

Connect Church Maidstone

Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 August 2023

Stewardship 
Active generosity

1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB
www.stewardship.org.uk

CONNECT CHURCH MAIDSTONE
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	1st Floor, MSCC Titchfield Road Maidstone Kent ME15 8FX
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Trust Constitution adopted 12 March 2007 (as amended on 29 April 2019)
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1119213
TRUSTEES	Leon Mileham Peter Farmer David Evans (resigned Sept 2023) James Holland Jane Shankar
BANKERS	Royal Bank of Scotland, Maidstone Barclays Bank PLC, Kent
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Sarah Crispin ACA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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Annual report for the year ending 31st August 2023

Registered Charity No. 1119213

Purpose

- The advancement of the Christian faith in the UK and overseas
- The advancement, for public benefit, of Christian teaching and other learning
- The relief of the poor, sick, disabled and homeless

Organisation

Nationally a member of the Evangelical Alliance.

Locally is a part of Maidstone Churches Together.

CCM has its own team of leaders who meet on regular basis on church and charity matters.

CCM meet in a hired hall at the Maidstone Skills and Community Centre (MSCC), it also has a rented office at MSCC and occasionally uses other rented premises for its various activities.

Staffing

As of 31st August 2023 CCM has one full time employee, and two part time employees.

- Leon Mileham is employed full time as CCM's Pastor/Minister.
- Karen Kamundi is employed part time as CCM's Administrator.
- Esther Barnes is employed part time as CCM's Youth Pastor.
- Donna Farmer was employed part time as CCM's CAP Debt Coach, until March 2023, when she resigned, but continued her CAP Debt Coach role on a voluntary basis.

CCM does fund occupational pension scheme through the government's workplace pension scheme, this started in November 2016.

All other work carried out on behalf of CCM is on a voluntary basis.

Activities during the year

- The various activities of CCM include life groups, youth & children's clubs, bible teaching & training events, etc.
- CCM has financially supported Christian workers in Tanzania & Liberia. Involvement in foreign missions and humanitarian work is a primary objective for CCM.
- 'Little Steps' is a weekly group for parents with pre-school age children to provide a friendly, welcoming environment where parents & children can build real and lasting friendships.
- 'The Hub' is a weekly (term time) Youth club run on a Friday night for the benefit of local young people between the age of 11 and 18 and gets good engagement from the local community.

- CCM Holds a summer Family Fun Day at Maidstone Skills & Community Centre in Senacre annually as an outreach and to build links and friendship with the local community.
- CCM helps to run the Maidstone CAP debt centre, along with The Vine church, and regularly sees and helps people who are in extreme debt.
- Members of the congregation are also involved in other community activities e.g. 'Street Pastors', 'Maidstone Churches Winter Shelter', and 'The Princess Project'.

In planning the activities, the Leaders/Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charities Commission on public benefit.

Financial Review

Incoming resources	£89,419
Expenditure	£110,103
Surplus/(Deficit)	£(20,685)

Grants

CCM is committed to the aid of overseas Christian workers and supports *Friends of Helper* in Tanzania and MAF in Uganda.

In Maidstone CCM regularly gives to local charities.

CCM also made gifts to CAP clients and to various members of its congregation.

Reserves

It is an agreed principle that at least three months cash reserves in hand should be kept in CCM's current account. This is kept under periodic review. 3 months running costs are approximately £25,000, at the end of the financial year, there was approximately £112,073 in unrestricted cash reserves, with the Trustees able to reassign designated funds should the need occur.

When the COVID-19 pandemic started to impact the UK in March 2020, the Trustees immediately repurposed money from the designated building fund into a Financial Assistance Fund, and members of the church also contributed towards this fund. A number of grants have been paid to various individuals and families to support them financially since the fund started.

Risk Management

The Elders/Trustees of CCM meet on a regular basis and receive regular reports and financial statements detailing the opportunities and risks that CCM faces. This

enables them to plan or curtail activities accordingly making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.

CCM has an operational Safeguarding Policy to ensure that children, young people, vulnerable adults and workers are protected at all times. This is kept under constant review.

Responsibilities of trustees

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.

We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

Signed by,

Peter Farmer
Peter Farmer (Jun 27, 2024 11:38 GMT+1)

Peter Farmer, on behalf of all the Elders/Trustees of CCM.

Report dated Jun 27, 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
CONNECT CHURCH MAIDSTONE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Connect Church Maidstone ('the charity') for the year ended 31 August 2023 on pages 6 to 9 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Sarah Crispin
Sarah Crispin (Jun 27, 2024 15:03 GMT+1)

Sarah Crispin ACA

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Jun 27, 2024

CONNECT CHURCH MAIDSTONE
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

		Unrestricted Funds				
		General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	2023	2022
Notes		£	£	£	£	£
Income receipts						
Donations		70,700	-	-	70,700	78,313
Gift aid receipts		12,711	-	21	12,732	14,455
Income from charitable activities		-	429	-	429	168
Interest		-	593	261	854	40
Other		2,587		2,116	4,703	453
		<u>85,999</u>	<u>1,022</u>	<u>2,398</u>	<u>89,419</u>	<u>93,429</u>
Total receipts		<u>85,999</u>	<u>1,022</u>	<u>2,398</u>	<u>89,419</u>	<u>93,429</u>
Payments						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	99,763	-	-	99,763	105,252
Grants paid in relation to charitable	3	9,940	-	400	10,340	10,990
Total payments		<u>109,703</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>110,103</u>	<u>116,242</u>
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers		(23,704)	(1,022)	1,998	(20,685)	(22,814)
Transfers between funds		(10,000)	(10,000)	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>(13,704)</u>	<u>(8,978)</u>	<u>1,998</u>	<u>(20,685)</u>	<u>(22,814)</u>
Cash funds as at last year end		18,478	116,277	138,826	273,581	285,405
Cash funds at this year end	A	<u>4,774</u>	<u>107,299</u>	<u>140,824</u>	<u>252,896</u>	<u>262,591</u>

The notes on pages 8 - 9 form part of these accounts.

