



River Church (St Neots) Ltd
Report and Accounts
Year Ended 31st December 2023

CONTENTS

Information	Page 3
Report of the Directors/Trustees	Page 4
Independent Examiners Report	Page 6
Statement of Financial Activities	Page 7
Balance Sheet	Page 8
Cash Flow Statement	Page 10
Notes to the Accounts	Page 11

INFORMATION

Directors/Trustees:	Trevor Single Rob McFarlane Mark Crawford Colin Makin Gregg Donaldson
Governing Documents:	Memorandum & Articles of Incorporation dated 7th November 2008
Company Registration Number	06744133
Charity Registration Number	1127383
Registered Office	33 Staploe, St Neots, PE19 5JA
Independent Examiner	K. Webb 20 Staploe St Neots PE19 5JA
Bankers	NatWest plc

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS / TRUSTEES

The trustees are pleased to present their annual directors' report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 December 2023, which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

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 applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Objects of the Charity

The primary aims of the Trust are to fulfil the role of a Christian church, to promote the Christian faith and to demonstrate God's love to the local community and throughout the world through education and the relief of suffering and poverty.

Structure, Governance and Management

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 7th November 2008. The Charity was established under a memorandum of association which established the objects and powers of the charity and it is governed under its articles of association.

The policy and operating decisions of the charity rest with the Directors who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the company.

Review of Activities

During the year ended 31st December 2023 the main ways the Charity sought to achieve its objects were as follows:

- By conducting weekly public services for Christian worship, teaching and pastoral care open to the whole community. These took place both online and in-person.
- By providing and hosting activities for children and young people through our groups on Friday evenings and Sunday mornings. These took place both online and in-person.
- By producing and making available for free Christian teaching resources. This included video and audio recordings and the distribution of the Bible and Christian books.
- By the delivery of a Christmas Day lunch to those on their own and distributing toys to children in need.
- By supporting people suffering from bereavement or loss through the provision of counselling or support as part of our pastoral care for the community.
- By involvement in local community projects with advice, human resources and financial support.
- By supporting Christian missionary work with advice, human resources and financial support.
- By making Rob McFarlane available to strengthen local churches in the United Kingdom.
- By hosting a radio show on Sundays on our local community radio station, Black Cat Radio.
- By promoting positive community relationships and good citizenship through partnership with other local organisations, including partnership with other local churches, local government and community organisations.

Financial Review

The company has now completed its fourteenth year of trading and income for the 12 months of trading amounted to £98,142, (2022 - £124,273), of which £17,134, (2022 - £19,990) relates to tax recoverable from HM Revenue & Customs in respect of donations received under Gift Aid.

Total expenses amounted to £120,610, (2022 - £112,210).

Reserves Policy

The Board of Directors have established a policy whereby free reserves held by the charity should be maintained at 3 month's expenditure, subject to any need for abnormal urgent expenditure.

Risk Statement

The Directors have reviewed the risks to which a small charity operating with few employees is exposed. Appropriate procedures are in place to identify, monitor and review these risks on a regular basis.

Public Benefit Statement

In planning the activities of the charity the Directors have regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission in September 2013.

Director's Responsibilities

Charity law requires us as Directors to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which give a true and fair view of the state of the charity and of its income and expenditure for the year.


- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts.
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, and comply with regulations made under the Charities act.


We also have the responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities. The trustees are also responsible for the contents of the trustees report, and the responsibility of the independent examiner in relation to the trustees report is limited to examining the report and ensuring that, on the face of the report, there are no inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

Approval

This report was approved by the Directors and signed on their behalf by:


.....
Rob McFarlane
Trustee

7/7/2024
.....
Date


.....
Mark Crawford
Trustee

7/7/2024
.....
Date



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

RIVER CHURCH (ST NEOTS) LTD

On accounts for the year
ended

31ST DECEMBER 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1127383

Set out on pages

7 TO 14

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2023.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust'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 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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:

K Webb

Date:

29/6/2024

Name:

KIM WEBB

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Address:

