

# The Grove Centre Church



## ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Registered as Charity No. 1129070.  
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Grove Centre Church on Zoom

# 1. TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

## 1.1 Introduction

The Grove Centre Church is a multi-ethnic congregation worshipping in the Baptist and United Reformed traditions and sustaining a broad range of community activities for all ages through the Grove Centre – “a place for people”. We aim to be a worshipping, faithful, welcoming, growing and caring people in the heart of a wider community around Sydenham.

Within this report you will find a summary of our objects and activities in meeting our charitable aims and our core focus in both the short and longer terms.

Alongside our trustee annual report and accounts we present additional reports from our Minister, Grove Centre Management Committee, Administrator, Church groups and various community and user groups of the Grove Centre. We hope this gives a flavour of the wide variety of uses to which our buildings are put and of the community of which we are a part.

## 1.2 Objectives and Activities

### Public Benefit

The activities conducted by the Church and through the Grove Centre as set out below are open to a wide public. Worship and some events are open to all. Other are aimed at specific groups or age ranges, with a wide variety of regular user groups and occasional bookings.

Collectively these activities contribute to the spiritual, moral, emotional or physical wellbeing of children from babes in arms through nursery and school years, adults at all stages with a variety of health needs and interests, and elderly people receiving social opportunities, care and nourishing lunches. The Church and Minister provide and encourage pastoral care and inclusion in a dynamic and open community that aims to be a servant of all who visit us.

The trustees have reviewed the Charity Commission guidance, and are satisfied that our activities clearly demonstrate the charity is providing a benefit to the public.

### Our Purpose and Beliefs

The Constitution for the Grove Centre Church states that the principle purpose of the Church is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist and URC denominations. The Church may also advance education and carry out other charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and /or other parts of the world.

In common with the United Reformed Church, we confess the catholic faith in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and believe that, in the ministry of the Word, through preaching and the study of scriptures, God makes known in each age God's saving love, will for all people, and purpose for the world.

In common with the Baptist Union's declaration of principle, we believe that our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, is the sole and absolute authority in all matters pertaining to faith and practice, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures and by the Holy Spirit in our common life.

Our beliefs are further expressed in our Vision Statement:

- God calls us together to be **“a worshipping people”** honouring our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
- We aspire to be **“a faithful people”**, true to Jesus Christ as revealed in Scripture, through our common life and in our personal lives, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

- We aim to be **"a welcoming people"**, a church where all people are welcome, regardless of age, creed, colour, race, orientation, ability or status.
- We need to be **"a growing people"**, open to change, nurturing the hope, faith and love involved in growth towards spiritual maturity, and through our lives and words drawing new people of all ages into saving faith and fellowship in Christ.
- We aim to be **"a caring people"**, who seek to understand and serve our needs and those of our local community and the wider world as laid upon us by the Holy Spirit.
- As a means of showing God's love in action and in partnership with others, we intend to sustain The Grove Centre as **"a place for people"** at the heart of the wider community in which we are set.

## Church Activities

We engage in a range of activities as a Church and through the work of The Grove Centre:

- Regular public worship, prayer, Bible study, preaching and teaching;
- Infant Dedication and Believers Baptism, Baptism of infants and Confirmation;
- The Communion of the Lord's Supper, usually twice each month;
- The teaching, encouragement, welcome and inclusion of young people;
- Nurture and growth of Christian disciples;
- Education and training for Christian and community service;
- Giving and encouraging pastoral care;
- Encouraging relationships with and supporting the work of both our denominations, other Christians and the wider community.

Due to the coronavirus lockdown from March 2020 the Church temporarily ceased face to face meetings, but proceeded with shared acts of worship using Zoom video conferencing, with weekly newsletters distributed by email or in a printed version for older members. When restrictions eased, hybrid worship with a socially distanced congregation in the premises and other households joining using Zoom has been successfully used and is set to continue.

## Grove Centre Activities

The Grove Centre also fulfils an overall goal of supporting and encouraging charitable social action, through sustaining a 'place for people' where all are welcomed. This includes:

- Continuing to celebrate and maintain the number and diversity of user groups;
- Working with others to provide positive opportunities for older people to remain active and engaged for longer, through the Church and Centre;
- Continuing to grow the number of people using the Lunches service, its links with other users of the Centre, and related social interactions;
- Maintaining our premises to a high standard as a safe, welcoming, accessible and attractive venue for a wide range of uses and local hires for parties and events;
- A range of social and fund raising events each year for Church members and friends and the wider community;
- Working closely with our various user groups to assist them in promoting both their activities and the Grove Centre as a community resource.
- Facilitating local services through the Cherish Nursery operating within our premises.

- Delivering on the commitments made within our funding agreement with Lewisham Council to connect with other partners to expand the range of services for elderly and vulnerable adults within our local community.

Due to the coronavirus lockdown from March 2020 the Centre was temporarily closed for groups and lettings, but volunteers distributed a hot meal to isolated local people in place of the Lunches service. To reduce outgoings two staff were furloughed under the government scheme. Cherish Nursery initially operated a reduced service for children of key workers but returned to a near-normal service when it was safe to do so.

## **Building for the Future Project**

The Building for the Future project is aiming to transform The Grove Centre as a vibrant hub for community activities.

### **Our development will be:**

- *Bright, modern, and welcoming*
- *Accessible for all, with new and improved flexible spaces for community use*
- *Sustainable and independent for the future*
- *Environmentally attractive*

### **And will provide:**

- *Better hall, kitchen, toilet facilities and storage*
- *Opportunities for expanded community groups*
- *More space for celebrations and private or community events in the Grove Centre House and garden*
- *Improved, accessible training and educational facilities upstairs*

*See our separate Building for the Future booklet for full details.*

Church members approved fundraising for the project in November 2016, and planning consent was eventually approved in December 2018. Further amendments had to be made to the scheme in light of forecast project costs, and with these updates the revised scheme received Listed Building Consent on 22 October 2019.

During 2020 the church was unable to hold local fund raising events, but continued to receive donations towards the project. We also made progress with the work required with the United Reformed Church and the Baptist Union Corporation to move from agreement in principle to the legal release of funds obtained from the sale of the former manse for use in the scheme.

## **Education Fund**

In 2020/21 the church continued to receive gifts from members to be used to support students with a bursary towards education costs, and gave support to two full time students. These are restricted gifts and can only be used for this specific purpose.

## **Affiliation and Relationships**

The Grove Centre Church is in membership with the Baptist Union of Great Britain (Baptist Union), the London Baptist Association and The United Reformed Church within the Southern Synod. We support and advance the work of our parent denominations through prayer, through financial contributions and through the participation of Church members.

We are also pleased to support local Baptist, URC and ecumenical gatherings, including Churches Together and Voluntary Services Lewisham.





## 1.3 Achievements and Performance

### Review of the Year – Grove Centre Church

For some 2020-21 may (understandably) feel like the year that was put on pause, but as a church we have been consistently busy, developing new patterns of working, and learning many new skills.

We've been very fortunate compared to most churches not to have had a break in meeting together for worship and fellowship throughout this period; though much of that has had to be online. Within a few days of Government and denominational guidance being issued not to meet in person, we learned how to use Zoom and were able to meet for worship without a single Sunday missed. By the following Tuesday, our Lent study group were also meeting online. Since then many forms of gatherings have happened on Zoom. We were also able to very quickly turn our lunch service into a delivery service, with thanks to the flexibility of staff and volunteers.

We have remained in community with one another, having learned how to be more creative in how we achieve that. Many people have learned new skills and patterns of living that have made life sustainable over the last year, including a number of people who have been able to join Zoom despite having not been online before. It's been a big learning curve for all of us, but a challenge to which we have risen admirably.



As Minister, Louise has been forced to master many new skills this year. Having managed to get us meeting online, it was now necessary to work out how to hold services online, and continue to learn and improve how this was done, with new technology and software; for example our Nativity service, which used a brand new (still in the testing phase!) feature that allowed us to run a PowerPoint as the background, and for the congregation to still be able to see Louise presenting and doing actions at the same time.

Then last summer we had a new challenge, of learning how to reopen worship in our building, without excluding those who still needed to say at home. So with some trial and error we all learned how to run our in-building services whilst allowing people at home to do more than just watch a live-stream of the service, but to be able to participate fully. The lessons we learned have been utilised to offer advice and training to several other Churches in the London Baptist Association who also wanted to run 'hybrid' services.

We also had to work out how to meet safely in person and within prescriptive regulations, including communion. This entailed a lot of risk assessments, measuring, learning and practicing a new way of being in the building. We were very fortunate that one of our Trustees has professional expertise in these matters.



The church has also supported the work of the lunch service with many church members volunteering in roles such as co-ordinating orders, delivering lunches and collecting money. Aware that a number of our people were not able to get online, our Minister started a weekly magazine, 'Love in the Time of Corona' at the start of the first lockdown, which was circulated either by email or by post - dependent on need - throughout the year. The creation of a mailing list with growing numbers drove us to develop a more professional way of communicating. Using Mailchimp's platform, we have been able to create an attractive template for communications. This will give us the ability to communicate with specific groups based on subject matter, and allow people to join the mailing list independently. We have continued to mark all our festivals and special services, finding ways of making them work either online or in restrictive in-building meetings. An additional service was



added to our Advent programme as we gathered online for a Longest Night, or Blue Christmas, service, acknowledging the hurt and trauma of the previous few months, and looking forward in hope. We also offered a well-attended prayer garden on Good Friday, where individuals could move around various stations, reflecting on the events of Holy Week and our own experience of living through a pandemic.

A huge amount of work has been done by trustees and staff to sustain and improve the church building and services offered to the community, which is reflected in the Grove Centre report.

The church also worked hard to keep-up relationships with one another through this time, not only with the newsletter, but through phone calls and cards, *Zoom* Small Group and Coffee Mornings, Junior Church work sheets to do at home (often shared with us during the service) and deliveries of seasonal additional activities and gifts to children and older people who were stuck at home.



We give thanks to God for carrying us through this difficult year and beyond, knowing that whatever life throws at us, we've pulled together as a church through some of the worst times, and we'll do so again when other challenges inevitably come along.

This has come at considerable cost to many, and we are grateful to all those who have been working hard to keep things running in the background.

*"...your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you". Matthew 6:4b*



*ACutts*

Alison Cutts

Church Secretary, 2020/21, reporting on behalf of the trustees



## Review of the Year – Grove Centre

This year began with the knowledge that our grant from Lewisham Council for the running of our weekday lunch service entered its final year, and had been reduced to £3,750, and that we were facing the uncertainty over Covid -19 and its impact on the Centre. All activities at the Church and Centre had stopped, with the exception of the provision of lunches, no longer served in house, but being delivered by numerous volunteers to those in need, and 'shielding'.

This change was achieved through the help and dedication of a team of volunteers and David our Centre Manager, co-ordinating the lunch orders, arranging volunteers for deliveries and collecting the takings. A robust set of protocols was developed to protect both those delivering and those receiving the lunches. All people delivering were given letters stating why they were out and about.

The service grew to a point where we did not have the resources to increase capacity and, then as the first "lockdown" came to an end and some



volunteers returned to employment/University, we had to review the number of days the service was offered. We have served and delivered 3,252 meals over the year. We developed links with two local Co-op stores providing us with food nearing its 'best before date', and also formed a link with another church food service and benefited from some highly competitively priced meat from Smithfield market.