CONNECT CHURCH MAIDSTONE
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted funds	2023	2022
	General funds	Designated funds	funds		
	£	£	£	£	£
A Cash funds					
Cash at bank with immediate access	4,774	107,299	73,211	185,284	206,574
Notice deposits	-	-	67,612	67,612	67,007
	<u>4,774</u>	<u>107,299</u>	<u>140,824</u>	<u>252,896</u>	<u>273,581</u>
B Other monetary assets					
Gift aid due to charity	856	-	-	856	1,011
	<u>856</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>856</u>	<u>1,011</u>
C Liabilities					
Trade creditors	1,110	-	-	1,110	90
PAYE due	760	-	-	760	760
Accounts and Examination fee for 2022	1,170	-	-	1,170	-
Accounts and Examination fee for 2023	1,188	-	-	1,188	-
	<u>4,228</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,228</u>	<u>850</u>

All liabilities fall due for settlement within one year.

D Assets retained for charity's own use

	Fund to which asset belongs	Insurance value
		£
Music, PA equipment	General	18,845
Computers and IT	General	6,991
		<u>25,836</u>

The trustees have used insurance values as an approximation for current values.

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Peter Farmer
 Peter Farmer (Jun 27, 2024 11:38 GMT+1)

Peter Farmer

Date: Jun 27, 2024

The notes on pages 8 - 9 form part of these accounts.

CONNECT CHURCH MAIDSTONE

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	General funds	Designated funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly					
Employment costs (Note 4)	53,649	-	-	53,649	52,625
Hall Hire	32,405	-	-	32,405	24,146
Insurance & subscriptions	2,286	-	-	2,286	3,112
Ministry expenses	100	-	-	100	920
General expenses	11,324	-	-	11,324	13,459
	<u>99,763</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>99,763</u>	<u>94,262</u>
3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others					
Individuals:					
Personal gifts / hardship payments	-	-	400	-	1,750
Overseas mission	1,800	-	-	1,800	2,000
Institutions:					
Friends of Helper	1,200	-	-	1,200	1,200
Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF)	5,040	-	-	5,040	5,540
Other institutions <£500	1,900	-	-	1,900	500
	<u>9,940</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>9,940</u>	<u>10,990</u>

CONNECT CHURCH MAIDSTONE

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

4 Staff & Trustees

At the end of the year, the charity had one full time employee, and two part time employees.

Leon Mileham, a trustee, was paid £40,000 (2022: £38,104) plus employer pension contributions of £1012.92 (2022: £956) in his capacity as Minister as permitted by the governing documents.

Donna Farmer, wife of a trustee, was paid £2,791 (2022: £4,268) in her role as a CAP Debt Counsellor. .
Donna was employed until 31st March 2023

Other than direct reimbursements of expenses made on behalf of the charity, no amounts were paid or are payable to any trustee or to any person connected to them.

5 Movement of Funds

	Opening Balance £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Closing Balance £
Restricted funds					
Building Fund	126,304	261	-	-	126,565
Financial Assistance Fund	7,298	1,095	(400)	-	7,992
CAP Client Gift Fund	2,270	20	-	-	2,290
Youth Activities Fund	2,955	-	-	-	2,955
Other	-	1,022	-	-	1,022
Total Restricted	138,826	2,398	(400)	-	140,824
Unrestricted Funds					
Designated funds					
Financial Assistance Fund	29,710	-	-	(10,000)	19,710
Building Fund	83,076	593	-	-	83,669
Charity Fund	780	-	-	-	780
Care Fund	565	-	-	-	565
Little Steps	705	429	-	-	1,134
Outreach Fund	1,276	-	-	-	1,276
Women's Ministry Fund	164	-	-	-	164
	116,277	1,022	-	(10,000)	107,299
General Funds	18,478	85,999	(109,703)	10,000	4,774
Total unrestricted	134,755	87,021	(109,703)	-	112,073
Total Funds	273,581	89,419	(110,103)	-	252,896

The transfer from the Designated Buildings Fund to General Funds was to maintain the Buildings Fund at the level as agreed by trustees.

The transfer from the Financial Assistance Fund to general funds reflects the original policy of the fund which was to reduce the fund as restricted income was received.

Restricted Funds:

The Building Fund is money held for the future purchase of a building.

The Financial Assistance Fund is money held to support those in financial hardship.

The CAP Client Gift Fund is money held for the specific needs of CAP clients.

The Youth Activities fund is money for the setup and running of a new Youth Club in the Senacre area of Maidstone.

The Other fund is for donations received for specific organisations

Designated Funds:

The various designated funds are money set aside by trustees for or relating to particular projects or activities.