerings	26,023	-	26,023	5,433
	<u>422,221</u>	<u>10,699</u>	<u>432,921</u>	<u>465,659</u>
b) Other Trading Activities				
Fees Received	16,827	-	16,827	18,426
Sales	4,262	-	4,262	70
Rental Income	585	-	585	-
	<u>21,674</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,674</u>	<u>18,496</u>
c) Investment Income				
Bank Interest	<u>8</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>40</u>
	<u>8</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>40</u>
d) Other Income				
Current Account Adjustment	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>443,904</u>	<u>10,702</u>	<u>454,606</u>	<u>484,194</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

3. EXPENDITURE

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total to March 2022 £	Total to March 2021 £
a) Costs of Charitable Activities					
Salaries National Insurance and Pensions	5)	255,285	-	255,285	268,217
Training and Education		3,370	-	3,370	1,975
Mission and Support Grants:	3 c)	56,060	-	56,060	64,507
Building Mortgage interest		27,113	-	27,113	27,780
Building Repairs and Maintenance		9,893	-	9,893	3,647
Cleaning		4,508	-	4,508	1,378
Security and Safety		2,106	-	2,106	2,250
Water, Heat and Light		12,364	-	12,364	7,149
Bank Charges		475	-	475	439
Books, CD's and DVDs		559	-	559	542
Computer and Internet		988	-	988	1,328
Depreciation		6,346	18,328	24,674	23,545
Entertainment and Catering		2,174	-	2,174	-
Equipment and Materials		3,697	1,249	4,946	1,495
Food and Accommodation		4,182	5,213	9,395	13,685
Hire of Facilities		300	-	300	882
Insurances		8,430	-	8,430	8,266
Outside Support Services		10,897	1,600	12,497	21,291
Pastoral Gifts and Expenses		1,453	10,058	11,512	36,841
Postage and Courier		-	-	-	382
Printing and Stationery		2,765	9	2,774	3,313
Outside Speakers		650	-	650	2,050
Telephone and Fax		10,826	-	10,826	7,644
Travel Costs		31	-	31	76
Vehicle Running Costs		603	-	603	775
Grant Refund		-	-	-	1,000
Bank Charges refunded		(19,811)	-	(19,811)	
		<u>405,265</u>	<u>36,457</u>	<u>441,722</u>	<u>500,458</u>
b) Governance Costs					
Subscriptions and Licenses		6,493	-	6,493	5,982
Independent Examination fees - current year		2,200	-	2,200	2,113
		<u>8,693</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,693</u>	<u>8,095</u>
		<u>413,958</u>	<u>36,457</u>	<u>450,415</u>	<u>508,553</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

3 c) Mission and Support Grants:

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total to 31 March 2022	Total to 31 March 2021
Local and UK Organisations				
Skylark International	37,200	-	37,200	40,687
Mrs Race	-	-	-	4,620
Lighthouse Family Trust	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
CHESS	1,200	-	1,200	-
Care for the Family	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
Kintsugi Hope	3,000	-	3,000	3,500
ROC	-	-	-	1,200
Mothers Union	-	-	-	500
Overseas Mission Organisations				
Cherish a Child	6,760	-	6,760	6,600
Outstretched Hands	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
Centrum Rampa	500	-	500	-
	<u>56,060</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>56,060</u>	<u>64,507</u>

The mission and support grants are for the following purposes:

- The tithe to Skylark International is towards supporting the movement to which SC belongs.
- Lighthouse Family Trust is a pregnancy advice service operating in Chelmsford.
- CHESS is a charity providing shelter and support for the homeless.
- Care for the Family's aim is to promote strong family life and to help those who face family difficulties.
- Kintsugi Hope exists to create safe and supportive spaces for those experiencing mental and emotional health challenges
- Cherish a Child supports AIDs orphans in Uganda.
- Outstretched Hands is a charity working with the poor in Romania.
- Centrum Rampa is a charity based in Poland seeking to work with the disadvantaged - the gift this year was towards their work with Ukranian refugees.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

4. FUNDS OF THE CHARITY

	Opening Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Closing Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Restricted Funds					
Community Fund	30,825	957	(3,638)	16,801	44,945
Pastoral Fund	19,304	9,743	(14,481)	-	14,566
Petchey Achievement Awards	3,176	-	(839)	-	2,338
Other	31,923	-	(17,500)	(3,964)	10,459
	<u>85,229</u>	<u>10,702</u>	<u>(36,457)</u>	<u>12,837</u>	<u>72,310</u>
Unrestricted Fund	348,689	443,904	(413,958)	(12,837)	365,798
	<u>433,918</u>	<u>454,606</u>	<u>(450,415)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>438,108</u>

The Community fund covers work that Skylark Church performs in and for the Community and includes assets transferred from ROC Chelmsford.