We applied for a London Response Covid Recovery Grant and also a grant from the City Bridge Trust to install a dishwasher which enables us to operate the kitchen with only one person (no longer needing two people in the confined space). Sadly a number of other grant applications were not successful, although we were very pleased to be offered a further year grant support from Lewisham Borough Council for 2021-22. Not a large amount but one which will help reduce next year's forecast losses and assist us working towards self-sustainability.

The Centre and Church developed risk assessments and implemented Covid Secure measures to enable some activities to return. During the year the Cherish Nursery was able to re-open and at each step of the way we communicated with and welcomed back some of the user groups, including the after schools club and other children's activities, before we were locked down for a second time.



We took the opportunity to complete some overdue and necessary maintenance on one of the main beams supporting the roof over the main Church Hall. This would have resulted in our having to close activities in the hall for over a week while this work was completed.

The closure also highlighted a number of issues with the water system in the main hall. We have renewed all the valves on the domestic water system enabling us to rectify a number of issues and control water usage more effectively.

The installation of the dishwasher also took on a life of its own and has led to much wider improvements in the kitchen with a pre-wash shower being installed, a new vegetable sink and one of the walls being reclad.

The toilets in the main hall have also received a make-over. Thanks to Ian Bromley and Judith Warren and are now much more presentable. Work also continued in the House Hall garden with completion of the last section of gabion wall, and repair and refurbishment of all the garden benches. A big thank you to Helen and Patrick Reilly.

This period of pause and change has shown how flexible we can be and how we have managed to mobilise volunteers to assist during this period. It has highlighted some areas where we will be able to improve moving forward and hopefully assist in meeting some of the additional needs resulting from the year-long impact of the pandemic. One key area is how the Centre is managed, and the roles of the Trustees in this. We will continue to review this over the coming year, ensuring that the Centre is at the heart of the Church and the Church is at the heart of the Centre, as we make greater use of new technologies for meetings and seek to ensure we are meeting the needs of our community.

Without the help, understanding and flexibility of our employed team (David, Tyrone and Richard) this would have been even more challenging. Through their willingness to support, and with the invaluable help of Alison Cutts in organising the volunteers and co-ordinating orders and cash collections, we have been able to continue to support the work of the Church and also our wider community. I am grateful to all those who have helped and assisted in this.

The final paragraph of the last year's report stated:

*"As I write, we are continuing to deliver around 60 hot lunchtime meals to our vulnerable and shielding local community thanks to the volunteers who have come together to deliver this from the Centre. Just as last year began in uncertainty, this coming year begins with concern and unprecedented circumstances and while the size of the challenge may have increased I am confident with the flexibility of our staff, the support of our volunteers and the understanding of our users we will establish a new "normal" in the coming year".*

I can confidently say this, and more, has been achieved.



Ian Warren

Chair of Grove Centre Management 2020/21

## **Achievements during the Year**

The achievements both of the Church and Centre, with the community we support, are highlighted in the various reports provided in our expanded annual report.

The principal achievements during 2020/21 were as follows:

- We continued to offer a vibrant and enriching act of worship each Sunday morning, using Zoom technology to enable participation throughout coronavirus lockdown and hybrid services with a socially distanced congregation when it was safe to do so. We look forward to when it will be possible to sing again and to welcome back children, uniformed groups and parents for services and special occasions.
- Small group fellowship, prayer and Bible studies have explored a number of areas to develop a deeper understanding and expression of the Christian faith and life.
- Weekly activity sheets have been distributed to children and their participation in services via Zoom has been encouraged and enjoyed. Additional activities were provided during Advent and Lent, but no face to face gatherings were possible due to restrictions.
- Opportunities for older people to remain active and engaged for longer, both through the Church and the Centre, have been limited this year and the wider programme of social and fund-raising events has been on hold.

- We have sustained links with regular user groups but only a few of these have been able to function – such as Giggles after school club (after lockdown) and Step Tuesday.
- The kitchen, serving the lunch service, maintained the 5 star environmental health standard for quality and cleanliness and since the start of Covid-19 making that service a home delivery one.
- Through the support of Lewisham Council Voluntary Sector grant, we continue to meet local social priorities and needs of elderly and vulnerable adults within our community. This work continues through:
  - making our premises available as a place to enhance and enable community cohesion, with regular and occasional bookings and hires
  - enabling many organisations to meet and deliver much needed services
  - working with a range of voluntary sector organisations to deliver services.
- The Church and Centre continues in its ambition to develop and improve accessibility. Planning permission has been obtained and decisions taken to ensure the building project remains within budget. With the revisions in costings, we have raised 50% of the required funding, subject to the release of funds raised from the sale of our former Baptist manse.
- Fund raising for other appeals was limited by social separation, such as the inability to collect for Christian Aid Week or to offer carol singing for local pubs. However £962 was raised for the BMS hospital working in Chad and for St Christopher's Fellowship.

## 1.4 Community Organisations

The Grove Centre continues to hosts a wide range of services and activities. Many groups in were heavily restricted during coronavirus lockdown, but are emerging renewed in 2021.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| • Christian worship in the traditions of the Baptist and United Reformed Churches | • SLAM Healthy Minds and Drop In Group  |
| • Junior Church   | • Weight Watchers   |
| • Bible Study/Fellowship Group/Prayer Group                                       | • Yoga  |
| • Sarham Carer and Toddler Group  | • The Dulwich Dog School  |
| • Friendship Group  | • Friday Art Group  |
| • Morning Coffee Bar (Mon-Wed & Friday)   | • Funky Monkey Keyboard Classes   |
| • Lunch service (Mon-Wed & Friday)  | • Step Tuesday  |
| • Cherish Day Nursery (Monday - Friday)   | • Monday Evening Pilates  |
| • 10th Sydenham Brownie Guides  | • House of Prayer   |
| • 9th Sydenham Beavers and Cubs   | • NIHONGOSCHOOL Japanese classes  |
| • Giggles after school club (Monday - Friday)                                     | • Counselling group   |
| • National Childbirth Trust Antenatal courses                                     | • Ageing Well in Lewisham (The Befrienders singing group, Art & Games group, Gentle Exercise group) |
| • Post natal group  | • Sydenham Arts Film  |
| • Diddi Dance – preschool dance classes   |   |

## Ageing Well in Lewisham Annual Report

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, Ageing Well in Lewisham- LCC had been holding three small but loyally attended weekly social/activity groups at The Grove Centre: The Befrienders singing group, an arts and games group, and a gentle exercise group.

We have so missed getting to meet in person in the friendly, sun-filled space at The Grove. But Ageing Well has kept up with as many of our members as possible so that, when possible, our groups can resume smoothly.

We have been phoning members regularly and making doorstep visits. We have sent out activity care packages and delivered treats such as fish & chips or Christmas gift bags. We also



have arranged food deliveries, signposted and assisted members, and referred them to numerous other activities and projects offered by other organisations across Lewisham.



Our singing group, The Befrienders, has successfully moved onto Zoom every Tuesday morning and is open to new online joiners. The group has worked very hard to master new technology and explore it creatively.



They have collaborated remotely with other choirs, guested on a radio show, and participated in concerts. The Befrienders also have created several original songs and videos using recordings from Zoom, through WhatsApp voice message, down domestic telephone lines and on doorsteps.

Here are a few links to their lockdown work:

**"Let Me Out!"** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QC2MC6IXtXY>

**"What is Hope?"**, <https://soundcloud.com/user-202276554/what-is-hope>

**"English Urban Garden"**, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6LOP5Pt8RQ>

We are very proud of the work. The Befrienders members have done and extremely grateful for the creative input and technical expertise of our fantastic session leaders, Natasha Lohan and Jenny Barwise, from Trinity Laban Conservatoire.



Members from our other groups have stayed busy and creative as well. They knitted, painted, gardened, and much more. We have been continuously inspired and amazed by the courage, flexibility, humour and kindness with which everyone faced the difficulties of the past year.



We are sharing a few photos of our members' creative work during lockdown



We can't wait until we are all together again, enjoying a cup of tea and a laugh at The Grove Centre! We are really looking forward to hosting our groups at The Grove again.

Winnie Carlson

Assistant Programme Manager, Ageing Well in Lewisham

4-14 Barmeston Road, London SE6 3BH

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## **Cherish Nursery Annual Report**

Cherish Day Nursery is a well-established, 'GOOD' rated Ofsted registered nursery offering the highest quality of childcare within a caring, safe and stimulating environment.

We wholeheartedly, understand that every child is unique and deserves the best possible start to life. This is supported by child development studies which are clear that children develop quickly in the early years and a child's experience between birth and age five have a major impact on their future. For children who attend our setting, we strive to provide them with the social, emotional and physical skills they need to thrive on and achieve their full potential. At Cherish Day Nursery, we believe there is no contradiction between teaching children and play, and, education and enjoyment should go hand-in-hand.



*Community, Support and a positive mindset.* These are three important factors that helped our nursery through the turbulent time of Covid-19. In March 2020, as with many other businesses big and small, we were faced with an enforced government closure. It was an unsettling time for our staff, the children and their families. It was also an unsettling time for the nursery business as a whole – we were unsure on how we would survive this uncertain time. However, survive we did and the stronger we have become.

Through our community of families, staff and the church we were able to navigate successfully through the last year. Kind words, emails and cards kept our spirits up. The church worked with us, providing us with a reduction in rent for the couple of months we were closed to assist us financially. This ensured we were able to cover any other overheads we continued to have to meet whilst closed.

This support along with assistance from Ian in constructing our risk assessments on the re-opening of the nursery, ensured a strong foothold with the church. As always, David, continues to be our beacon of light – always there to support and assist us where required on a day to day basis. As a whole we have always felt a part of the church community and welcomed by all, however through the pandemic we feel that this relationship has been further strengthened. We look forward to working together over the coming years to create happiness, positivity and lots of play for all that access the nursery and the Grove Centre..

Bhavisha Tailor, Director

Cherish Day Nursery & Heartwood Forest School

Email: [info@cherishdaynursery.com](mailto:info@cherishdaynursery.com)

Website: [www.cherishdaynursery.com](http://www.cherishdaynursery.com)



## **Dulwich Dog School Annual Report**

Lockdown 2020 -2021 has meant that I have not been able to teach at the church for most of the year – instead I have had to learn how to educate my clients remotely on WhatsApp which has worked extremely well on a 1-2-1 basis.

As a dog trainer and canine behaviourist, it is my job to teach owners how to teach their canine companions to behave in a manner that is acceptable in and outside of their homes; If owners read The Dangerous Dogs Act 2014, they would realise how important this is. With the sudden surge in dog ownership during Lockdown, I have been reminded once again of the special relationship that exists between man and his dog. Lockdown has had (for many people) a negative impact on their lives and there have been many owners attending my classes who have been thankful to have had the companionship of a dog – it has given them focus, comfort and has helped those suffering with anxiety/depression. They have thanked me for having taught them the skills required to know and understand this amazing species. As successful as my remote teaching has been, it is wonderful for us to be back at the church teaching five dogs (and their owners – all socially distanced.) The energy in the church brings that extra dimension that is lacking through a computer screen!

I am including two comments from owners who have attended my courses.

Sabi is an incredible young woman who faces health challenges every day. Her dog Lucy is by her side all the way.

Fiona and Jill attended my classes with their dog Kali and are being taught this year by my colleague Di Karn with their puppy Shanti.







*"The training from Dulwich dog school was really helpful. They taught me really well. I'm disabled and they took the time to modify their training techniques so I could learn with my disability."*

Sabi with her dog Lucy.



