

**Altrincham United Reformed Church
Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st December 2020**

Church Officers:

Susan Jesson, Church Secretary

David Smith, Finance and Property Committee

Contents

Administrative Information	2
Structure, governance and management	3
Objectives and Activities for the Public Benefit	3
Review of Activities and Achievements	3
Future Plans	4
COVID-19	4
Financial review	4
Reserve policy	4
Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Altrincham United Reformed Church Charity	6
Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2020	7
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2020	8
Notes to the Accounts	9

Administrative Information

Elders/Trustees:

Megan Gilks
Eddie Gondwe
Susan Jesson
Helen McGonnell
Doreen Radcliffe
David Smith

Pilots' Leader

Church Secretary, Worship and Children's Leader
Junior Church Leader
Junior Church Leader
Finance and Property

Charity Address:

Altrincham United Reformed Church (Trinity Hale)
81 Cecil Road
Hale
Altrincham
WA15 9NT

Other Address:

Altrincham United Reformed Church (Woodlands Timperley)
Woodlands Parkway
Timperley
Altrincham
WA15 7QT

Bankers:

The Royal Bank of Scotland
Hale Branch
Altrincham
Cheshire

Accountant:

Beyond Profit Ltd
G104 Bolton Arena
Arena Approach
Horwich
Bolton
BL6 6LB

Independent Examiner:

Teresa Fennell, ACMA CGMA
It Doesn't Have to Cost the Earth Ltd
47 St Dunstons Close,
Worcester
WR5 2AJ

Structure, governance and management

The Minister and Elders are the trustees of the charity.

The governing document of Altrincham United Reformed Church is The Scheme of Union of the United Reformed Church, which includes The Structure of the United Reformed Church and The United Reformed Church Acts of Parliament (1972, 1981 and 2000).

The functions of the Elders Meeting (the Minister and Elders) and the Church Meeting are defined in the Structure of the United Reformed Church.

Elders are Church members elected, normally for a three year term, by the Church Meeting. The Elders normally meet once a month and the meetings are usually chaired by the Minister. They are responsible for the pastoral oversight and leadership of the local church. In the Elders' Meeting they take counsel together for the whole congregation. It is their duty to make provision for Christian worship and education, to maintain proper standards of membership, and to promote witness and service to the community, mission at home and abroad, and the peace, unity and welfare of the church. Their responsibilities include making provision for the care and maintenance of church buildings and grounds, and oversight and management of church finances. The elders have continued to meet monthly on-line during the period when they have been unable to meet face to face due to COVID-19.

Church Meetings are normally held three times a year and are open to all members of the church. Unless The Structure of the United Reformed Church determines otherwise, major decisions affecting the church are usually made by the Church Meeting. There have been no Church Meetings during 2020 due to COVID-19.

Objectives and Activities for the Public Benefit

The object of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Scheme of Union of the United Reformed Church.

The charity provides public worship open to all, pastoral support of the congregation, Christian education opportunities, all age social and recreational activities, provision of premises and services to the local community, and support of the worldwide church

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Church's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and setting the grant making policy for the period.

Review of Activities and Achievements

Normally Services of public worship are conducted every Sunday morning, some Sunday evenings and every Thursday morning throughout the year; many of these services included special provision for children. However, due to COVID-19, face to face services ceased in March 2020 and were held on-line via Zoom instead.

At various times during the year opportunities are usually provided for members of the church and community, adults and children, to engage in Christian education. These included, for children and young people, weekly meeting of Pilots, Junior Church, bi-monthly Messy Church and twice weekly Toddler Groups and, for adults, regular meetings for worship and prayer, and social activities which included a dimension of Christian education. Again, due to the restrictions of meeting in person due to COVID-19, these were replaced with on-line sessions from March.

Pastoral care was extended to members of the congregations, others associated with the church and members of the community. Since March these communications have been by telephone and post.

Until March social and recreational activities, consistent with the charitable purposes of the church, included several Toddlers groups, Guild and uniformed youth organisations. Many of these groups also raised funds for outside charities. The church premises were used by a number of community groups. Since March, Toddler Groups have met on-line for a weekly Singalong session but the Guild and uniformed organisations have been unable to meet in person as have various hirers of rooms and community groups.

Future Plans

Income following the sale of the halls has been used to upgrade the church foyer to include a meeting room, office and 3 toilets (including disabled toilet and baby changing facilities). Work is well underway on the building of a new hall, a further meeting room, toilet facilities including baby changing and a new kitchen on the side of the church. This new extension is due for completion end of March/beginning April 2021 and will be used for:

- church activities
- availability for hire by the local community
- possible provision of simple lunches for the benefit of the local community.
- possible provision of a dementia support group

COVID-19

COVID-19 has had a severe impact on the church's income and activities since March, however, many members have replaced their weekly offerings by setting up standing orders. There has been a considerable shortfall in freewill giving and income from the letting of rooms. There is a possibility that the church will be able to claim on its insurance for some of this shortfall. COVID-19 has, in many ways, demonstrated to the church that some previous activities can be carried out in a different way in the future.

