



Together4Bristol / Churches Together in Greater Bristol

Trustees Report 2021

1. Introduction

This was busy and exciting year for Together4Bristol / Churches Together in Greater Bristol (T4B), which is a "unity for mission movement" across the Bristol region.

2. Churches

a) Churches Together in England (CTE) over has 50 denominations which are full members. We have had several Zoom calls with them across England during the COVID-19 crisis and an in-person national conference.

b) Carmen Carrol is the Keyboard Trust networker, who helped connect more than 40 black-led churches and has written a separate report. She holds Zoom events such as: "Racism and the Church", which has led to a Facebook group with nearly 200 members, and Refuelling for Church and Faith Leaders. T4B also linked with about 20 Churches Together (CT) groups (or similar).

c) Many churches and CT groups are involved in missional activities (see 4) below) including through The Noise 2021, with over 400 volunteers serving through practical projects over the May Bank Holiday weekend. Also, the Noise 365 was launched, showing God's love in practical ways every day of the year

3. Prayer

a) Sheena Tranter and Derick Mulubwa co-ordinated T4B's prayer networks (Arise Bristol!) across the Bristol region. There was a regular prayer during the COVID-19 crisis, including on WhatsApp and on the hills surrounding Bristol. A "Praise and Prayer Bulletin" is produced three times a year.

b) Silas Crawley, Fatima Sibanda and Lee Barnes led three prayer morning Zooms over the year for church leaders, with between 40 and 70 gathered, with the Mayor of Bristol, Marvin Rees. Silas and Annie Crawley also lead One Church, One Day, including 30 days of continual prayer, leading up to the Mayoral Election in May, with 54 churches praying for the peace of our city.

c) There were also regular prayer gatherings (on Zoom and occasionally in person) for the Whole of Life, the Arts, Business, Education, Health, and Family spheres. The prayer WhatsApp group prayed for the churches and a different sphere of life each day.

4. Whole of Life

a) There were gatherings for Christians in the different spheres of life. These spheres are Sport, Health, Education, Family, Politics and Social Action (Christian Action Bristol, or CAB), Arts, Media, and Business and Workplace.

b) The election of Marvin Rees as Mayor of Bristol has opened the door for much greater engagement with the council by the Christian community, led by the Politics and Social Action sphere, called Christian Action Bristol (CAB), with Andy Street as chair. At the end of the year, there was a Zoom gathering of the City Office, 40 out of 400 participants were from the Christian community. CAB facilitated 14 networks of social action, including Debt Advice, the Environment, Food Poverty, Homelessness and Housing, Prison Ministry and Ex-offenders and Vulnerable / Working Women.

c) CAB has led the Christian community's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and especially food poverty, emergency fostering and other issues. There were regular Zoom meetings with about 40 church leaders. The response to food poverty was extraordinary, reaching tens of thousands of families and vulnerable people.

d) CAB is helping lead the Christian community's contribution to the Recovery and Renewal of Bristol, emerging from the pandemic, over the next 3 to 5 years.

e) There was a summer gathering, Building Bristol as a City of Hope, with over 70 church,

prayer and sphere leaders, including the Presidents. There was follow-up work (including at the AGM) on the emerging Christian Community Vision to 2050, to help Bristol move away from being a tale of two cities and to help engage with City Office's One City Plan to 2050.

f) CAB has helped the Christian community to make several "Offers and Asks" to City Office, including:

The Bristol Churches Winter Night Shelter which had a grant to cover the extra B&B costs this year and hundreds of volunteers from 14 churches.

g) Christians Against Poverty, which provides debt advice in Children's Centres and in South Bristol.

h) The Churches City Fund, raised over £130k in 2020 to help alleviate food poverty during the COVID-19 crisis. In 2021, it is continuing to raise donations for a sustainable supply of food for the network of Foodbanks across the city and also for the work of Transforming Lives for Good (TLG) to provide mentors in schools for vulnerable pupils.