*"We have all thoroughly enjoyed the classes and would love to be involved in anything further. As an educator myself I must say your training skills are second to none"*

Fiona and Jill with their dog Kali

Jane Ball

The Dulwich Dog School [dulwichdogschool@talktalk.net](mailto:dulwichdogschool@talktalk.net)

## **Funky Monkey Keyboard Classes Annual Report**

Funky Monkey Keyboard Classes have been on hold during the pandemic, but since April 2021 have filled up 3 hours of classes on a Tuesday after school, and kids are now back up and learning with us in our fun classes!

We have pupils from 4-9 years coming to learn the electronic keyboard with us in small groups and the facilities work for us really well.

Lovely room, good storage space, easy access, great office support. We hope to open another day in the coming year ahead as popularity increases.'

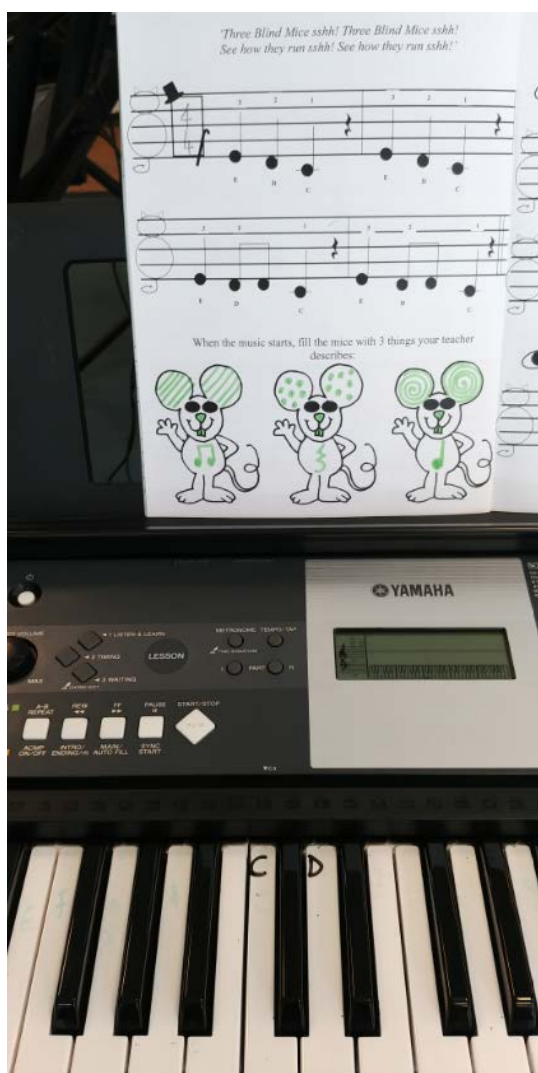
Ali Edwards

Director and Founder

[www.funkymonkey.info](http://www.funkymonkey.info)



KEYBOARD  
★ CLASSES ★



## Junior Church Annual Report

### Calling all children and parents of children!

Junior Church normally runs from 10.30am to 12noon each Sunday. Currently we have children from age 3 to 14 years. Children seem to have a natural faith in God. We aim to explore and nurture that faith through participating in activities, stories, discussion, music, art, craftwork, and games. Along with the main church we practice a progressive Christian ethos. It is not a requirement that parents attend the church service but we do need contact details and any relevant medical information first.

We provide a safe environment, in a ground floor hall, close to the church morning service, with access to garden. As a church we take our responsibilities for safeguarding seriously. Our safeguarding policies can be viewed on the website.

We are currently staffed with 2 regular experienced leaders with support from other church members. We cater for mixed age group and abilities. We use resources including "Roots" and "Spill The Beans", and have regular planning meetings.



## **The Challenges of Lockdown**

In 2020-2021 we had to **suspend onsite activities** and learn how to do Junior Church differently. The context was to provide supportive, educational, **fun**, Christian based activities not just for children stuck **at home** but also **whole families**. Staffing also changed as Covid called one leader to other challenges.

**Solutions:** One of the leaders commenced creating a pack, built weekly from our usual resources, right from the start of lockdown in March 2020. This is still going now, taking a few hours a week in planning, as I write this in April 2021. It is shaped to be for a family group, led by an adult and to include both adults and children in games/ crafts/ readings/ discussions, prayer and music. There is also a stand alone worksheet that a child can hopefully enjoy tackling alone. Initially sent out by email we rapidly, after feedback, moved to paper format posted out for our core 5-6 families. We also introduced, after a few months, a teenage discussion sheet.

**Feedback:** We find that several families are using the resources regularly. Most of the core families appear more or less frequently on our online worship services and enjoy sharing their activity especially with the worksheet, but also on other activities.

**Adapting:** Early in the year the adult services changed from following the Revised Common Lectionary (used with the "Roots" resource) to the Narrative Lectionary. In order to help tie children and adult themes together we hunted down and began to use "Spill the Beans" resource that has published a complete 4 year cycle of the Narrative Lectionary.

**Reviewing:** The direction of the work has been regularly reviewed in the trustees meetings, always seeking if further changes, greater or smaller need to be made. Discussion by phone and on doorsteps with the families at times through the year gives feedback on how they are doing and if there are particular concerns.

## **Examples of Recent Sessions**

*We explored inclusiveness* – based on the story of St Peter's vision of a sheet filled with all manner of animal life. We also wondered if St Peter had a vision or fell asleep while praying and had a dream. A visual theme such as this led to some parachute games. The children enjoyed artwork with animal themes.

*Taking the story of Jesus meeting his fishermen disciples after his resurrection* – we just had to have fish and bread cooked on a charcoal fire – Fish finger pizza we made together and we cooked it on an outdoor fire. It went down well with a few crunchy bits! We also played with an inflatable boat in the garden

**Younger children:** For younger children we normally have a crèche that adjoins the main junior church area. Youngsters often find they can move from one to the other as suits them. During lockdown this is not operational.

**Teenagers:** We have several children in secondary school. In non-covid times they partly join with the younger ones and also have their own activities/ discussions and link with adult worship. During lockdown we have provided a regular discussion sheet created by "Spill The Beans". We have also attempted to identify regional activities that they can link to.

**Achievements:** During the pandemic it has been good to keep the children and families engaged in exploring Christian themes and participating in the Church community. It will have supported family based discussions and attitudes. Linking the materials with the adult lectionary agenda has helped engage the children with the church adults. For parents/ carers it may be that regularly leading family based Christian activities for their own children may equip them for supporting activities such as Junior Church in the future.



## Outside of covid issues, our general Junior Church activities

There are the week by week achievements in seeing young people successfully learning and exploring together and reporting an enjoyable time, of letting young people see in the role models of the leaders an active and questioning Christian faith.

Then there are the much longer term achievements of seeing those young people mature into adults, participating actively in many spheres, often continuing to express their faith in God, even more often taking up positive roles and careers helping to serve people and care for our planet.

**Wider activities:** As lockdown ends we aim to re-introduce a range of activities through the year outside of Sunday services – including sessions in members' houses and trips.

### Invitation

If you would like you or your children to join us then either come to a church service at the Grove Centre Church, or contact us via the Grove Centre Office, [www.thegrovecentre.org.uk](http://www.thegrovecentre.org.uk)

Richard Neal

Junior Church Leader for The Grove Centre Church



## NCT Antenatal Courses Annual Report

The NCT antenatal course offers parents to be with information and emotional support for pregnancy, birth and caring for their newborn. The course prepares participants for the arrival of their new baby, whilst being guided through the changes and challenges of being a new mother or father.

During the pandemic these courses have continued to run online. However, we hope to return to in-person courses this summer.

In Sydenham our antenatal courses are run by Lisette Blanchett Ball, who has been a qualified antenatal practitioner for 25 years.



Wendy Auricchio

Parent Services Team: Beckenham | Bexley | Bromley | Orpington

NCT, Brunel House, 11 The Promenade, Clifton Down, Bristol BS8 3NG

[www.nct.org.uk](http://www.nct.org.uk)

Registered charity in England and Wales: 801395 and Scotland: SC041592

**Our vision is of a world in which no parent is isolated and all parents are supported to build a strong society**



## NIHONGOSCHOOL Annual Report

Thank you for supporting our Japanese class. It was great that we had face-to-face lessons in the Autumn Term following the guidelines at the time. We've switched to online lessons since December, but students are well and enjoying studying Japanese.

We have three more lessons left in June and I hope we can see my students at the Grove Centre soon. Hope everyone's well and have a nice summer.

Kazue Ono

kazue.ono.7.2@gmail.com

info.nihongoshcool@gmail.com



## Monday Evening Pilates Group Annual Report

It has been a very challenging time for the Monday Evening Pilates group.

Initially, Covid 19 meant staying at home, shutting down and feeling locked in, isolated, afraid and alone. As the teacher and group leader, I grappled with how best to support my clients individually and as a group, and gave them the option of trying the sessions on Zoom.

They all said yes, although none of them had used technology for anything other than emails or for work or studying.

I cannot put into words the gamut of emotions we went through that first month: tears of hilarity, frustration, helplessness and hopelessness coupled with a dogged determination of not giving up!!!

Attached is a screenshot of a Zoom session where one had no audio, one's video was off, one's camera was pointing the wrong way and two who were delighted not to be the problem that week!!!



By May 2020, the new regime, still with a few glitches here and there, was very much anchored and had become a much appreciated "new normal" where I could continue the physical work that happened at the Grove Centre. My work now caters 50/50 to the groups' physical and mental/emotional health and well-being needs.

We also set up a WhatsApp Group to share anything and everything, and that has been invaluable. We have missed each other and being at the Grove Centre actually and socially but we have become spiritually, physically and emotionally stronger, more resilient, supportive, flexible and adaptable. All characteristics that will put us in good stead for what's to come.

We hope that others are able to look back and see the funny side of things that happened, acknowledge the difficult things that occurred and most importantly accept that you did the best you could, with the best you had at that given tumultuous time.

We will be back when everyone feels safe to do so, hopefully June or July 2021.

With love, gratitude, compassion and kindness,

Denise Dawkins and Monday Evening Pilates Group

## **9<sup>th</sup> Sydenham Beavers and Cubs Annual Report**

This year has been eerily silent for our beavers, cubs and scouts. We have really missed seeing them, and all the activities and games they enjoy by partaking in the Scouting Programme.

However, in January '21, when parents were asked if they still regarded their children as part of 9th Sydenham Scouting, we had a list of 44 children who are our youth members. The scouts have been meeting on Zoom during the lockdowns, but the programme was quite limited, as we could not include running around games and physical learning activities. We have been planning in this ever-changing situation, looking forward to the time when we can return to face-to-face scouting.

While we were in full lockdown, we were unable to meet in person. Now we are in "amber" the Scout Association allows us to meet outdoors, provided we keep 2 metre distance. This has enabled our scouts to meet in the Grove garden which provides such a great space for running around. They are thrilled to be back.

Once we move into "amber" and "green" we will no longer need to keep 2 metres distance between each person present. Then we aim to restart beaver and cubs as well.



*A couple of pictures showing beavers enjoying themselves outdoors, as we have done in the past and want to do again, just as soon as we can!*



We have strong links with the Grove Centre. The Grove Centre church has a formal sponsorship agreement with 9th Sydenham Scout group, which includes representation on our Executive Committee. We continue to be grateful for all the support we receive from the Grove Centre and look forward to opening up face-to-face scouting meetings again, for all our age groups, in the very near future.

Julia Anstey

Group Scout Leader, 9th Sydenham Scout Group

## Sydenham Arts Film Annual Report

During a very difficult year, Sydenham Arts were incredibly grateful to The Grove Centre for hosting our monthly film screenings for the local community.