The Pastoral fund holds donations for pastoral care of individuals within the Church and to support individuals in the community and homes run by local charities.

The Petchey achievement awards scheme is to support monthly awards to youth groups.

The Other category contains restricted funds for items related to buildings.

5. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

	31-Mar-22 £	31-Mar-21 £
Gross Wages and Salaries	221,188	231,761
Employer's National Insurance	12,058	12,951
Employer's Pension Contribution	22,039	23,505
	<u>255,285</u>	<u>268,217</u>

The average number of employees who were engaged in the year is as follows:

	31-Mar-22	31-Mar-21
Activities in furtherance of organisation's objects	13	13
Full time equivalent	8	7

The charity operates a PAYE scheme to pay all employed members of staff. No individual employee received emoluments over £60,000.

The charity contributes to a Pension Fund with Royal London (previously branded as Scottish Life). Contributions are made by the employees at 4% and the employer at 10% for those employees

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold Land and Buildings £	Building Renovations £	Fixtures Fittings and Equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 31st March 2021	965,074	22,916	109,863	1,098,854
Additions		2,357	3,910	6,267
Disposals				-
As at 31st March 2022	965,074	25,273	113,773	1,105,121
Depreciation				
As at 1st April 2021	153,642	22,376	99,738	276,757
Charge for the year	17,500	1,130	6,043	24,674
Elimination on disposals				0
As at 31st March 2022	171,142	23,506	105,781	301,431
Net Book Value				
At 1st April 2021	811,432	540	10,125	822,097
At 31st March 2022	793,932	1,767	7,992	803,690

The freehold land and buildings comprise of the chapel on Chignal Road, Chelmsford and Unit 4 on Hanbury Road, Chelmsford. The unit at Hanbury Road was purchased for £845,000 in June 2012. The directors have allocated £145,000 to land and £700,000 to the building, with the building being depreciated. Both premises are used for the charity's activities and therefore are included at cost. As there are few similar properties in the area the market value is difficult to calculate. As part of the purchase of Hanbury Road the chapel was valued by the bank securing the loan against it and the directors believe that the valuation is similar to the £120,000 which is included in the above.

The additions this year relate to a replacement office front door and the purchase of lighting and video equipment to support online broadcasting of services.

7. COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

The Charity had a rental and copy charges on a photocopier in the office for five years which started in 2017 and was due to expire in April 2022. A renewal of the photocopier rental was agreed in October 2020 with the lease commencing in November 2020. The new lease is due to expire in November 2025. The Charity also had a rental charge on a cloud telephone system for five years which was due to expire in April 2024. This was paid off early in July 2021 and a new system purchased outright with a monthly rental to cover running costs.

	31-Mar-22 £	31-Mar-21 £
Obligation per annum:		
Within One Year	873	1,543
Between one and five years	3,200	4,460
	<u>4,073</u>	<u>6,003</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

8. TAXATION

As a charity, Skylark Church is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 478 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 (CTA 2010) to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the Charity.

9. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	31-Mar-22	31-Mar-21
	£	£
Tax Recoverable	5,437	7,497
Sundry Debtors and Prepayments	1,836	977
	<u>7,273</u>	<u>8,474</u>

10. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	31-Mar-22	31-Mar-21
Current Account	20,594	15,519
Deposit Account	48,434	35,629
Community Account	44,345	51,731
Cash	69	44
	<u>113,442</u>	<u>102,923</u>

11. CREDITORS AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31-Mar-22	31-Mar-21
	£	£
Accruals	1,362	1,311
Audit and Accountancy	2,100	2,100
Credit Cards	2,666	3,202
Mortgage payable within one year	13,315	12,626
	<u>19,443</u>	<u>19,239</u>

12. CREDITORS AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR

	31-Mar-22	31-Mar-21
	£	£
Mortgage repayable over 30 years to June 2042 due as follows:		
Between one and five years	53,259	50,504
In more than five years	413,596	429,834
	<u>466,855</u>	<u>480,338</u>

The mortgage is a repayment loan and bears a interest which is currently 5.5%.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

13. RISK ASSESSMENT

The directors actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated, combined with the annual review of the controls over key financial systems carried out, will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The directors have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

14. RELATED PARTIES

The following amounts were paid to or on behalf of related parties:

Related Party	Salary	Pension contributions	Grant	Other	Total to 31 March 2022	Total to 31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Peter & Nicola Sims	66,500	6,650	-	559	73,709	73,491
Lesley Kemp	5,400	540	-		5,940	8,910
Skylark International	-	-	37,200	-	37,200	40,687
	<u>71,900</u>	<u>7,190</u>	<u>37,200</u>	<u>559</u>	<u>116,849</u>	<u>123,088</u>

Subject to certain conditions, the Memorandum of association permits directors who offer their services to the Charity as a religious pastor, to be remunerated out of income or property of the charity.