i) The Arts sphere, or Kingdom Creatives (facilitated by Erica Bebb), has connected and mentored about 50 creatives, including with regular Zoom calls with about 20 participating.

j) The Business and Workplace sphere (facilitated by Jez Sweetland and Tim Simpson as prayer co-ordinator) has held fortnightly prayer. There are about 20 Christian Workplace Groups, supported by a WhatsApp group and monthly Zoom calls. Jez and the Bristol Housing Festival team, had a virtual EXPO 2021 in October, with 100s of people attending and over 70 speakers.

k) The Education sphere (facilitated by Jane Gillis) worked closely with Bristol Schools Connection and other organisations and prays regularly for several Christians involved in key positions in Education across Bristol. They worked with CAB and the council, to help churches connect with Transforming Lives for Good (TLG) and provided mentors in deprived schools (about 10 so far).

l) The Family sphere (called Love Family) is co-facilitated by Jane Auld and Sarah Abell. It links closely with the National Parenting Initiative (NPI) and several other charities, including new ones such as Parent Buddies and The Relationship Academy. There was fortnightly prayer and NPI's parenting courses have gone online and on Youtube. Working with CAB, Home for Good, found over 60 Christian couples, in response to the council's request for emergency fostering (see [this film](#)). Jane Auld is retiring in February 2022, after leading the sphere and NPI, in a pioneering and inspiring way.

m) The Health sphere (co-facilitated by Clare Fleming and Sheena Tranter) have weekly Zooms for healing and for a Healing Centre Project (with about 40 people). Healing Rooms take place weekly.

n) The Sport sphere (co-facilitated by Akeel Yousaf) links several Sport charities across the city, such as World Sport Ministries, Christians in Sport and Christian Surfers UK, with occasional prayer gatherings.

o) Also, CTGB partners with a couple of Projects, called Local Friends (social prescribing, with Paul Hazelden) and Dementia Awareness in Faith Communities (Adam Biddlestone).

5. Together4Bristol

a) Roger Allen stopped in November 2021, as the Enabler of Mission and Unity (ten hours a week), to focus on the spheres work. His successor was Ian Taylor, who started in December 2021.

b) T4B connects with Gather, which links about 140 "unity for mission movements" across the UK. There are Zooms with Gather and Movement Day (linking to cities globally) during the pandemic.

c) The Together4Bristol website was created by Mark Orriss and is updated by Adam Hudson.

d) T4B partners with over a dozen denominations and networks.

e) T4B is accountable to eight senior regional Church Leaders or Presidents and facilitates lunches for them twice a year. The Presidents are Bishop Renford Brown (Black Churches), Rev Nigel Coles (Baptist), Bishop Vivienne Faull (Church of England), Majors Ian and Jean Harris (Salvation Army), Bishop Declan Lang (Catholic), Rev Dr Jonathan Pye (Methodist), Rob Scott-Cook (Celebration) and Rev Ruth Whitehead (URC).

f) The Trustees and enabling group consist of representatives from the historic denominations as well as from the newer and Black churches: the Trustees are Eric Aidoo (Chair, Baptist), Roger Allen (Celebration: from November 2021), Chris Dobson (Vice-chair,

Diocese of Bristol), Carlotta Kramsky (Diocese of Clifton), Derick Mulubwa (T4B Prayer networks), Stephen Newell (URC), Mark Sellers (Salvation Army), Fatima Sibanda (RCCofG), Sheena Tranter (T4B prayer and sphere networks).

The following are members of the Enabling group, but not Trustees: Chris Bond (Congregational), Carmen Carrol (Keyboard), Patsy Holdsworth (Moravian), Alan Paginton (Treasurer), Chris Willmore (Quakers), Osien Sibanda (RCCofG) and Jayne Webb (Methodist). Many thanks to them all, especially Alison Paginton, who stopped as Treasurer after many years. The AGM was held on 25 November 2021, with over 40 on a Zoom call, including discussion of the Christian Community Vision to 2050.