After two screenings last October, we sadly had to press pause again on our ever popular events, but we're glad to announce that we will be back from June 2021 with a film screening on the Last Thursday of each month!

Our screenings are open to all (subject to age restrictions on certain films) and we look forward to welcoming back our regular attendees and new ones! We showcase our films in a friendly atmosphere, with a short introduction before the film, and refreshments available to purchase - we are Sydenham's local independent cinema screen!

We start back with two acclaimed comedies.

On 24 June we'll be showing Oscar winner Taiki Waititi's Hunt For The Wilderpeople, and on 29 July we have the visually stunning and laugh-a-minute Kung Fu Hustle.



Films start at 7.30pm, and tickets (£7) can be booked on our website, [www.sydenhamarts.co.uk](http://www.sydenhamarts.co.uk)

James Hodgson | Managing Director

Registered Charity No. 1161590

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook

# Sydenham Arts.

## 1.5 Financial Review

### Treasurer's Report

The Grove Centre Church accounts consist of the Church General Fund (shown as the "Unrestricted Fund"), the Grove Centre Management Committee ("Grove Centre Designated Fund"), a number of smaller funds and appeals, and the valuation of the premises with which the church is endowed through the Baptist and URC trusts.

Regular donations to the Church, through standing orders, envelope giving and the open plate totalled £40,074, a 12.5% reduction. Fortunately several regular supporters moved from envelope donations to standing orders during the year, which offset some of the difference.

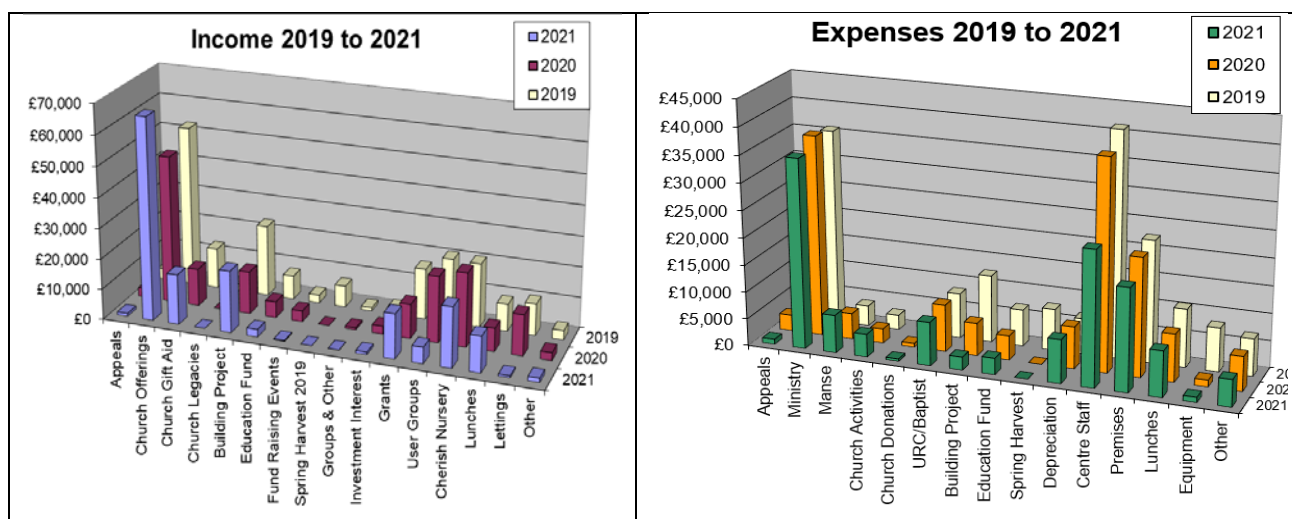
We also received generous one-off donations of £26,127, mostly in response to the financial challenge to the Grove Centre caused by coronavirus lockdown. By managing costs and using the HMRC job support scheme the Centre was able to mitigate the loss of income in the year. These precious gifts will be very helpful to support us in the year ahead.

Tax recovery through gift aid added £16,420 to the General Fund and a further £4,380 to other funds including Appeals, Buildings and Education, making £20,800 in total.

Church expenses rose by 3.9% due to the stipend cost of living increase, repairs to the manse balcony and costs for equipment, subscriptions and postage for remote working.

After making a contribution of £8,000 towards Grove Centre costs, the General Fund returned a surplus of £20,169 for the year including the additional donations received.

The Grove Centre Financial Secretary's report provides a commentary on the year for the Grove Centre (Designated Fund). The charts below provide an overview of the year.



### Building Fund Report

The church was very grateful to receive £20,539 in donations and gift aid recovery for the "Building for the Future" project. The only expenses were legal costs for work to agree an acceptable basis for the URC and Baptist Union Corporation capital contribution from the manse funds. This is proceeding towards conclusion early in 2021.

Local fund raising raised £289 through an excellent Valentine's Day meal (distributed to be enjoyed at home) and donated profits from the sale of cards.

Building Funds have a year-end surplus of £100,402 from prior and current year funds.



## **Education Fund Report**

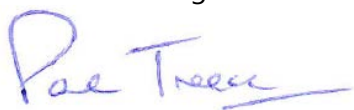
Continuing from 2017 the church received a number of gifts from members to be used to support students with a bursary towards education costs. These are restricted gifts and can only be used for this specific purpose. A total of £2,000 was donated, increased to £2,500 by gift aid tax recovery. £3,000 was provided in bursary support during the financial year.

## **Other Charitable Appeals**

Charitable appeals raised £349 towards the Baptist World Mission Harvest Appeal supporting hospital work in Chad, one of the poorest countries in the world. £603 from Christmas offerings was gifted to St. Christopher's Fellowship for work with vulnerable young people.

## **Confidence in IT Fund Report**

The Church applied for and received a Hope Beyond grant from All Churches Trust, which is to be used to support IT confidence building to enhance social inclusion in the digital world. This has been recognised as income in 2020/21, but will be spent during 2021/22.



Paul Treece

Church Treasurer 2020/21

## **Grove Centre Financial Report**

Within the main accounts under section 11.5 are the areas administered by the Grove Centre. This year has been particularly challenging as our Financial Secretary has been working away from home and with the added complications of the pandemic has been unable to support the Grove in the way he would have wished. We are, however, fortunate to have the support of David Williams as the Centre Manager who inputs the data. I was fortunate that the pandemic affected my working pattern enabling me to complete the month end bank reconciliations with David to ensure we are producing accurate accounts.

The Centre's forecasts and projections had to be amended at the start of the year in response to the pandemic and the closure of all activities except for the lunch delivery service. Our initial estimates showed a potential loss of £20,000 based on the assumptions over the impact of the pandemic.

The Furlough scheme was a blessing, which over the year has been essential in our efforts not to rely too heavily on the Church's reserves and potential need to draw down £20,000. Alongside the Furlough scheme we applied for various grants and were successful in receiving a Covid Support Grant for the lunch delivery service of £3,384. This grant helped us cover volunteer travel expenses, and the cost of containers for serving and delivering the food and enhancing the sanitisation arrangements inside the Coffee Bar for those attending to collect the food for delivery. We were also successful in receiving a grant for the installation of a dishwasher to allow the lunch service to be run by one person in the kitchen. This grant was for £3,139 although the total project costs of installation and other improvements in the kitchen exceeded this amount. The Centre was able to predict food requirements of the lunch service more accurately, as everyone had to pre-order a week in advance and we were being given some food from our two local Co-operative stores. This enabled us to generate a small surplus from the lunch service.

Cherish Nursery was able to return earlier than planned, enabling us to improve on our forecast. The after school club was able to return, and a number of user groups attempted to come back between the lockdowns under our Covid Secure requirements and government

guidance. We were also able to meet the needs of some counselling groups which needed Covid Secure premises and were permitted under Government guidelines. The income from lunches increased due to the increase demand from within our local vulnerable community.

Through close monitoring and management, and despite having spent £4,802 on various long term maintenance issues and received an additional £2,000 from Church reserves, the Centre managed to reduce its initial forecast loss to £1,270 excluding the major capital costs of £5,359 which will be depreciated. This is a major achievement given the reduction in revenue from our charitable activities of £29,434.



Ian Warren

Grove Centre Chairman 2020/21

## **Accounting Standards**

The Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 have been produced as Accruals Accounts, with a Statement of Financial Activities and a full Balance Sheet. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 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 published in October 2019.

Though the threshold for mandatory accruals accounting is above the gross income of the charity, accruals accounting has been used, as is permitted by law, to provide a consistent basis for the presentation and assessment of the financial state of the Church.

## **Reserves Policy**

As required by the Charities Act 2011 the deacons, as trustees of the church, have reviewed the Reserves Policy, taking guidance from the Baptist Union (F07 Charity Reserves, 2018).

The Grove Centre Church needs to maintain adequate reserves in order to cover large unexpected bills or repairs, to contribute towards occasional substantial building projects (e.g. new windows or roof) and to allow time for adjustments to be made if there is a significant reduction in income or increase in expenditure.

The trustees consider that current assets (debtors, investments, bank and cash) of six months' regular income provide an appropriate target level of working capital and reserves.

In view of the likely draw on funds for the building project, the trustees have decided that a minimum of three months' reserves should be retained for contingencies.

The net current assets of the Church, excluding Restricted and Endowment funds, were at £268,921 on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, equivalent to 22.1 months' income (excluding special funds). This is £236,817 above the minimum three-month level of £32,103. This is in addition to the £180,848 available from the sale of the former Baptist manse.

After providing for three months' reserves, the Church had £417,665 in funds that could be used towards Building for the Future, with the agreement of both parent denominations and subject to the coronavirus draw-down required to support the Grove Centre in 2021/22.

## **1.6 Structure, Governance and Management**

### **Governing Document**

The Grove Centre Church (including the Grove Centre) is constituted as a charitable trust registered with the Charity Commission on 8 April 2009 under the charity number 1129070. It is governed by the Constitution for the Grove Centre Church approved in January 2009.

### **Organisational Structure**

The charity trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. The trustees meet together as a body monthly (except in August) and are responsible for the decisions taken in relation to running the Church and community facilities and the activities provided by the charity. To assist in the smooth running of the charity the trustees have set up a management committee that oversees the running of the facilities and community activities. The Grove Centre Management Committee (GCMC) oversees the day to day running of the buildings and works to fulfil the vision for the Centre from the Church and report back to the trustees at each meeting. The GCMC met only a few times due to covid restrictions. The Chair and Financial Secretary of the GCMC are appointed by the Church and are also trustees. The day-to-day management of the Centre and its buildings are delegated through the GCMC to paid and volunteer staff. Notwithstanding the appointment of persons to accept responsibility for any of the Activities, all individuals, organisations, groups and committees operating within the life of the Church and their leaders shall be accountable to the Charity Trustees and also through any specific direction of the Church Members Meeting.

### **Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees**

The trustees are appointed in line with the Constitution, with nominations and elections from amongst the members of the Grove Centre Church. Long serving members of the Church who have been appointed as Life Deacons (where attending meetings), the Minister and the elected Deacons and Officers constitute the trustees.

The Grove Centre Management Committee is supported by a balance of nominated Church representatives, and representatives from the Centre's various user groups. Consideration is given in appointing Church representatives to the Management Committee with relevant personal competence, specialist knowledge and skills.