In the Related Party list above, Peter & Nicola Sims are Pastors & Trustees, Lesley Kemp is the wife of Charles Kemp who is a trustee.

Skylark International is a charity which supports a network of churches and ministries, organising joint events, leadership conferences and training. Its primary funding comes from contributions made by the churches within the Skylark International network. Skylark Church is one of these churches.

Peter & Nicola Sims are also Leaders & Trustees of Skylark International

Two of the directors have received payment for travel, subsistence and study expenses of £559 (prior year £341) in relation to services provided to the Company.

During the year the following amounts were received from related parties:

Related Party	Total to March 2022	Total to March 2021
Skylark International - Payment for Admin Support	12,307	11,109
	<u>12,307</u>	<u>11,109</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

15. RESERVES POLICY

The directors have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs. The directors consider it appropriate to retain a level of reserves held in liquid assets equal to one week of running costs. This is based on the charity's size and the level of commitments held. The directors aim to ensure the charity will be able to continue to fulfil their charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income. The directors will endeavour to not 'sit' on funds unnecessarily.

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

SKYLARK CHURCH

(A company limited by guarantee)

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1109961

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 05442866

SKYLARK CHURCH CONTENTS

Page 2 Reference and Administrative Information

Pages 3 Independent Examiner's Report

Pages 4 to 7 Director's Report

Page 8 Statement of Financial Activities

Page 9 Balance Sheet

Pages 10 to 19 Notes to the Financial Statements

**SKYLARK CHURCH
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

WORKING NAME	Skylark Church
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1109961
COMPANY NUMBER	05442866
START OF FINANCIAL YEAR	1st April 2020
END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	31st March 2021
	John Grayston
	Peter Sims
	Nicola Sims
	Charles Kemp
	Wendy Ward
	Wayne Bishop

The existing directors appoint any new directors, following the provisions laid out in the Articles of Association.

LEGAL STATUS	Company Limited by Guarantee
GOVERNING INSTRUMENT	Registered as a Company on 4th May 2005 and as a charity on 10th June 2005.

OBJECTS

The advance of the Christian faith in Essex and other parts of the United Kingdom or the World as the Directors may from time to time think fit and other such purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the law in England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the Charity.

REGISTERED AND MAIN ADDRESS	Unit 4 Hanbury Way Chelmsford Essex CM1 3AE
BANKERS	HSBC 99 High Street Chelmsford CM1 1EQ
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS	Fisher Michael Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors The Old Grange Lordship Road Writtle Chelmsford Essex, CM1 3WT
LENDERS	Kingdom Bank Ruddington Fields Business Park Mere Way Ruddington Nottingham, NG11 6JS

**SKYLARK CHURCH
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set out on pages 8 to 19.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company 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 period under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW).

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:

- to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given to me 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 as 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 examiners statements

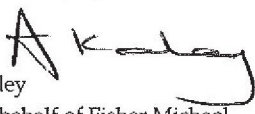
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) 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 accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities; and
- that the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102)

have not been met; or

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


Andrea Kaley
for and on behalf of Fisher Michael
Registered Auditors and Chartered Accountants
The Old Grange
Warren Estate
Writtle
Chelmsford
Essex, CM1 3WT

Date: 10 December 2021

**SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

The Board of Trustees, who are also directors of the Company for the purpose of the Companies Act 2006, present their annual report and financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Structure, Governance and Management

The Memorandum and Articles of Association administered by a Board of Directors govern the Centre. During the year these Directors were:

John Grayston
Charles Kemp
Peter Sims
Nicola Sims
Wendy Ward
Wayne Bishop

Other Officers of the Centre are:

Secretary: Lesley Kemp
Administrator: Eddie Lawless
Treasurer: Marcus Ward

Organisational structure and appointment of trustees

Newly appointed directors are provided with an informal induction to the charity and mentoring by established directors.

The company endeavours to maintain a balance of skills and expertise when seeking new or replacement directors. New directors undergo an induction process which involves meeting with directors and senior trust staff and are provided with an information pack detailing their responsibilities, governance, financial and other information relating to the structure and operation of the company. All directors are invited to attend a range of training events relating to both governance issues and specific areas of the charity's work.