Churches Together in Greater Bristol

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

Status

The Charity was registered in England on 19 April 2006 under the charity registration No. 1113815 and is governed by a Trust Deed dated 23 February 2005 and an amended constitution adopted at the annual general meeting 19th November 2020.

Charitable objectives

The advancement of the Christian religion and pursuant thereto, the relief of poverty and the advancement of education and any other purposes which are charitable according to the law of England and Wales.

Trustees

The trustees serving during the year were:

Carlotta Kramskoy
Revd Chris Dobson
Revd Eric Aidoo
Derick Mulubwa
Revd Stephen Newell
Mark Sellars
Fatima Sibanda
Sheena Tranter
Roger Allen (from 25th November 2021)

Correspondence Address

93 Runswick Road
Brislington
Bristol
BS4 3HX

Independent Examiner

Mike O'Shea
The Old Vicarage
3 East Street
Banwell
North Somerset
BS29 6BN

Bankers and Investment managers

Lloyds TSB, PO Box 1000, Andover, BX1 1LT (account at Clevedon Branch)

United Reformed Church (South Western Synod) Incorporated as holding trustee for the investment portfolio in M&G Charifund Income units.

Churches Together in Greater Bristol

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

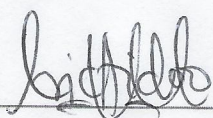
Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the Trustees should follow best practice and:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going-concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation

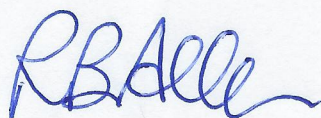
The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the above statement and the Financial Statements that follow.



Chairperson



Trustee

Date _____

Independent Examiner's report to the trustees of

Churches Together for Greater Bristol (Registered charity No. 1113815)

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021, which are set out on the three pages attached.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner:

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiners' 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 included 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.

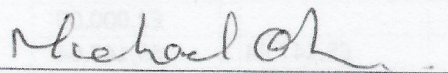
Independent examiner's statement

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 130 of the 2011 Act
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met or

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



Date: 25/3/2022

Michael O'Shea
Associate of the Chartered Institute of Bankers
The Old Vicarage, 3 East Street, Banwell, North Somerset, BS29 6BN

Churches Together in Greater Bristol

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

Receipts & Payments	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2021	Total Funds 2020
Church Grants	2	£11,009.00		£11,009.00	£12,489.00
Donations ARISE			£600.00	£600.00	£600.00
Gift Aid recovered ARISE	7		£150.00	£150.00	£300.00
Donations		£846.80		£846.80	£633.77
Gift Aid recovered	7	£265.75		£265.75	£57.64
Keyboard transfer from capital	5		£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£9,462.23
Keyboard Investment Income	5		£790.52	£790.52	£939.01
Bank Interest		£1.18		£1.18	£4.30
Transfer from Employment reserve	9	£2,000.00		£0.00	£300.00
Together for Bristol website donations	10		£4,688.36	£4,688.36	£8,196.25
Local Friends	12		£3,760.00	£3,760.00	£9,840.00
Total Income		£14,122.73	£14,988.88	£27,111.61	£42,822.20
Enabler for Mission and Unity	6	£10,679.90		£10,679.90	£10,533.81
Presidents Lunches / Conferences		£180.00		£180.00	£35.40
Keyboard Expenditure	3		£8,751.35	£8,751.35	£8,615.44
Keyboard transfer from capital	5		£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£9,462.23
CTE Subscription	8	£420.00		£420.00	£420.00
Office Expenses	4	£830.00		£830.00	£1,701.28
Transfer from employment reserve	9		£2,000.00	£0.00	£300.00
Together for Bristol website	10		£4,726.11	£4,726.11	£7,445.37
Local Friends	12		£3,009.57	£3,009.57	£4,000.55
Total Expenditure		£12,109.90	£23,487.03	£33,596.93	£42,514.08
Net Income/expenditure for year		£2,012.83	-£8,498.15	-£6,485.32	£308.12
Unrealised Portfolio Gains/Losses			£2,243.70	£2,243.70	-£3,541.46
Balance brought forward		£7,825.13	£35,524.61	£43,349.74	£46,583.08
Balance carried forward		£9,837.96	£29,270.16	£39,108.12	£43,349.74
Statement of Assets					
Assets					
Lloyds Treasurers a/c		£9,427.39	£2,965.01	£12,392.40	£13,975.70
Lloyds deposit a/c			£11,931.78	£11,931.78	£11,930.60
Paypal account		£410.57		£410.57	£313.77
URC (SWS) Inc Portfolio	5		£14,373.37	£14,373.37	£17,129.67
		£9,837.96	£29,270.16	£39,108.12	£43,349.74
Representing					
General Fund		£4,837.96		£2,837.96	£2,825.13
General & Office Reserve		£5,000.00		£5,000.00	£5,000.00
Employment Reserve	9			£2,000.00	£2,000.00
ARISE			£5,147.64	£5,147.64	£4,397.64
Keyboard Fund	3		£16,680.36	£16,680.36	£22,397.49
Together for Bristol website	10		£5.12	£5.12	£42.87
Global Aware	11		£847.16	£847.16	£847.16
Local Friends			£6,589.88	£6,589.88	£5,839.45
		£9,837.96	£29,270.16	£39,108.12	£43,349.74