### **Induction and Training of the Trustees**

Following the election and appointment, new trustees are introduced to their role and the policies and procedures adopted by the charity along with a publication from the Charity Commission explaining the roles and obligations of a trustee. Trustees are also provided with an induction into the buildings to highlight issues connected to the operation of the Centre enabling them to be able to open up, lock up and operate the facilities as per the operational instructions. This assists in ensuring that the Trustees are aware of the scope of their responsibilities under the Charities Act and assists with the smooth running of the Centre.

### **Risk Management**

The Trustees have assessed the risks the charity faces and have drawn up a risk matrix which identifies the major risks by area of activity, the nature of those risks and the likelihood of the risks happening and the measures taken to manage them. The Trustees review this risk matrix on an annual basis. The Trustees are satisfied that systems are in place, or arrangements are in hand to manage the risks that have been identified.

In particular, insurance cover is in place and the finances of the Grove Centre Church and Grove Centre are kept under review. Financial controls were reviewed during the year.

Appropriate Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks, supported by regular review of policies for those who work with children (Grove Centre Church) and vulnerable adults (Grove Centre) are undertaken in accordance with guidance from the Home Office.

## **1.7 Reference and Administrative Details**

### **Legal Information**

The Grove Centre Church is registered as Charity No. 1129070.

### **Church Address**

2 Jews Walk, Sydenham, London SE26 6PL

Website: [www.thegrovecentre.org.uk](http://www.thegrovecentre.org.uk)

### **Trustees**

The officers, life deacons and deacons of The Grove Centre Church, together with the Minister, are the Trustees. Those serving during the financial year were:

Minister:	Revd Louise Polhill
Church Secretary:	Mrs Alison Cutts
Church Treasurer:	Mr Paul Treece
Chair of Grove Centre Management:	Mr Ian Warren
Grove Centre Financial Secretary:	Mr Xenophon Parker
Deacons:	Mr Ian Bromley
	Mrs Carole Eaton
	Mrs Grace Harawa
	Dr Richard Neal
	Mrs Helen Reilly
	Mrs Judith Warren
Life Deacon:	Mrs Elizabeth Noon

No trustees held the title to property belonging to the charity in the reporting period.

### **Bankers**

Grove Centre Church: Co-operative Bank and Nationwide Building Society

Grove Centre: HSBC, Beckenham Branch and Barclays Bank, Sydenham Branch

## 2. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Endowment £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>							
Donations and legacies	2a	82,621	31,183	7,912		121,716	95,340
Charitable activities	2b		37,294			37,294	66,728
Other trading activities	2c		680			680	5,225
Investment income	2d	146	68	2	595	811	2,604
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>82,767</b>	<b>69,225</b>	<b>7,914</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>160,501</b>	<b>169,897</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Raising Funds	3a						103
Charitable activities							
Grant funding of activities	3b	8,440		3,936		12,376	16,807
Church activities undertaken directly	3c	46,116	5		8,026	54,147	52,091
Grove Centre Church		54,556	5	3,936	8,026	66,523	69,001
Grove Centre Management	3d		57,956			57,956	76,804
Building Project	3e		2,404			2,404	5,941
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>54,556</b>	<b>60,365</b>	<b>3,936</b>	<b>8,026</b>	<b>126,883</b>	<b>151,746</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>		28,211	8,860	3,978	(7,431)	33,618	18,151
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		(5,542)	2,491		3,051	0	0
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>							
Net gains/(losses) on revaluations of fixed assets	4				107,349	107,349	108,616
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	15	14,453				14,453	(6,072)
<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>		37,122	11,351	3,978	102,969	155,420	120,695
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>							
Total Funds brought forward 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020		91,743	108,265	4,958	2,138,110	2,343,076	2,222,381
<b>Total Funds carried forward 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021</b>		<b>128,865</b>	<b>119,616</b>	<b>8,936</b>	<b>2,241,079</b>	<b>2,498,496</b>	<b>2,343,076</b>

Comparative figures for each fund are shown in the notes to the accounts




### 3. BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2021

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	Notes	General	Designated			
		£	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>						
Tangible fixed assets	4	3,099		2,060,231	2,063,330	1,959,555
<i>Total fixed assets</i>		3,099		2,060,231	2,063,330	1,959,555
<b>Current Assets</b>						
Debtors	5	16,126	3,875	586	20,587	15,408
Investments	6	42,032	19,064	485	180,848	242,429
Bank and Cash	7	90,548	101,777	7,865	200,190	169,304
<i>Total current assets</i>		148,706	124,716	8,936	180,848	463,206
<b>Current Liabilities</b>						
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8		(5,100)		(5,100)	(5,468)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>						
<i>Net current assets</i>		148,706	119,616	8,936	180,848	458,106
<i>Total assets less current liabilities</i>		151,805	119,616	8,936	2,241,079	2,521,436
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year						
<i>Net assets or (liabilities) excluding pension liability</i>		151,805	119,616	8,936	2,241,079	2,521,436
Defined benefit pension scheme (liability)		(22,940)			(22,940)	(37,393)
<b>Total net assets or liabilities</b>		<b>128,865</b>	<b>119,616</b>	<b>8,936</b>	<b>2,241,079</b>	<b>2,343,076</b>
<b>Charity Funds</b>						
Endowment funds	9			1,641,056	1,641,056	1,645,436
Revaluation reserve	4			600,023	600,023	492,674
Restricted funds	10			8,936	8,936	4,958
<i>Total restricted funds</i>				8,936	2,241,079	2,250,015
Designated funds	11		119,616		119,616	108,265
Unrestricted funds	12	151,805			151,805	129,136
Pension reserve	15	(22,940)			(22,940)	(37,393)
<i>Total unrestricted funds</i>		128,865	119,616		248,481	200,008
<b>Total Charity Funds</b>		<b>128,865</b>	<b>119,616</b>	<b>8,936</b>	<b>2,241,079</b>	<b>2,343,076</b>

The notes on pages 30 to 45 form an integral part of these accounts

These accounts were approved by the Trustees on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021 and are signed on their behalf by

Church Treasurer



Church Secretary



# 4. NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2021

## 1. Accounting Policies

### 1a Basis of Accounting

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, also noting guidance on church accounts provided by the United Reformed Church and the Baptist Union.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following the 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 issued in October 2019 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £. The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by the FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.

There are no material uncertainties regarding the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

### 1b Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the church in furtherance of its charitable objectives.

Designated funds are Unrestricted funds that have been designated for a specific purpose at the discretion of the church in furtherance of its charitable objectives, including grants for general Grove Centre running costs and subsidiary funds held within the groups and activities of the church.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor, or contained in the terms of a grant, including appeals for specific charitable causes.

Endowment funds are funds the capital of which must be maintained; normally only income arising from investment of the endowment may be used, either as restricted or unrestricted funds depending on the purpose and terms on which the endowment was established.

### 1c Tangible Fixed Assets

The Church premises – Main Hall, House and Youth Hall – and the Manse were included in the balance sheet at insurance rebuilding valuation in 2007 and are adjusted annually in line with insurance renewals, net of depreciation of major works that are substantially part of the building structure and thus included in the insurance value. Rebuilding valuations were re-assessed by Bernard Pett Surveying (Chartered Surveyors) at the request of the trustees in October 2012.

The cost valuation of buildings has been taken as the insurance valuation at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014, updated from the 2012 values, for the opening position for FRS102. A revaluation reserve has been created for the movement in insurance valuation since 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014.

Furniture and equipment in the church premises and manse purchased before 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006 is considered fully depreciated to zero net book value. Building renewals and improvements, furniture and equipment over £1,000 purchased after 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006 are included at cost less depreciation charged.

### 1d Depreciation

Depreciation has not been charged on the Church or Manse premises, because in the opinion of the Trustees, the residual value of the asset is not less than the original cost price.

Depreciation on other building renewals and improvements and other fixed assets is calculated to write of the cost on a straight-line basis over their expected useful life, at the following rates:

Building renewals and improvements	5% straight line (20 years) or 10% straight line (10 years)
Furniture and long lasting fittings	5% straight line (20 years) or 10% straight line (10 years)
Boilers, kitchen appliances, other plant and musical instruments	10% straight line (10 years)
Amplification and computer equipment	20% straight line (5 years)

### 1e Investment Assets

The charity has current asset investments which include cash on deposit and cash equivalents with a maturity of less than one year held for investment purposes rather than to meet short-term cash commitments as they fall due.

Quoted investments are stated at market value. All other investment assets are shown at cost. Changes in valuation over the year are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

### 1f Income

All voluntary giving is included in the financial statements for the period in which it is received.

Donations under Gift Aid plus the associated tax recovery are recognised as income when the donation is received. Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Cash donations of up to £30 are recognised under the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme within its annual limits. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

The charity recognises Gift Aid recoveries due from HMRC as a debtor in the balance sheet until payment is received.

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS102 SORP). The charity has received government grants in the reporting period from the London Borough of Lewisham.

Legacies are included in the SoFA when receipt is probable, that is, when there has been grant of probate, the executors have established that there are sufficient assets in the estate and any conditions attached to the legacy are either within the control of the charity or have been met.

All other income is generally recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

## 1g Expenses and Liabilities

The URC Ministry & Mission Fund contribution is paid regularly and is included in the financial statements for the year to which it relates. The church has a policy to contribute at the same level to the URC and to the Baptist Union, London Baptist Association, Baptist Home Mission Fund and Baptist Mission Society combined, thereby maintaining equal contributions to both parent denominations.

Resources expended are recognised in the period to which they are incurred and include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered. They are allocated to the particular activity to which they relate.

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty. An example is hall deposits held for future events.

No material stock items are held as assets either for charitable activities or for sale as other trading activities. Small purchases of Traidcraft and food for the Lunches service are accounted for as expenses when invoices are settled.

Governance and support costs are not material for the charity, so are not reported separately in the accounts.

As most of the management and activity of the church is carried out by volunteers, this intangible cost is not included in the financial statements as this voluntary contribution to the life of the church is incalculable.

## 1h Taxation

As part of the United Reformed Church and the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the church is an excepted charity within the meaning of the Taxes Acts. Accordingly, it is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income and capital gains received to the extent that such income or gains are applied to exclusively charitable purposes. No provision for taxation has been made in these financial statements.