The Board is constituted with a number of directors to bring a blend of different experience and capacities to make good judgement and contributions. New directors may be recruited from leaders within the church, key personnel of Skylark International, members of others churches in the locality or Christians in the local business community. Following proposal by one of the existing directors, new directors are appointed after review by the whole board, and are subject to induction training and continuous involvement in viewing the activities of the charity and understanding of its objectives.

The directors present the attached financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2021.

Activities, Achievements and Performance

When reviewing the aims and objectives of the centre and when planning future activities, we have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The aims of the Centre are to advance the Christian faith, to further Christian education, to relieve persons in need and to provide facilities for the community. During the year the church has continued to grow and flourish in many areas of its operation.

Towards advancing the Christian faith, the introduction of online services has allowed us to reach new believers from a far wider area, both via social media and our website as well as running an online Alpha Course, and through online childrens and youth ministry as well as distribution of food parcels and vouchers to those in greater financial hardship due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We were able to hold two large drive-in outdoor Carol services for our congregation and local community which were well attended, and we continue to meet on Zoom fortnightly for Live Worship as well as produce regular "soundbite" short devotionals to encourage the congregation throughout the week.

SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

Activities, Achievements and Performance (continued)

We are engaging in overseas mission, drawing on the resources and experience of several congregational members. We continue to support the overseas mission of Cherish Uganda and partnered with Big Love Charity to help fund food boxes in Romania however Covid-19 travel restrictions meant we had to cancel our Romania Mission Trip. We were once again able to send over a donation to benefit the schools work and youth clubs that are run by teams residing there.

Towards furthering Christian education, Life Groups are the principle mid-week meetings for Church and continue to meet virtually, providing a smaller forum with emphasis on detailed study based on the previous week's sermon and enable the congregation to grow together in their education. The groups are flexible in style and content, to cater for a wide range of needs and new groups have grown steadily throughout the year and have been added to especially due to the use of Zoom allowing for greater accessibility and from a wider geographical area. Skylark Teach has continued virtually to offer greater depth of Bible teaching across a half-day session on a variety of topics.

Within this framework, one group, DNA, exists for the benefit of new members, to give them an overview of the various events and ministries happening within the church and also to find out our core vision and values and this continues to happen virtually as well.

The senior generation is served by a fortnightly praise CD which is recorded and sent to their homes, along with a message recorded by a member of the Church, to allow those who are less able to access our online services to continue to engage with Church. Our deaf congregation also continued to meet monthly via zoom with roughly 25 attendees.

Skylark Kids has also been required to move online. Weekly resources are being made available to children and families to follow along with the online Sunday services, and Boys and Girls specific online group are being run via Zoom to help children to remain engaged and connected with Church and one another. We were also able to run a virtual Parenting for Faith course to help equip parents and carers. There remains over 190 children on our register at present.

Skylark Youth continues to meet outdoors in bubbles of fifteen, as well as a weekly online Zoom meetings, to allow socialising and encouragement of our youth, and has also been attended by a number of youths from our wider community.

Kintsugi Hope groups have continued to run online, facilitating peer mental health support during what has been an exceptionally difficult year. Whilst much of the schools and toddlers ministry has had to temporarily halt due to Covid-19, we continue to do welfare check-ins on residents in Duke's Orchard, a local care home.

For those who are in financial need, the church gives gifts to members and others locally on an ad-hoc basis in response to known circumstances. Meals are also delivered to people who have had new babies, moved house, are unwell to mental or physical sickness or just having a difficult time. This year we have provided a greatly increased giving to both members and those made known to us by schools and other local organisations, in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, through pre-paid food vouchers as well as food parcels and smaller gift offerings to the more elderly within our community who have been rendered housebound due to isolation

The church's pastoral and counselling services have been able to continue online, with our team of counsellors providing telephone and zoom counselling, for which demand has greatly increased due to the pandemic. We were also able to run an online marriage course to help people invest into their marital health.

Given it's previous success we were also able to run a popular online recovery course to assist those struggling with different types of addictions.

SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

Activities, Achievements and Performance (continued)

This year we have increased our work alongside Tesco to regularly distribute food to those in need, including some Afghan refugee families, Safer Places Women's Refuge and to Chess, a Chelmsford local homeless charity, along with our food parcels and vouchers in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. We still maintain our support of Lighthouse Centre, an independent charity responding to need in the area of crisis pregnancy and loss. We also continue to support Redeeming Our Communities, a national initiative aimed at improving social and community cohesion.