20 STAPLOE, ST NEOTS, CAMBS, PE19 5JA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Prior Year
Income				
Donations and Legacies	£ 93,045	£ 900	£ 93,945	£ 108,396
Other Trading Activities	£ 2,399	£ 165	£ 2,564	£ 15,877
Incoming resources from charitable activities	£ 782	£ 200	£ 982	£ 177
Other incoming resources	£ 650		£ 650	£ 121
Total income	£ 96,877	£ 1,265	£ 98,142	£ 124,571
Expenditure				
Cost of generating funds	£ (149)	£ 1,929	£ 1,780	£ 311
Charitable activities	£ 116,633	£ 2,197	£ 118,830	£ 111,899
Total expenditure	£ 116,484	£ 4,126	£ 120,610	£ 112,210
Net income / (expenditure) before transfer	£ (19,607)	£ (2,861)	£ (22,468)	£ 12,361
Transfers				
Gross transfers between funds - in	£ 100	£ 1,800	£ 1,900	£ 9,543
Gross transfers between funds - out	£ (1,800)	£ (100)	£ (1,900)	£ (9,543)
Other recognised gains / losses				
Gains / losses on investment assets				
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use				
Net movement in funds	£ (21,307)	£ (1,161)	£ (22,468)	£ 12,361
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward	£ 84,987	£ 9,543	£ 94,530	£ 82,169
Total Funds carried forward	£ 63,680	£ 8,382	£ 72,062	£ 94,530

BALANCE SHEET

	As at 31st December 2023	As at 31st December 2022
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	£ 5,180	£ 1,103
	£ 5,180	£ 1,103
Current assets		
Debtors	£ 2,775	£ 3,136
Cash at bank and in hand	£ 67,554	£ 91,213
	£ 70,329	£ 94,349
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	£ 3,447	£ 922
Net current assets less current liabilities	£ 66,882	£ 93,427
Total assets less current liabilities	£ 72,062	£ 94,530
Total net assets less liabilities	£ 72,062	£ 94,530
Represented by		
Unrestricted - General Fund	£ 63,680	£ 84,987
Restricted - Building Fund	£ 6,844	£ 5,643
Restricted - Relaunch Fund	£ 0	£ 2,000
Restricted - People Needs	£ 1,538	£ 1,900
Funds of the church	£ 72,062	£ 94,530

BALANCE SHEET CONTINUED

For the year ended 31 December 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 Companies Act 2006. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these financial statements under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.


The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 and 387 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a fair and true view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial period and of its profit or loss for the 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 accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions relating small companies within part 15 of the Companies Act, and in accordance with FRS 102 SORP.

Approved by the Directors and signed on their behalf by:


.....
Rob McFarlane
Trustee

7/7/2024
.....
Date


.....
Mark Crawford
Trustee

7/7/24.
.....
Date

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	2023	2022
Cash flow from operating activities		
Net income/(expenditure)	£ (23,118)	£ 12,241
Depreciation and loss on sale of assets	£ 1,313	£ 1,356
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	£ 361	£ 2,023
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	£ 2,525	£ 194
Interest from investments	£ 0	£ 0
	£ (18,919)	£ 15,814
Cash flow from other sources		
Sale proceeds from fixed assets	£ 270	£ 0
Interest from investments	£ 650	£ 121
Cash flow from investing activities		
Purchase of fixed assets	£ (5,660)	£ 0
Net increase/(decrease) in cash	£ (23,659)	£ 15,935
Cash at bank and in hand at beginning of the year	£ 91,213	£ 75,278
Cash at bank and in hand at end of the year	£ 67,554	£ 91,213

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

(1) Accounting Policies

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 Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006, and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The accounts present a true and fair view and no changes have been made to accounting policies adopted in note 1.

Donated and grant income: Donated income and grants receivable are taken into account when received by the charity. Income received in circumstances where a claim for repayment of tax has been or will be made to HM Revenue & Customs is grossed up for the tax recoverable. Any amount of tax reclaimed from HM Revenue & Customs but not yet received is shown within the charity's debtors.

Expenditure: Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT is taken into account when incurred by the Charity, regardless of when payment is made.

Funds: Unrestricted funds are donations and other income received or generated for the objects of the charity without specified purpose and are available for purposes as directed by the trustees. Restricted funds are amounts received where the donor has specified the purpose for which it should be used.