# 2. Income and Endowments Notes

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Endowment £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
<b>2a Donations and Legacies</b>						
Charitable appeals			881		881	2,888
Standing order giving	37,810	60			37,870	36,125
Envelope scheme	2,115				2,115	7,774
Church collections	149				149	2,009
Sundry donations	26,127				26,127	2,994
Tax refunds under Gift Aid	16,420		81		16,501	12,277
Grants received			4,350		4,350	
Grove Centre Church	82,621	60	5,312		87,993	64,067
Sundry donations			2,000		2,000	4,200
Tax refunds under Gift Aid			500		500	1,050
Education Fund			2,500		2,500	5,250
Sundry donations		16,247	95		16,342	11,285
Tax refunds under Gift Aid		3,875	5		3,880	2,603
Building Project		20,122	100		20,222	13,888
Sundry donations		728			728	900
Grove Centre Grants		10,273			10,273	11,235
Grove Centre Management		11,001			11,001	12,135
<b>Total</b>	<b>82,621</b>	<b>31,183</b>	<b>7,912</b>		<b>121,716</b>	<b>95,340</b>
<b>2b Charitable activities</b>						
Lunches club		11,701			11,701	7,584
Cherish nursery		19,602			19,602	24,002
Grove Centre user groups		5,328			5,328	21,582
Grove Centre lettings		663			663	13,377
Weekday coffee bar						183
Grove Centre Management		37,294			37,294	66,728
<b>Total</b>		<b>37,294</b>			<b>37,294</b>	<b>66,728</b>

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Endowment £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
<b>2c Income from other trading activities</b>						
Building fund events		289			289	3,591
Sarham Carers & Toddlers						138
Grove Centre Church		289			289	3,729
Traidcraft & Fair Trade		311			311	1,245
Office services		80			80	124
Lunches club social						127
Grove Centre Management		391			391	1,496
<b>Total</b>		<b>680</b>			<b>680</b>	<b>5,225</b>
<b>2d Investment Income</b>						
Bank interest	24	28			52	527
Investment interest	122	40	2		164	550
BUC Manse Trust TS106				595	595	1,527
<b>Total</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>811</b>	<b>2,604</b>

### 3. Expenditure Notes

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Endowment £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
<b>3a Raising Funds</b>						
Building Project fund publicity						103
<b>Total</b>						<b>103</b>
<b>3b Grant funding of activities</b>						
Charitable appeals (10.4)			936		936	2,960
Friendship Group grants (11.7)						250
Church grants (12.4.2d)	8,440				8,440	9,097
Grants to institutions	8,440		936		9,376	12,307
Education fund (10.7)			3,000		3,000	4,500
Grants to individuals			3,000		3,000	4,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,440</b>		<b>3,936</b>		<b>12,376</b>	<b>16,807</b>
<b>3c Church activities undertaken directly</b>						
Ministry costs (12.4.2a)	34,893				34,893	36,928
Manse costs (12.4.2b)	6,989				6,989	4,773
Church activities (12.4.2c)	4,234				4,234	2,463
Endowments depreciation				8,026	8,026	7,728
Friendship Group (Monday)		5			5	105
Sarham Carers & Toddlers						34
Youth Project						60
<b>Total</b>	<b>46,116</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>8,026</b>	<b>54,147</b>	<b>52,091</b>



	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Endowment £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
<b>3d Grove Centre Management activities undertaken directly</b>						
Staff costs (11.5.2a)		24,769			24,769	38,662
Food costs (11.5.2b)		8,424			8,424	8,787
Equipment costs (11.5.2c)		953			953	1,244
Premises costs (11.5.2d)		18,838			18,838	21,757
Other costs (11.5.2e)		4,972			4,972	6,354
<b>Total</b>		<b>57,956</b>			<b>57,956</b>	<b>76,804</b>

<b>3e Building Project activities undertaken directly</b>						
Legal advice & fees		2,404			2,404	
Architect fees & planning						5,941
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,404</b>			<b>2,404</b>	<b>5,941</b>

### 3f Support and Governance costs

The administration of The Grove Centre is a charitable activity included in staff costs under note 11.5.2a.

No costs were incurred for Governance in the year

## 4. Balance Sheet Notes

### 4 Tangible fixed assets

Notes	Freehold Land & Buildings £	Leasehold Land & Buildings £	Motor Vehicles £	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
<b>4.1 Cost</b>						
Brought forward 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	1,973,084			50,338	2,023,422	1,903,418
Additions (major works)	3,051			2,308	5,359	11,388
Disposals						
Revaluation of fixed assets	107,349				107,349	108,616
C/forward 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	2,083,484			52,646	2,136,130	2,023,422
<b>4.2 Accumulated Depreciation</b>						
Brought forward 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	34,856			29,011	63,867	55,696
Net charge for the year	5,274			3,659	8,933	8,171
Disposals						
C/forward 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	40,130			32,670	72,800	63,867
<b>4.3 Net Book Value</b>						
Brought forward 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	1,938,228			21,327	1,959,555	1,847,722
C/forward 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	2,043,354			19,976	2,063,330	1,959,555

See Note 1c for accounting policy and the basis of valuations and the revaluation reserve.

All of the fixed assets are used for charitable purposes.

### 4.4 Tangible fixed assets by fund

Notes	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Endowment £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Brought forward 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	1,698			1,957,857	1,959,555	1,847,722
Additions (major works)	2,308			3,051	5,359	11,388
Depreciation	(907)			(8,026)	(8,933)	(8,171)
Revaluation of fixed assets				107,349	107,349	108,616
C/forward 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	3,099			2,060,231	2,063,330	1,959,555
Revaluation reserve				600,023	600,023	492,674
Book value before revaluation	3,099			1,460,208	1,463,307	1,466,881

Notes	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Endowment £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
<b>5 Debtors</b>						
<b>5.1 Debtors at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021</b>						
HMRC – Gift Aid Receivable	16,126	3,875	586		20,587	15,408
Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	16,126	3,875	586		20,587	15,408
<b>5.2 Movements on debtors in year</b>						
Brought forward 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	11,832	2,579	997		15,408	18,739
Movement in year	4,294	1,296	(411)		5,179	(3,331)
C/forward 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	16,126	3,875	586		20,587	15,408
<b>6 Investments (short term)</b>						
<b>6.1 Investments at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021</b>						
Nationwide 95day Saver A/c	42,032	19,064	485		61,581	61,417
BUC Manse Trust TS106				180,848	180,848	180,253
Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	42,032	19,064	485	180,848	242,429	241,670
<b>6.2 Movements on investments (short term) in year</b>						
Brought forward 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	41,910	19,024	483	180,253	241,670	239,593
Additional deposits in year						
Addition of interest in year	122	40	2	595	759	2,077
Disposals withdrawn in year						
C/forward 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	42,032	19,064	485	180,848	242,429	241,670
<b>7 Bank and Cash</b>						
<b>7.1 Bank and cash at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021</b>						
Co-operative Church A/c	53,881	52,923	7,865		114,669	75,431
Nationwide Instant Saver A/c	36,667	44,790			81,457	81,406
HSBC Grove Centre A/c / L&SC		2,634			2,634	11,985
Cash Grove Centre A/c		228			228	125
Bank Lunch & Social Club		1,131			1,131	1,131
Cash Sarham/Monday Group		71			71	226
Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	90,548	101,777	7,865		200,190	170,304
<b>7.2 Movements on bank and cash in year</b>						
Brought forward 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	73,696	93,130	3,478		170,304	153,161
Movement in year	16,828	8,357	4,387		29,572	16,616
Addition of interest in year	24	290			314	527
Transfers between funds						
C/forward 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	90,548	101,777	7,865		200,190	170,304
<b>8 Creditors</b>						
<b>8.1 Creditors at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 (falling due within 12 months)</b>						
Hall hire & Nursery deposits held		3,850			3,850	4,440
Centre letting paid in advance						130
Anthony Collins LLP to 31/3/21		1,250			1,250	
LBL grant 2019/20 recv'd 30/3/20						938
Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021		5,100			5,100	5,468
<b>8.2 Movements on creditors in year</b>						
Brought forward 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020		5,468			5,468	5,513
Movement in year		(368)			(368)	(45)
C/forward 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021		5,100			5,100	5,468

## 9. Endowment Funds

### 9.1 Movement in Endowment Funds during year

	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	Income	Expenses	Gains and Losses	Transfers	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grove Centre Church and Youth Hall, Jews Walk	1,071,729		5,159	58,192	3,051	1,127,813
Grove Centre House, 2 Jews Walk	562,639		2,708	36,468		596,399
Baptist Manse	503,742	595	159	12,689		516,867
Movement in funds for year to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	2,138,110	595	(8,026)	107,349	3,051	2,241,079

### 9.2 Assets in Endowment Funds

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Investments	Net Current Assets		31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021
			Gift Aid / Receivable	Investments (short term) Bank / cash	
Grove Centre Church and Youth Hall, Jews Walk	1,127,813				1,127,813
Grove Centre House, 2 Jews Walk	596,399				596,399
Baptist Manse	336,019			180,848	516,867
C/forward 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	2,060,231			180,848	2,241,079
Revaluation reserve	(600,023)				(600,023)
Book value before revaluation	1,460,208			180,848	1,641,056

### 9.3 Transfers into and out of Endowment Funds in year

	Transfers into Fund	Transfers out of Fund	Net Transfers	Description	Date of Transfer
Grove Centre Fund	3,051		3,051	GC Kitchen improvements	31/3/21
Total transfers in / out	3,051		3,051		

### 9.4 Movement in Endowment Funds (prior year)

	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2019	Income	Expenses	Gains and Losses	Transfers	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grove Centre Church and Youth Hall, Jews Walk	999,358		4,861	65,844	11,388	1,071,729
Grove Centre House, 2 Jews Walk	534,784		2,708	30,563		562,639
Baptist Manse	490,165	1,527	159	12,209		503,742
Movement in funds for year to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2020	2,024,307	1,527	(7,728)	108,616	11,388	2,138,110

### 9.5 Grove Centre Church and Youth Hall, Jews Walk

The land and buildings of The Grove Centre Church and Youth Hall in Jews Walk are held in Trust by the London Congregational Union Incorporated (administered by the United Reformed Church (Southern Province) Trust Limited) and are subject to a Sharing Agreement with the Baptist Union Corporation Limited from 21<sup>st</sup> January 1972.

### 9.6 Grove Centre House, 2 Jews Walk

The land and buildings of The Grove Centre Church House, 2 Jews Walk are held in Trust by the London Congregational Union Incorporated (administered by the United Reformed Church (Southern Province) Trust Limited) and is subject to a Sharing Agreement with the Baptist Union Corporation Limited from 21<sup>st</sup> January 1972.

### 9.7 Baptist Manse

The land and buildings of the Baptist Manse, 41 Beaulieu Avenue, purchased on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2013, are held in Trust by the Baptist Union Corporation Limited and are subject to a Sharing Agreement with the London Congregational Union Incorporated (administered by the United Reformed Church Southern Synod) from 19<sup>th</sup> December 1972.

The previous manse at 17 Gaynesford Road was sold in 2013. The net proceeds are held in BUC Trust Fund TS106.

## 10. Restricted Funds

### 10.1 Movement in Restricted Funds during year

	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	Income	Expenses	Gains and Losses	Transfers	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Church & Centre Appeals		962	936			26
Organ Fund (Restricted)	483	2				485
Confidence in IT with coffee		4,350				4,350
Education Fund (Restricted)	4,450	2,500	3,000			3,950
Building Project (Restricted)	25	100				125
Movement in funds for year to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	4,958	7,914	(3,936)			8,936

### 10.2 Assets in Restricted Funds

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Debtors Due within 12 months	Net Current Assets			31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021
	£	£	Gift Aid Receivable	Investments (short term)	Bank / cash	£
Church & Centre Appeals			81		(55)	26
Organ Fund (Restricted)				485		485
Confidence in IT with coffee					4,350	4,350
Education Fund (Restricted)			500		3,450	3,950
Building Project (Restricted)			5		120	125
Carried forward 31 <sup>st</sup> Mar 2021	0		586	485	7,865	8,936

### 10.3 Movement in Restricted Funds (prior year)

	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2019	Income	Expenses	Gains and Losses	Transfers	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Church & Centre Appeals		2,960	2,960			
Organ Fund (Restricted)	479	4				483
Special Collections (SH 2019)						
Education Fund (Restricted)	3,700	5,250	4,500			4,450
Building Project (Restricted)	1,199	165	1,489		150	25
Movement in funds for year to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2020	5,378	8,379	(8,949)		150	4,958

### 10.4 Church & Centre Appeals

The Appeals Fund is used to ring-fence donations made in response to specific charitable appeals and grants.