The church is in healthy relationship with Skylark International, (formerly CGI), an organisation currently overseeing 16 churches in the UK and overseas as well as other Christian ministries. The church draws support, encouragement, inspiration from Skylark International and is pleased to give a minimum of 10% of its offering to it to help facilitate the work of our wider movement.

Despite the covid-19 pandemic, the church remains dependent on volunteers for a great number of its activities. It is impossible to gauge the financial benefits of such acts of service, but the spiritual returns are exponentially greater. Without the volunteers the church would not be able to function at its current level of output and the directors wish to take this opportunity to express their heartfelt thanks to all who have given freely of their time, talents, resources and energy.

Future Plans

Since taking ownership of the building in Hanbury Road we have assessed the suitability of the building for our future requirements and a number of improvements to the building. Further improvements may take place depending on funding.

We will continue to develop our relationships with partner schools and organisations throughout our city and wider community, and intend to restart much of our in-school ministry once the pandemic allows us to do so safely. It is our intention to build on our online service presence and to develop a "hybrid" model of church, accessible in person and online simultaneously, once in person services once again become available. In the meantime we will begin to meet as a wider church body in a local park in order to engender our ongoing sense of community in person rather than simply via online. Sunday services and in person groups, as well as face-to-face counselling, will resume as soon as it is safe to do so.

Major Risks and Controls

The major risk is in respect of the value and volatility of income, as the charity is dependant on voluntary giving. This is partly managed through cash flow monitoring and altering the timing of expenditure to reflect that on the income.

Financial Review

The Centre's funds are applied to support Christian Mission through local teaching and worship, Christian missionary work in the UK and abroad.

In the year ended 31st March 2021 major expenses were applied as follows:

In support of full and part time pastors £268,217

By way of a tithe to Skylark International £40,687

Maintenance of premises for worship and teaching locally, including mortgage interest of £27,780

In support of Christian Ministry workers in the UK and abroad £23,820

During the year there was a deficit of £25,349 primarily as a result of the Covid situation.

Accounting practices remained unchanged for the financial year. The reserves policy is stated in note 15 to the financial statements. Sundry restricted funds were continued during the past financial year for the purposes of raising funds for specified individuals and circumstances, as detailed in the notes to the financial statements.

SKYLARK CHURCH
DIRECTORS REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Skylark Church for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the overall management of the Charity, ensuring compliance with the Charity's objects and relevant legislation and also to define and agree the strategic aims and objectives of the Charity.

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice. Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the charitable Company's financial activities during the year and its financial position at the end of the year.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015
- Make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue to operate

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The trustees are responsible for ensuring that proper accounting records are kept which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They 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.

Statement as to Disclosure of Information to Independent Examiners

So far as the Directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information (as defined by section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the charities independent examiner's are unaware, and each director has taken all the steps they ought to have taken as director in order to make themselves aware of any relevant examination information and to establish that the charity's independent examiners are aware of that information.

Approval of Annual Report

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 10/12/2021

P Sims

Peter Sims
Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors

SKYLARK CHURCH
(Company number 5442866)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total to 31 March 2021 £	Total to 31 March 2020 £
INCOME					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Donations and legacies	2a	385,203	80,456	465,659	491,016
Other trading activities	2b	18,496	-	18,496	22,781
Investment income	2c	38	2	40	170
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	2	403,737	80,457	484,194	513,967
EXPENDITURE					
Cost of generating funds					
Charitable activities	3a	429,299	71,159	500,458	498,030
Governance costs	3b	8,037	58	8,094	5,501
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	3	437,336	71,217	508,553	503,531
NET (OUTGOING)/ INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		(33,599)	9,241	(24,359)	10,436
Transfers between funds	4	(5,448)	5,448	-	-
NET (OUTGOING) INCOMING RESOURCES FOR YEAR		(39,048)	14,689	(24,359)	10,436
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	4	387,737	70,539	458,276	447,841
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	4	348,689	85,229	433,918	458,276

The notes on pages 11 to 19 form part of these financial statements

SKYLARK CHURCH
(Company number 5442866)
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31 March 2021 £	Total 31 March 2020 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	6	295,635	526,462	822,097	840,164
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	8,474	-	8,474	10,558
Cash at bank and in hand	10	51,192	51,731	102,923	116,734
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>59,666</u>	<u>51,731</u>	<u>111,397</u>	<u>127,291</u>
LIABILITIES					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	6,613	12,626	19,239	16,056
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>53,053</u>	<u>39,105</u>	<u>92,158</u>	<u>111,235</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>348,689</u>	<u>565,567</u>	<u>914,256</u>	<u>951,399</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	12	-	50,504	50,504	47,872
Creditors: amounts falling due after five years	12	-	429,834	429,834	445,251
NET ASSETS		<u>348,689</u>	<u>85,229</u>	<u>433,918</u>	<u>458,276</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted income funds	4	348,689	-	348,689	387,737
Restricted income funds	4	-	85,229	85,229	70,539
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	4	<u>348,689</u>	<u>85,229</u>	<u>433,918</u>	<u>458,276</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2021.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit for its financial statements for the financial year ended 31st March 2021 in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006
The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