Churches Together in Greater Bristol

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

Notes to the Accounts

Note 2021 2020

1. Basis of Accounts

The accounts are prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis.

2. Church Grants

Anglican	£3570.00	£3570.00
Moravians	£100.00	£0.00
Baptist	£800.00	£800.00
Catholic	£3819.00	£3819.00
Methodist	£0.00	£1740.00
Salvation Army	£500.00	£500.00
URC	£1400.00	£1280.00
Society of Friends	£420.00	£400.00
Celebration	£400.00	£380.00
	<u>£11009.00</u>	<u>£12489.00</u>

3. Keyboard Fund

The fund originated from investments donated by former Christ Church, Cotham, Bristol. The main objective of the fund is to promote cooperation between white and black led churches. Following continuing discussions in 2018, Carmen Carrol was appointed networker in April 2019. These funds are restricted and are not available to support the normal running costs of CTGB.

Breakdown of expenditure	
Salary	£8036.39
Pension	£ 165.08
Travel & Subsistence	£ 29.47
Resources / Podcast	£ 250.00
Meetings	£ 234.00
Stationery / Equipment	£ 36.41
Total	<u>£8751.35</u>

4. Office Expenses

Gifts	£50.00
Insurance	£280.00
Admin Support	£580.00
Total	<u>£830.00</u>

5. **URC (SWS) Inc Portfolio**

M&G Charifund Income Units 923.62	£14,373.37	£17,129.67
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£14,373.37

£17,129.67

£5000 of the above units were cashed in 2021. Due to an increase in the unit price a gain of £2243.70 was achieved in 2021.

6. **Enabler for Mission and Unity**

Salary costs	£10,064.54
Pension costs	£ 372.62
Travel costs	£ 242.74
Total	£10,679.90

7. **Gift Aid**

All gift aid has been claimed and received to 31st December 2020.

8. **Churches Together England Subscription**

Due to CTGB changing its address the subscription (£350) for 2015 was not paid. The trustees have agreed with CTE to pay these arrears at the rate of £70 per year commencing in 2018. The balance owed at 31st December 2021 is £70.

9. **Employment Reserve**

In 2017 it was necessary to renegotiate the contract for the Enabler for Mission and Unity (EMU). Following the appointment of new EMU in December 2021 the balance of £2000 has been transferred to General Funds.