	Offerings collected	Gift Aid tax recovery	Total Year 2021	Description	Prior Year 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Christian Aid Week	10		10	Christian Aid Week	738
				DEC Africa Cyclone Idai	645
				DEC Africa Ebola	460
BMS Harvest Chad	349		349	BMS Harvest South Sudan	307
St.Christophers' Fellowship Christmas offering	522	81	603	St.Christophers' Fellowship	337
				Lewisham Foodbank (carols)	473
Total for Church Appeals	881	81	962		2,960

Gift aid tax recovery is only made on cash offerings and cheques made out to The Grove Centre Church. Gift aided offerings made out to named charities are passed on for their own tax recovery in due course.



Notes	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	Income	Expenses	Transfers	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	Prior Year 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£

### 10.5 Organ Fund (Restricted)

The Organ Fund was created by the legacy of Olive Carter and has been added to by the Church in prior years. It was given to repair the organ in the Grove Centre or replace it with a modern instrument. The organ has now been removed, as it was beyond repair. The future use of this fund is subject to the trustees' decision.

Interest on investments		2			2	4
Total for Organ Fund (Rest)	483	2			485	483

### 10.6 Confidence in IT with coffee (Restricted)

The Confidence in IT with coffee fund is for the delivery of a grant funded by Hope Beyond All Churches Trust to support education in the use of IT to engage in social and online activities. No funds were expended during 2020/21.

Grant received		4,350			4,350	
Movement in fund for year to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021		4,350			4,350	

### 10.7 Education Fund (Restricted)

The Education Fund is used to provide bursaries to students supported by Restricted gifts to the Grove Centre Church.

Donations to fund		2,000			2,000	4,200
Income tax recovery		500			500	1,050
Education bursaries & grants			3,000		(3,000)	(4,500)
Movement in fund for year to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	4,450	2,500	(3,000)		3,950	4,450

### 10.8 Building Project (Restricted)

The Building Project fund was created in 2012 to manage funds raised and expended on planning and surveys for the possible redevelopment of the Grove Centre House and passage between the House and the Main Hall.

Donations to fund		95			95	140
Donations T/f from groups						150
Income tax recovery		5			5	25
Architect & Planning fees						(1,489)
Movement in fund for year to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	25	100			125	25

## 11. Designated Funds

### 11.1 Movement in Designated Funds during year

	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	Income	Expenses	Gains and Losses	Transfers	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Building Project (Designated)	82,242	20,440	2,404			100,277
Grove Centre Management	9,483	48,686	57,956		2,641	2,854
Lunch & Social Club	1,040					1,040
Friendship Group (Monday)	166		5		(150)	11
Organ Fund (Designated)	623	1				624
Sarham Carers Group	60					60
Youth Project	14,651	99				14,750
Movement in funds for year to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	108,265	69,226	(60,365)		2,491	119,616

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Creditors Due within 12 months	Net Current Assets			31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021
	£	£	Int/Gift Aid Receivable	Investments (short term)	Bank / cash	£
<b>11.2 Assets in Designated Funds</b>						
Building Project (Designated)		(1,250)	3,875		97,652	100,277
Grove Centre Management		(3,850)		3,750	2,954	2,854
Lunch & Social Club					1,040	1,040
Fellowship Group (Monday)					11	11
Organ Fund (Designated)				624		624
Sarham Carers Group					60	60
Youth Project				14,690	60	14,750
C/forward 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021		(5,100)	3,875	19,064	101,777	119,616

### 11.3 Movement in Designated Funds (prior year)

	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2019	Income	Expenses	Gains and Losses	Transfers	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Building Project (Designated)	69,193	17,604	4,555			82,242
Grove Centre Management	11,216	80,359	76,804		(5,288)	9,483
Lunch & Social Club	1,040					1,040
Friendship Group (Monday)	277	494	355		(250)	166
Organ Fund (Designated)	617	6				623
Sarham Carers Group	56	138	34		(100)	60
Youth Project	14,520	191	60			14,651
Movement in funds for year to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2020	96,919	98,792	(81,808)		(5,638)	108,265

### 11.4 Building Project (Designated)

	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	Income	Expenses	Transfers	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	Prior Year 2020
The Building Project fund was created in 2012 to manage funds raised and expended on planning and surveys for the possible redevelopment of the Grove Centre House and passage between the House and the Main Hall.						
Donations to Building fund		16,247			16,247	11,145
Social and fund raising events		289			289	3,591
Income tax recovery		3,875			3,875	2,578
Interest received		28			28	290
Total incoming resources		20,439			20,439	17,604
Fund raising and publicity						103
Legal advice & fees			2,404		2,404	
Architect & Planning fees						4,452
Total resources expended			2,404		2,404	4,555
Movement in fund for year to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	82,242	20,439	(2,404)		100,277	82,242

## 11.5 Grove Centre Management

The Grove Centre Management Fund is used to maintain the premises at Jews Walk and to run the community activities of The Grove Centre. It is administered by The Grove Centre Management Committee.

	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	Income	Expenses	Transfers	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	Prior Year 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>11.5.1 Grove Centre Income</b>						
Donations and legacies						
Sundry donations		728			728	900
Grove Centre Church/Covid19				8,000	8,000	6,000
Sarham donation to Centre						100
Grants received (LBL)		3,750			3,750	11,235
Grants received (Other/Covid)		6,523			6,523	
		11,001		8,000	19,001	18,235
Charitable activities						
Lunches club		11,701			11,701	7,584
Cherish nursery		19,602			19,602	24,002
Grove Centre user groups		5,328			5,328	21,582
Grove Centre lettings		663			663	13,377
Weekday coffee bar						183
		37,294			37,294	66,728
Other trading activities						
Traidcraft & Fair Trade		311			311	1,245
Office services		80			80	124
Lunches club social						127
		391			391	1,496
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>48,686</b>		<b>8,000</b>	<b>56,686</b>	<b>86,459</b>
<b>11.5.2 Grove Centre Expenditure</b>						
<b>11.5.2a Staff Costs</b>						
Centre staff salaries			33,370		33,370	37,415
HMRC job support scheme			(9,275)		(9,275)	
Employer pension contribution			664		664	851
Employer National Insurance			10		10	396
			24,769		24,769	38,662
<b>11.5.2b Food Costs</b>						
Lunches club food			7,986		7,986	7,745
Traidcraft & fair trade food			438		438	1,042
			8,424		8,424	8,787
<b>11.5.2c Equipment Costs</b>						
Equipment purchases			32		32	454
Equipment maintenance			921		921	790
			953		953	1,244
<b>11.5.2d Premises Costs</b>						
Minor works / maintenance			4,802		4,802	4,031
Centre Electricity			3,014		3,014	3,462
Centre Gas			4,646		4,646	4,592
Waste Collection			733		733	2,163
Water and Sewerage			1,237		1,237	2,913
Cleaning materials/services			2,031		2,031	2,248
Insurance			2,375		2,375	2,348
			18,838		18,838	21,757

	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	Income	Expenses	Transfers	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	Prior Year 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>11.5.2e Other Costs</b>						
Licences			158		158	939
Centre sundries & postage			414		414	705
Volunteer expenses			529		529	318
Stationery & print / copies			1,633		1,633	2,201
Telephone / Internet			2,238		2,238	2,110
Training						81
			4,972		4,972	6,354
Total resources exc Major Wks			57,956		57,956	76,804
Major Works (capital cost)				5,359	5,359	11,388
Total resources expended			57,956	5,359	63,315	88,192
Movement in fund for year to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	9,483	48,686	(57,956)	2,641	2,854	9,483

### 11.5.3 Transfers into and out of Grove Centre Fund in year

	Transfers into Fund	Transfers out of Fund	Net Transfers	Description	Date of Transfer
	£	£	£		
Unrestricted Fund	6,000		6,000	Church fund to Centre	£500 pm
Unrestricted Fund	2,000		2,000	Additional Covid-19 support	09/12/20
Unrestricted – GC equipment		(2,308)	(2,230)	GC Dishwasher	23/10/20
Endowment – GC asset		(3,051)	(3,051)	GC Kitchen improvements	31/03/21
Total transfers in / out	8,000	(5,359)	2,641		

	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	Income	Expenses	Transfers	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	Prior Year 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>11.6 Luncheon and Social Club</b>						
The Luncheon and Social Club Fund was used to pay for social activities for members of the Grove Centre Luncheon Club. It is administered by Mr.D.Williams. The fund was dormant in 2020/21.						
Interest received						3
Movement in fund for year to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	1,040				1,040	1,040

### 11.7 Friendship Group (Monday)

The Friendship Group meets each Monday afternoon, providing general charitable and social activities funded by weekly offerings. It is administered by Mrs A.Sydee, but was unable to operate due to coronavirus.

Weekly offerings						494
Total incoming resources						494
Sundries & refreshments			5		5	105
Donation to GC Church				150	150	100
Donation to Building Fund						150
Donations (Action for Children, ELF, St. Mungos, Leprosy)						250
Total resources expended			5	150	155	605
Movement to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	166		(5)	(150)	11	166

### 11.8 Organ Fund (Designated)

The Organ Fund (Designated) is money originally set aside by the church for the eventual replacement of the organ.

Investment income		1		1	6
Movement to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	623	1		624	623



	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	Income	Expenses	Transfers	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	Prior Year 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>11.9 Sarham Carers &amp; Toddler Group</b>						
The Sarham Fund is used for the general charitable and social activities of the Grove Centre Sarham Carers and Toddler Group, funded by weekly offerings. It is administered by Mrs.J.Warren, but was unable to operate due to coronavirus.						
Weekly subscriptions						138
Total incoming resources						138
Equipment purchases						20
Refreshments						14
Misc. items & gifts						
Donation to Church & Centre						100
Total resources expended						134
Movement to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	60				60	60

#### 11.10 Youth Project

The Youth Project Fund is used to support activities for children and young people, funded in part by contributions towards events. It is administered with other church funds.

Donations to Youth Fund	60	60	60	
Interest on investments	39	39	131	
Total incoming resources	99	99	191	
Youth outings				
Support for Spring Harvest			60	
Total resources expended			60	
Movement to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	14,651	99	14,750	14,651

## 12. Unrestricted Funds

#### 12.1 Movement in Unrestricted Funds during year

	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	Income	Expenses	Gains and Losses	Transfers	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Church General Fund	129,136	82,767	54,556		(5,542)	151,805
Movement in funds for year to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	129,136	82,767	(54,556)		(5,542)	151,805

#### 12.2 Assets in Unrestricted Funds

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Investments	Net Current Assets			31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021
			Gift Aid Receivable	Investments (short term)	Bank / cash	
Church General Fund	3,099		16,126	42,032	90,548	151,805
C/forward 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	3,099		16,126	42,032	90,548	151,805

#### 12.3 Movement in Unrestricted Funds (prior year)

	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2019	Income	Expenses	Gains and Losses	Transfers	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Church General Fund	127,098	61,199	53,261		(5,900)	129,136
Movement in funds for year to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2020	127,098	61,199	(53,261)		(5,900)	129,136

#### 12.4 Church General Fund

The Church General Fund is used to run the general charitable activities of The Grove Centre Church.