Approved by the Board of Directors on 10/12/2021

P Sims

Peter Sims
Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors

The notes on pages 10 to 19 form part of these financial statements

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting Convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the provisions of Section 1A "Small Entities" of Financial Reporting Standard 102, "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Companies Act 2006. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in the furtherance of the general activities of the charity.

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions placed on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

There are no designated funds that the directors have earmarked for specific purposes.

Incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, the directors are virtually certain they will receive the resources and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income), the incoming resource and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.

Grants and donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resource.

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SOFA at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SOFA as incoming resources when receivable.

Donated services and facilities are included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended), where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

The value of volunteer help received is not included in the Financial Statements, but is described in the director's report.

Investment Income is included in the Financial Statements when receivable.

Resources Expended and Creditors

Liabilities are recognised when incurred or a commitment is made.

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory financial statements, the costs of director's meetings and legal advice to directors on governance or constitutional matters.

Where the charity has given a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SOFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Resources Expended and Creditors (Cont.)

Grants made or received without performance conditions are only recognised in the SOFA, when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to a grant which remain in the control of the charity.

Support costs including central functions have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Value Added Tax

The Charity's activities are classified as exempt for the purposes of value added tax and the Charity is unable to reclaim the value added tax which it suffers on its expenses. Expenditure in these financial statements is therefore shown inclusive of value added tax.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or if gifted at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation is calculated at a rate to write off the cost of the tangible fixed asset on a straight line basis over their estimated useful life. The rates applied per annum are as follows:

Fixed Asset Class	Depreciation Rate
Freehold Land	0%
Freehold Buildings	2.5%
Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment	33%
Leasehold building improvements	33%
Motor Vehicles	25%

There has been no changes to the accounting policies (valuation rules and methods of accounting) since last year. The legal, banking, valuation and other expenses related to the purchase are expensed rather than capitalised.

Pension Scheme

The charity contributes to a Skylark International group scheme with Royal London at rates set by the scheme actuary and advised to the board by the scheme administrator. The scheme is a multi employer charity Scheme and advice to the board is by the scheme actuary. In accordance with FRS17 the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme.

Operating Leases

Rentals payable under operating lease agreements are charged as expenditure on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

2. INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total to 31 March 2021 £	Total to 31 March 2020 £
a) Donations and Legacies				
General and Weekly Offerings	290,456	43,826	334,283	388,013
Donations and CAF Vouchers	22,680	36,630	59,310	30,112
Tax Recovered	66,633	-	66,633	68,472
Vision Offerings	5,433	-	5,433	4,419
	<u>385,203</u>	<u>80,456</u>	<u>465,659</u>	<u>491,016</u>
b) Other Trading Activities				
Fees Received	18,426	-	18,426	22,140
Sales	70	-	70	10
Rental Income	-	-	-	631
	<u>18,496</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,496</u>	<u>22,781</u>
c) Investment Income				
Bank Interest	38	2	40	170
	<u>38</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>170</u>
	<u>403,737</u>	<u>80,457</u>	<u>484,194</u>	<u>513,967</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

3. EXPENDITURE

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total to March 2021 £	Total to March 2020 £
a) Costs of Charitable Activities					
Salaries National Insurance and Pensions	5)	268,217	-	268,217	261,904
Training and Education		1,975	-	1,975	1,893
Mission and Support Grants:	3 c)	64,507	-	64,507	58,160
Building Mortgage interest		27,780	-	27,780	28,412
Building Repairs and Maintenance		3,647	-	3,647	5,848
Cleaning		1,378	-	1,378	7,032
Security and Safety		2,250	-	2,250	1,434
Water, Heat and Light		7,149	-	7,149	11,201
Bank Charges		439	-	439	964
Books, CD's and DVDs		488	54	542	1,568
Computer and Internet		1,300	29	1,328	1,580
Depreciation		5,149	18,396	23,545	23,696
Entertainment and Catering		-	-	-	5,842
Equipment and Materials		1,029	466	1,495	12,841
Food and Accommodation		650	13,035	13,685	10,479
Hire of Facilities		882	-	882	11,426
Insurances		8,266	-	8,266	7,827
Outside Support Services		17,166	4,125	21,291	17,721
Pastoral Gifts and Expenses		2,833	34,008	36,841	10,644
Postage and Courier		382	-	382	45
Printing and Stationery		3,304	9	3,313	4,609
Outside Speakers		2,050	-	2,050	2,410
Telephone and Fax		7,644	-	7,644	7,742
Travel Costs		38	38	76	1,533
Vehicle Running Costs		775	-	775	1,219
Grant Refund		-	1,000	1,000	-
		<u>429,299</u>	<u>71,159</u>	<u>500,458</u>	<u>498,030</u>
b) Governance Costs					
Subscriptions and Licenses		5,924	58	5,981	3,401
Independent Examination fees - current year		2,113	-	2,113	2,100
		<u>8,037</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>8,094</u>	<u>5,501</u>
		<u>437,336</u>	<u>71,217</u>	<u>508,553</u>	<u>503,531</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