Fixed assets and depreciation: Fixed assets acquired for use by the charity are capitalised and depreciated over their estimated useful life unless they cost less than £100 when they are written off on purchase. Depreciation periods on Equipment is between 3 and 5 years.

Taxation: The company is a registered charity and is exempt from taxation under the Income & Corporation Taxes Acts.

(2) Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
General Donations	£ 76,811	£ 0	£ 76,811	£ 88,406
Tax Recovered	£ 17,134	£ 0	£ 17,134	£ 19,990
TOTAL	£ 93,945	£ 0	£ 93,945	£ 108,396

(3) Cost of Raising Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Advertising and Marketing	£ (149)	£ 1,929	£ 1,780	£ 311

(4) Expenditure on Charitable Activities

Direct Charitable Costs

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Employment Costs (Note 5)	£ 57,508		£ 57,508	£ 48,534
Property Costs	£ 19,581		£ 19,581	£ 19,014
Meeting Costs	£ 16,829	£ 1,648	£ 18,477	£ 7,835
Conference and Training	£ 525		£ 525	£ -
Event Costs	£ 3,879		£ 3,879	£ 16,744
Teaching Materials	£ 833		£ 833	£ 1,226
Travel and Subsistence Costs	£ 2,687	£ 79	£ 2,766	£ 2,570
Legal and Professional	£ 904	£ 15	£ 919	£ 528
Grants and Donations	£ 8,521	£ 426	£ 8,947	£ 8,904
Finance Costs	£ 386		£ 386	£ 557
Depreciation	£ 1,313		£ 1,313	£ 1,356
TOTAL	£ 112,966	£ 2,168	£ 115,134	£ 107,268

Legal and Professional Fees include Governance Costs of £300 (2022: £300), being the independent examiner's fees.

Support and Administration

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Office Costs	£ 3,667	£ 29	£ 3,696	£ 4,631
TOTAL	£ 3,667	£ 29	£ 3,696	£ 4,631

Combined Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
TOTAL	£ 116,633	£ 2,197	£ 118,830	£ 111,899

(5) Staff and Trustees

The charity has 1 full time and 3 part time employed staff. No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum. Rob McFarlane, a trustee received remuneration of £29,272.26. No remuneration was paid to any other trustee during the period. Trustees were reimbursed a total of £2,545.12 in conference, training, travel, subsistence and miscellaneous expenses all of which was directly relevant to their role as leaders or trustees of the church. Pension contributions of £5,265.29 (2022: £5,027) were made on behalf of the trustee, Mr R McFarlane.

(6) Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost	Equipment		Total	
At 1st January 2023	£	18,958	£	18,958
Additions	£	5,660	£	5,660
Disposals	£	(270)	£	(270)
At 31st December 2023	£	24,348	£	24,348

Accumulated Depreciation	Equipment		Total	
At 1st January 2023	£	17,855	£	17,855
Charge for the Year	£	1,313	£	1,313
Adjustment on Disposals	£	0	£	0
At 31st December 2023	£	19,168	£	19,168

Net Book Value	Equipment		Total	
At 31st December 2023	£	5,180	£	5,180
At 31st December 2022	£	1,103	£	1,103

(7) Debtors and Prepayments

		2023		2022
Tax Recoverable	£	1,154	£	1,579
Bond	£	1,557	£	1,557
Other Debtors	£	64	£	0
Total	£	2,775	£	3,136

(8) Cash at Bank and in Hand

		2023		2022
Bank Current Account	£	67,554	£	91,213
TOTAL	£	67,554	£	91,213

(9) Creditors - Liabilities Falling Due within One Year

		2023		2022
Income Tax and National Insurance	£	439	£	532
Accruals	£	3,008	£	390
Total	£	3,447	£	922

(10) Funds as at 31st December 2023

General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Balance at 31st December 2023
£63,680	£0	£8,382	£72,062

(11) Members

Each member commits to contribute, if the charity is wound up, an amount of £1.

(12) Related Party Transactions

Remuneration of £8,452.08 was paid to Mrs Gillian McFarlane during the year, Rob McFarlane's wife. There have been no other related party transactions in the reporting period.