10. **Together for Bristol Website**

In 2018 the trustees agreed that funds generated from an appeal could be held to support the running of the Bristol Networks website and to fund the creation of a new website which was launched at the AGM on 19th November 2020. In 2021 the running of the website has continued to be funded by specific donations. The donations of £4688.36 include gift aid claimed of £937.67.

11. **Global Aware**

As in previous years we have supported the Global Awareness event by providing banking facilities. There were no events in 2020 or 2021 due to the Covid 19 pandemic. The balance will be used for future events.

12. **Local Friends**

Local Friends is a CTGB project which supports social prescribing in the Bristol Area.

Churches Together in Greater Bristol

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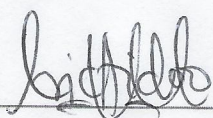
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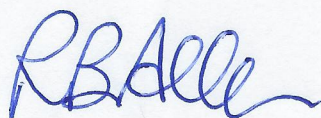
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Chairperson



Trustee

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Basis of independent examiners' report

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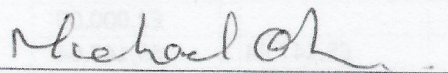
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Churches Together in Greater Bristol

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

Notes to the Accounts

Note 2021 2020

1. Basis of Accounts

The accounts are prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis.

2. Church Grants

Anglican	£3570.00	£3570.00
Moravians	£100.00	£0.00
Baptist	£800.00	£800.00
Catholic	£3819.00	£3819.00
Methodist	£0.00	£1740.00
Salvation Army	£500.00	£500.00
URC	£1400.00	£1280.00
Society of Friends	£420.00	£400.00
Celebration	£400.00	£380.00
	<u>£11009.00</u>	<u>£12489.00</u>

3. Keyboard Fund

The fund originated from investments donated by former Christ Church, Cotham, Bristol. The main objective of the fund is to promote cooperation between white and black led churches. Following continuing discussions in 2018, Carmen Carrol was appointed networker in April 2019. These funds are restricted and are not available to support the normal running costs of CTGB.

Breakdown of expenditure	
Salary	£8036.39
Pension	£ 165.08
Travel & Subsistence	£ 29.47
Resources / Podcast	£ 250.00
Meetings	£ 234.00
Stationery / Equipment	£ 36.41
Total	<u>£8751.35</u>

4. Office Expenses

Gifts	£50.00
Insurance	£280.00
Admin Support	£580.00
Total	<u>£830.00</u>

5. **URC (SWS) Inc Portfolio**

M&G Charifund Income Units 923.62	£14,373.37	£17,129.67
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£14,373.37

£17,129.67

£5000 of the above units were cashed in 2021. Due to an increase in the unit price a gain of £2243.70 was achieved in 2021.

6. **Enabler for Mission and Unity**

Salary costs	£10,064.54
Pension costs	£ 372.62
Travel costs	£ 242.74
Total	£10,679.90

7. **Gift Aid**

All gift aid has been claimed and received to 31st December 2020.

8. **Churches Together England Subscription**

Due to CTGB changing its address the subscription (£350) for 2015 was not paid. The trustees have agreed with CTE to pay these arrears at the rate of £70 per year commencing in 2018. The balance owed at 31st December 2021 is £70.

9. **Employment Reserve**

In 2017 it was necessary to renegotiate the contract for the Enabler for Mission and Unity (EMU). Following the appointment of new EMU in December 2021 the balance of £2000 has been transferred to General Funds.

10. **Together for Bristol Website**

In 2018 the trustees agreed that funds generated from an appeal could be held to support the running of the Bristol Networks website and to fund the creation of a new website which was launched at the AGM on 19th November 2020. In 2021 the running of the website has continued to be funded by specific donations. The donations of £4688.36 include gift aid claimed of £937.67.

11. **Global Aware**

As in previous years we have supported the Global Awareness event by providing banking facilities. There were no events in 2020 or 2021 due to the Covid 19 pandemic. The balance will be used for future events.

12. **Local Friends**

Local Friends is a CTGB project which supports social prescribing in the Bristol Area.