3 c) Mission and Support Grants:

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total to 31 March 2021	Total to 31 March 2020
Local and UK Organisations				
Skylark International	40,687	-	40,687	38,840
Mrs Race	4,620	-	4,620	4,620
Lighthouse Family Trust	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
ROC	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
Care for the Family	1,200	-	1,200	1,200
Kintsugi Hope	3,500	-	3,500	3,000
Mothers Union	500	-	500	500
Christians Together in Chelmsford	-	-	-	500
Overseas Mission Organisations				
Cherish a Child	6,600	-	6,600	6,600
Outstretched Hands	5,000	-	5,000	-
Hedges of Mercy	-	-	-	500
	<u>64,507</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,507</u>	<u>58,160</u>

The mission and support grants are for the following purposes:

- The tithe to Skylark International is towards supporting the movement to which SC belongs.
- Lighthouse family Trust is a pregnancy advice service operating in Chelmsford.
- The Races are former retired elders of SC whom the charity has chosen to support.
- Cherish a Child supports AIDs orphans in Uganda.
- Outstretched Hands is a charity working with the poor in Romania.
- Hedges of Mercy supports the relief of poverty, evangelism, church plants & community work in Nigeria
- Care for the Family's aim is to promote strong family life and to help those who face family difficulties.
- ROC is a charity active in helping churches engage their community and impact it for the better
- Kintsugi Hope exists to create safe and supportive spaces for those experiencing mental and emotional health challenges
- Mothers Union is a global Christian movement to develop communities, strengthen families and advocate for change.
- Christians Together in Chelmsford aims to be a champion and a catalyst for all God is doing through Churches, Christian based organisations and individuals in Chelmsford.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

4. FUNDS OF THE CHARITY

	Opening Balance at 1 April 2020 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	Closing Balance at 31 March 2021 £
Restricted Funds					
Community Fund	31,034	22,449	(22,657)	-	30,825
Pastoral Fund	8,854	58,009	(47,559)	-	19,304
Petchey Achievement Awards	4,176	-	(1,000)	-	3,176
Other	26,475	-	-	5,448	31,923
	<u>70,539</u>	<u>80,458</u>	<u>(71,217)</u>	<u>5,448</u>	<u>85,229</u>
Unrestricted Fund	<u>387,737</u>	<u>403,737</u>	<u>(437,336)</u>	<u>(5,448)</u>	<u>348,689</u>
	<u>458,276</u>	<u>484,194</u>	<u>(508,553)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>433,918</u>

The building fund is for the purchase of the building at Hanbury Road and related expenses.

The Community fund covers work that Skylark Church performs in and for the Community and includes assets transferred from ROC Chelmsford.

The Pastoral fund normally holds donations for pastoral care of individuals within the Church.

This year its use has been opened out to also support individuals in the community and homes run by local charities in need of additional support due to Covid.

The Petchey achievement awards scheme is to support monthly awards to youth groups.

Due to Covid, a grant received from the Petchey foundation could not be used this year and the £1000 outgoing above was a return of the grant to the foundation.

5. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

	31-Mar-21 £	31-Mar-20 £
Gross Wages and Salaries	231,761	226,257
Employer's National Insurance	12,951	13,527
Employer's Pension Contribution	23,505	22,120
	<u>268,217</u>	<u>261,904</u>

The average number of employees who were engaged in the year is as follows:

	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-20
Activities in furtherance of organisation's objects	13	13
Full time equivalent	7	7

The charity operates a PAYE scheme to pay all employed members of staff. No individual employee received emoluments over £60,000.