	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2020	Income	Expenses	Transfers	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	Prior Year 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>12.4.1 Church Income</b>						
Standing order giving		37,810			37,810	36,065
Envelope scheme		2,115			2,115	7,774
Church collections		149			149	2,009
Sundry Donations		26,127		150	26,277	2,600
Tax refunds under Gift Aid		16,420			16,420	12,205
Investment income		146			146	646
Total incoming resources		82,767		150	82,917	61,299
<b>12.4.2 Church Expenditure</b>						
<b>12.4.2a Ministry Expenses</b>						
Stipend			27,543		27,543	26,950
Employers Nat. Insurance			60		60	836
Employers pension contrib.			6,416		6,416	7,269
Ministry expenses			239		239	92
Training and events			187		187	675
Travel costs			43		43	116
Visiting preachers			405		405	990
			34,893		34,893	36,928
<b>12.4.2b Manse Expenses</b>						
Manse works			1,850		1,850	
Manse maintenance			1,027		1,027	945
Manse council and water			2,675		2,675	2,544
Manse telephone / internet			766		766	637
Manse building insurance			671		671	647
			6,989		6,989	4,773
<b>12.4.2c Church Activities</b>						
Worship expenses			116		116	252
Junior church			419		419	316
Social events						178
Licences			534		534	393
Church sundries & posters			543		543	471
Postage			396		396	
Food purchases						66
Equipment and maintenance			1,319		1,319	344
Depreciation of assets			907		907	443
			4,234		4,234	2,463
<b>12.4.2d Church Grants payable</b>						
URC Ministry & Mission			4,003		4,003	4,326
Baptist Ministry & Mission			4,003		4,003	4,326
Voluntary Service Lewisham			150		150	150
Baptist Northern College			150		150	150
Foodbank & Street Pastors			120		120	120
Discretionary fund			14		14	
Other donations & subs						25
			8,440		8,440	9,097
GC Dishwasher				(2,308)	(2,308)	
Church contributions to Centre				8,000	8,000	6,000
Total resources expended			54,556	5,692	60,248	59,261
Movement in fund for year to 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	129,136	82,767	(54,556)	(5,542)	151,805	129,136

## 12.5 Transfers into and out of General Fund in year

	Transfers into Fund	Transfers out of Fund	Net Transfers	Description	Date of Transfer
	£	£	£		£
Grove Centre Fund		6,000	(6,000)	Church contribution to Grove Centre costs	£500 pm
Grove Centre Fund		2,000	(2,000)	Additional for Covid-19	09/12/20
Grove Centre Fund	2,308		2,308	Dishwasher purchase	23/10/20
Fellowship Group (Monday)	150		150	Donation to Church costs	19/10/20
Total transfers in / out	2,458	(8,000)	(5,542)		

## 13. Disclosure of trustee and staff remuneration, related party and other transactions

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	Prior Year 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Stipend & Salaries	27,543	33,370			60,913	64,365
HMRC job support scheme		(9,275)			(9,275)	
Employer's National Insurance	60	10			70	1,232
Employer's pension contribution	6,416	664			7,080	8,120
Manse costs	6,989				6,989	4,773
Total	41,008	24,769			65,777	78,490

Average number of employees during year 4 (3.2 FTE) 4 (3.4 FTE)

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 during the year (2020 none)

One Trustee, who is also an employee, lived in housing wholly or partly owned by the church.

Aggregate donations received from Trustees during year 49,485 39,436

No sums were reimbursed to the Trustees for their work as Trustees (2020 none).

No sums were reimbursed to Saleemi Associates for their work as independent examiners (2020 none).

The Church pays pension contributions for its Minister to the Baptist Ministers Pension Trust Limited, which is a final salary defined benefit scheme, which is not contracted out of the State second pension. The scheme is a multi-employer scheme and it is not possible to identify the assets and liabilities of the scheme which are attributable to the church. In accordance with FRS17 therefore, the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme.

## 14. Related Charities

It is a policy of the church to make an equal contribution to the official schemes of the URC and the Baptist denominations in recognition of the shared heritage of The Grove Centre Church.

### 14.1 United Reformed Church

A custodian Trustee of the church is the United Reformed Church (Southern Province) Trust Limited which is charity number 282270.

The church made donations from General Funds to the URC Ministry & Mission Fund as set out under Grants payable.

### 14.2 Baptist Union Corporation

A custodian Trustee of the church is the Baptist Union Corporation Limited which is charity number 249635, and which is controlled by the Baptist Union Council. The church is also a member of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and of the London Baptist Association.

The church made donations from General Funds to Baptist Ministry & Missions as set out under Grants payable.

## 15. Pensions

### 15.1 Baptist Pension Scheme

The Church is an employer participating in a pension scheme known as the Baptist Pension Scheme ("the Scheme"), which is administered by the Pension Trustee (Baptist Pension Trust Limited). The Scheme is a separate legal entity and the assets of the Scheme are held separately from those of the Employer and the other participating employers.

For any month, each participating employer in the Scheme pays contributions as set out in the Schedule of Contributions in force at that time.

The Scheme is considered to be a multi-employer scheme as described in Section 28 of FRS 102. This is because it is not possible to attribute the Scheme's assets and liabilities to specific employers and means that contributions are accounted for as if the Scheme were a defined contribution scheme. The pensions costs charged to the SoFA in the year are contributions payable towards benefits and expenses accrued in that year, plus any impact of deficiency contributions (see below). The Minister is eligible to join the Scheme.

From January 2012, pension provision is being made through the Defined Contribution (DC) Plan within the Scheme. In general, members pay 8% of their Pensionable Income and employers pay 6% of members' Pensionable Income into individual pension accounts, which are operated and managed on behalf of the Pension Trustee by Legal and General Life Assurance Society Limited. In addition, the employer pays a further 4% of Pensionable Income to cover Death in Service Benefits, administration costs, and an associated insurance policy which provides income protection for Scheme members in the event that they are unable to work due to long-term incapacity. This income protection policy has been insured by the Baptist Union of Great Britain with Aviva plc. The further 4% contribution rate is reduced to 3% for Employer contributions made to the Segregated DC Arrangement.

Benefits in respect of service prior to 1 January 2012 are provided through the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan within the Scheme. The main benefits for pre-2012 service were a defined benefit pension of one eightieth of Final Minimum Pensionable Income for each year of Pensionable Service, together with additional pension in respect of premiums paid on Pensionable Income in excess of Minimum Pensionable Income. The Scheme, previously known as the Baptist Ministers' Pension Fund, started in 1925, but was closed to future accrual of defined benefits on 31 December 2011.

The total pension cost for the Church for DC Plan contributions is £3,380 (Prior year £3,309).

## 15.2 Actuarial valuation as at 31 December 2019

A formal valuation of the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan was performed at 31 December 2019 by a professionally qualified Actuary using the Projected Unit Method. The market value of the DB Plan assets at the valuation date was £298 million. The valuation of the DB Plan revealed a deficit of assets compared with the value of liabilities of £18m (equivalent to a past service funding level of 94%). The Church and the other employers supporting the DB Plan are collectively responsible for funding this deficit.

The key assumptions underlying the valuation were as follows:

Type of financial assumption	% pa
RPI price inflation assumption	3.20%
CPI price inflation assumption	2.70%
Minimum Pensionable Income increases (RPI)	3.20%
Assumed investment returns	
- Pre-retirement	2.95%
- Post retirement	1.70%
Deferred pension increases	
- Pre April 2009	3.20%
- Post April 2009	2.50%
Pension increases	
- Main Scheme pension	2.70%

Post-retirement mortality is assumed in accordance with 80% of the S3NFA and S3NMA tables, with allowance for future improvements in mortality rates from 2013 in line with the CMI 2019 core projections, with a long-term annual rate of improvement of 1.75% for males and 1.5% for females, with the core smoothing parameter and with additional initial mortality improvement factor A=0.5%.

The next actuarial valuation of the DB Plan within the Scheme is due to take place not later than as at 31 December 2022.

The total pension cost for the Church for DB Plan deficiency contributions is £3,036 (Prior year £3,960).

## 15.3 Recovery Plan

In addition to the contributions to the DC Plan set out above, where a valuation of the DB Plan reveals a deficit the Trustee and the Council agree to a rate of deficiency contributions from churches and other employers involved in the DB Plan.

Under the current Recovery Plan dated 30 September 2020, deficiency contributions are payable until 30 June 2026. These contributions are broadly based on the employer's membership at 31 December 2014 and increase annually in line with increases to Minimum Pensionable Income as defined in the Rules. However, the Trustees and the Council agreed a 50% reduction for all deficiency contributions payable between 1 July 2020 and 31 December 2020.

In addition, the Baptist Union of Great Britain contributed a lump sum of £33m in 2018 with a further £0.5m to follow, and changes to the Scheme benefits were agreed.

## 15.4 Movement in DB Plan Balance Sheet liability

Section 28.11A of FRS 102 requires agreed deficit recovery payments to be recognised as a liability. The movement in the provision is set out in the table below.

	2021	2020
	£	£
Balance sheet liability at year start	37,393	39,863
Minus deficiency contributions paid	(3,036)	(3,960)
Interest cost (recognised in SoFA)	610	909



Remaining change to balance sheet liability* (recognised in SoFA)	(12,027)	581
Balance sheet liability at year end	22,940	37,393

\* Comprises any change in agreed deficit recovery plan and change in assumptions between year-ends.

This liability represents the present value of the deficit contributions agreed as at the accounting date and has been valued using the following assumptions set by reference to the duration of the deficit recovery payments:

	31 Mar 2021	31 Mar 2020	31 Mar 2019
Discount rate	0.5%	1.7%	2.4%
Future increases to Minimum Pensionable Income	3.2%	3.2%	3.3%

The Church has received guidance that the cost for the church to buy out Pension Scheme liabilities at 31 Mar 2021 was approximately £39,800.

## 16. Events after the end of the reporting period

### 16.1 Coronavirus impact

The national lockdown and “social distancing” measures enacted by the government from March 2020 and again from December 2020 are continuing for an uncertain period. This will again have a significant impact on the accounts in 2021/22.

The impact of coronavirus lockdown will reduce income for the Grove Centre due to the temporary closure or restriction of most community face to face services until at least June 2021. While the level of impact will depend on the duration of social distancing measures and other factors, The Grove Centre will not be fully open for at least the first quarter of the year. This will limit Centre-based activities, appeals and fund raising events until restrictions are eased.

The Church will continue a weekly act of worship shared using a hybrid of Zoom video conferencing technology and a socially-distanced congregation in the building while this necessary. Use of Zoom may continue beyond lockdown to enable participation for house-bound or self-isolating households. Trustees will continue to meet using video technology to provide continuing governance, leadership and pastoral care until it is safe to meet in person again.

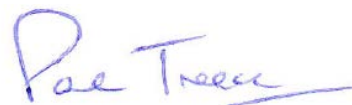
Two Grove Centre staff have been furloughed under the HMRC job support scheme, reducing staff costs, and this will continue. The Lunches service will continue to provide hot lunch meals for daily distribution by volunteers, being run by the Centre Administrator, until social distancing ends. Cherish nursery is operating with social distancing restrictions but providing a near-normal service for the community.

Progress with fund raising for the Building for the Future project will be further delayed, though donations will continue to be encouraged and fund raising will be re-started when it is safe to do so.

During 2020 over £25,000 of additional donations were received into Unrestricted funds to support the Church and Centre through these impacts. It is anticipated that a figure of around £10,000 from this funding may be needed in 2021/22 on current projections. The Church is not at risk of ceasing to be a going concern at the present time.

## Treasurer's Statement

I have prepared the financial statements on pages 28 to 45 for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.



Mr Paul Treece, Church Treasurer

17<sup>th</sup> April 2021

## Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Grove Centre Church

### Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Grove Centre Church (Charity No. 1129070) for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 set out on pages 28 to 45.

### 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 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 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 Act; or
2. the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
3. 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.



Mohammad Saleemi-FCA

792 Wickham Road

Croydon

Surrey

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Tel: 0208 777 3055

Date : 17 June 2021