The charity contributes to a Pension Fund with Scottish Life. Contributions are made by the employees at 4% and the employer at 10% for those employees who are members of the scheme.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold Land and Buildings £	Building Renovations £	Fixtures Fittings and Equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 31st March 2020	965,074	22,916	105,386	1,093,376
Additions	-	-	5,478	5,478
Disposals	-	-	1,001	1,001
As at 31st March 2021	965,074	22,916	109,863	1,097,853
Depreciation				
As at 1st April 2020	136,142	21,448	95,622	253,212
Charge for the year	17,500	928	5,117	23,545
Elimination on disposals	-	-	1,001	1,001
As at 31st March 2021	153,642	22,376	99,738	277,758
Net Book Value				
At 1st April 2020	828,932	1,468	9,764	840,164
At 31st March 2021	811,432	540	10,125	822,097

The freehold land and buildings comprise of the chapel on Chignal Road, Chelmsford and Unit 4 on Hanbury Road, Chelmsford. The unit at Hanbury Road was purchased for £845,000 in June 2012. The directors have allocated £145,000 to land and £700,000 to the building, with the building being depreciated. Both premises are used for the charity's activities and therefore are included at cost. As there are few similar properties in the area the market value is difficult to calculate. As part of the purchase of Hanbury Road the chapel was valued by the bank securing the loan against it and the directors believe that the valuation is similar to the £120,000 which is included in the above.

The additions this year relate to the purchase of a freezer for pastoral meals, upstairs lounge carpet and a macbook for community work.

7. COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

The Charity has a rental and copy charges on a photocopier in the office for five years which started in 2017, that is due to expire in April 2022. The Charity also has a rental charge on a cloud telephone system for five years which started during the year and is due to expire in April 2024.

A renewal of the photocopier rental was agreed in October 2020 with the lease commencing in November 2020. The new lease is due to expire in November 2025.

At year end the minimum lease payments under non cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	31-Mar-21 £	31-Mar-20 £
Obligation per annum:		
Within One Year	1,543	2,105
Between one and five years	4,460	7,100
	<u>6,003</u>	<u>9,205</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

8. TAXATION

As a charity, Skylark Church is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 478 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 (CTA 2010) to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects. No tax charges have arisen in the Charity.

9. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-20
	£	£
Tax Recoverable	7,497	9,454
Sundry Debtors and Prepayments	977	1,104
	<u>8,474</u>	<u>10,558</u>

10. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-20
Current Account	15,519	18,217
Deposit Account	35,629	64,602
Community Account	51,731	33,871
Cash	44	44
	<u>102,923</u>	<u>116,734</u>

11. CREDITORS AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-20
	£	£
Accruals	1,311	1,491
Audit and Accountancy	2,100	2,100
Credit Cards	3,202	497
Mortgage payable within one year	12,626	11,968
	<u>19,239</u>	<u>16,056</u>

12. CREDITORS AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR

	31-Mar-21	31-Mar-20
	£	£
Mortgage repayable over 30 years to June 2042 due as follows:		
Between one and five years	50,504	47,872
In more than five years	429,834	445,251
	<u>480,338</u>	<u>493,123</u>

The mortgage is a repayment loan and bears a interest which is currently 5.5%.

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

13. RISK ASSESSMENT

The directors actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated, combined with the annual review of the controls over key financial systems carried out, will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The directors have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

14. RELATED PARTIES

The following amounts were paid to or on behalf of related parties:

Related Party	Salary £	Pension contributions £	Grant £	Other £	Total to 31 March 2021 £	Total to 31 March 2020 £
Pete and Nicki Sims	66,500	6,650	-	341	73,491	73,964
Lesley Kemp	8,100	810	-	-	8,910	9,900
Skylark International	-	-	40,687	-	40,687	38,840
	<u>74,600</u>	<u>7,460</u>	<u>40,687</u>	<u>341</u>	<u>123,088</u>	<u>122,704</u>

Subject to certain conditions, the Memorandum of association permits directors who offer their services to the Charity as a religious pastor, to be remunerated out of income or property of the charity.

Two of the directors have received payment for travel, subsistence and study expenses of £341 (prior year £814) in relation to services provided to the Company.

During the year the following amounts were received from related parties:

Related Party	Total to March 2021	Total to March 2020
Skylark International Rental Income (inc Conferences)	11,109	11,024
Skylark International - Payment for Admin Support	<u>11,109</u>	<u>11,024</u>

SKYLARK CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021

15. RESERVES POLICY

The directors have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs. The directors consider it appropriate to retain a level of reserves held in liquid assets equal to one week of running costs. This is based on the charity's size and the level of commitments held. The directors aim to ensure the charity will be able to continue to fulfil their charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income. The directors will endeavour to not 'sit' on funds unnecessarily.