Financial review

There was a deficit in the receipts and payments account during the year. This was largely due to planned spending of reserves to further the church's charitable objectives (for example,; costs relating to the maintenance and refurbishment of its premises and the building of a new hall, meeting room, toilet facilities and kitchen.

There are no funds in deficit at the 31st December 2020.

The church's principal funding comes from freewill giving of members of the congregations throughout the year and from letting income from the use of church premises. This income has been severely affected by the church building being mainly closed from March.

Expenditure in the year was broadly in line with expectations, and included a deficit on the general fund for the year.

Reserve policy

Unrestricted reserve funds are available for use at the discretion of the church in furtherance of its charitable objectives. In 2020 the church held reserve funds:

- a) to finance other mission activities over the following 3 – 5 years, as and when they are identified;
- b) to assist with any major or unexpected maintenance and repairs to its premises.
- c) to finance the building of a new hall and kitchen facilities

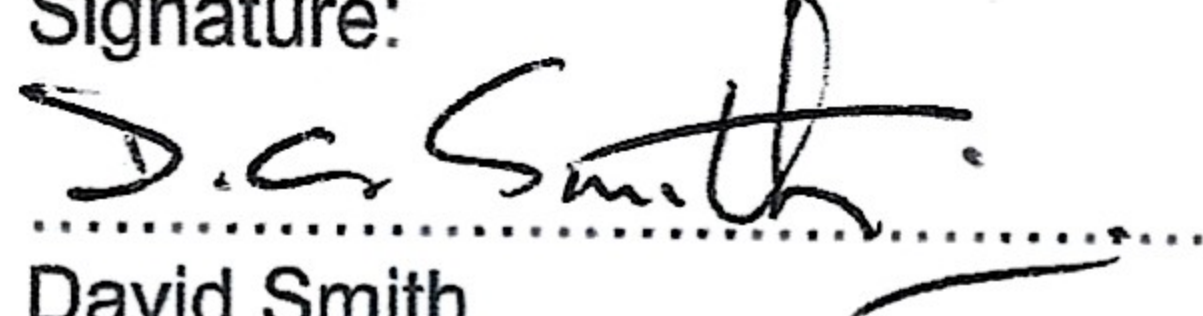
Restricted reserve funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor, or contained in the terms of a grant.

The financial results for the year, the accounting policies adopted and the amounts of each of these funds are disclosed in the financial statements.

The Elders Meeting (the charity's trustees) declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the Elders Meeting (charity's trustees)

Signature:



David Smith
Elder

Signature:



Susan Jesson
Secretary

4th May 2021

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Altrincham United Reformed Church Charity

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Altrincham United Reformed Church Charity ("the Church") for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Church 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 Church's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 respect of the Church as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:



Date: 11 / 5 / 21 .

Teresa Fennell, ACMA CGMA
It Doesn't Have to Cost the Earth Ltd
47 St Dunstan's Close,
Worcester, WR5 2AJ

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 December 2020

31 December 2020					31 December 2019				
Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds Trinity Hale Project	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds Trinity Hale Project	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Income from:									
Donations and Legacies	2	48,110	400,000	-	448,110	43,431	400,000	5,000	448,431
Charitable Activities	3	15,389	-	-	15,389	25,784	-	-	25,784
Investment income	4	91	-	-	91	179	-	-	179
Other incoming resources	5	3,958	-	-	3,958	3,958	-	-	3,958
Total		67,548	400,000	-	467,548	73,352	400,000	5,000	478,352
Expenditure on:									
Charitable activities	6	123,067	413,343	47	536,458	121,816	307,201	864	429,881
Total		123,067	413,343	47	536,458	121,816	307,201	864	429,881
Realised and unrealised gains from investments	9	(212)	-	-	(212)	488	-	-	487.98
Net income/(expenditure)		(55,731)	(13,343)	(47)	(69,122)	(47,976)	92,799	4,136	48,959
Brought forward		105,954	71,609	4,136	181,700	153,930	(21,190)	-	132,740
Total funds carried forward	13	50,223	58,266	4,089	112,578	105,954	71,609	4,136	181,700

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2020

	Notes	31 Dec 2020 £	31 Dec 2019 £
Fixed Assets:			
Investments	9	5,346	5,558
Total Fixed Assets		5,346	5,558
Current Assets:			
Debtors	10	1,604	1,864
Cash at bank and in hand	11	114,409	196,354
Total Current Assets		116,013	198,218
Liabilities:			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	8,781	22,076
Net current assets/(liabilities)		112,577	181,700
Total net assets/(liabilities)		112,577	181,700
The funds of the charity:			
Restricted funds	13	4,089	4,136
Unrestricted funds	13	50,223	105,954
Designated funds	13	58,266	71,609
Total charity funds		112,578	181,700

Notes to the Accounts

1 Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to the accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities: preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard application in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011.

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

b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

Having considered projections for income and expenditure in the next 12 months the trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties to allow the charity to continue as a going concern.

c) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be reliably measured.

Donations and legacies are recognised when the charity receives the funds.

d) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Restricted funds are funds which the donor has specified are solely to be used for particular activities.

e) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be recognised reliably.

All expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT.

f) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs. Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

g) Tangible Fixed Assets

Freehold Property:

The Trustees of the church and manse buildings are the United Reformed Church, North Western Synod Trust, who hold them upon trust for purposes connected with the church. These assets are not tangible assets of the church and are not included in the Balance Sheet but are shown below: . The values shown below were obtained prior to the sale of the hall at Trinity Hale.

	Buildings £	Contents £
Church Buildings:		
Trinity Hale	6,405,736	280,060
Woodlands Timperley	1,726,575	35,000

h) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provision are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

i) Corporation Tax

As part of the United Reformed Church, 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.

j) Key estimates and accounting judgements

In applying the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions in determining the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities. The Trustees' judgements, estimates and assumptions are based on the best and most reliable evidence available at the time when the decisions are made, and are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be applicable. Due to the inherent subjectivity involved in making such judgements, estimates and assumptions, the actual results and outcomes may differ.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to the accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised, if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods, if the revision affects both current and future periods.

k) Debtors

Trade debtors are measured by the amount outstanding at the year end date. Accrued income are measured based on the amount due but not yet invoiced at the year end date. Prepayments are measured by the proportion that relates to periods after the year end date.

2 Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted £	Designated (Trinity Hale Project) £	Restricted £	This Year £	Last Year £
Envelope scheme, standing orders	23,687	-	-	23,687	25,274
Loose collections	426	-	-	426	3,928
Gift aid tax refund	6,476	-	-	6,476	13,079
Donations	695	-	-	695	368
Donations for Vision Magazine	-	-	-	-	532
Legacies	-	-	-	-	5,000
Other items income	16,826	400,000	-	416,826	400,251
Total	48,110	400,000	-	448,110	448,431

3 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted £	Designated (Trinity Hale Project) £	Restricted £	This Year £	Last Year £
Church lettings	15,389	-	-	15,389	25,065
Fund raising events	-	-	-	-	719
Advertising income	-	-	-	-	-
Total	15,389	-	-	15,389	25,784

4 Investment income

	Unrestricted £	Designated (Trinity Hale Project) £	Restricted £	This Year £	Last Year £
Dividends	88	-	-	88	172
Bank and building society interest	3	-	-	3	7
Total	91	-	-	91	179

5 Other incoming resources

	Unrestricted £	Designated (Trinity Hale Project)	Restricted £	This Year £	Last Year £
Orange site rental	3,958	-	-	3,958	3,958
Total	3,958	-	-	3,958	3,958

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable Activities £	31-Dec-20 Support and Governance Costs £	Unrestricted & Designated 2020 £	Charitable Activities £	31-Dec-19 Support and Governance Costs £	Unrestricted & Designated 2019 £
General church activities	44,014	8,797	52,811	51,254	7,512	58,766
Trinity Hale	36,113	8,502	44,615	22,245	7,239	29,485
Woodlands Timperley	17,779	7,218	24,997	16,829	7,774	24,603
Manse	439	206	645	8,389	573	8,962
Trinity Hale Project	410,683	2,660	413,343	304,428	2,773	307,201
	509,029	27,382	536,411	403,145	25,871	429,017

7 Allocation of governance and other support costs

The total support costs and overheads attributable to charitable activity is apportioned as shown below:

	General church activities £	Trinity Hale £	Woodlands Timperley £	Manse £	Trinity Hale Project £	Total allocated £	Basis of allocation
Admin worker	1,835	1,835	1,835	-	1,835	7,340	Staff time
Caretaking and cleaning	3,954	3,954	3,956	-	-	11,865	Staff time
Legal and professional fees	1,653	1,681	396	-	-	3,730	Actual
Bank charges	323	-	-	-	-	323	Actual
	7,765	7,470	6,187	-	1,835	23,257	

Governance Costs

31-Dec-20 31-Dec-19

	£	£
Independent Examination Fee	300	300
Accountancy	3,825	2,567
	<u>4,125</u>	<u>2,867</u>

The total governance cost attributable to charitable activities is then apportioned in the same ratio as the other support costs:

Allocation of Governance Costs	31-Dec-20	31-Dec-19
	£	£
General church activities	1,031	573
Trinity Hale	1,031	573
Woodlands Timperley	1,031	573
Manse	206	573
Trinity Hale Project	825	573
	<u>4,125</u>	<u>2,867</u>

8 Employee Costs

	2020	2019
	£	£
Salaries and wages	17,825	16,335
Social security costs	493	3,771
Total staff costs	<u>18,318</u>	<u>20,106</u>

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000

Average head count in the year

	2020	2019
Charitable Activities	3	3
Total	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

FTE head count in the year

	2020	2019
Charitable Activities	1	1
Total	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

In September the post of cleaner was made redundant. A payment was made for the following:

	£
Statutory redundancy payment	677
Outstanding holiday pay	72
Payment in lieu of notice	451
	<u>1,200</u>

9 Fixed Asset Investments

	£
01 January 2020	5,558
Investment gains/(losses)	(212)
31 December 2020	<u>5,346</u>

10 Debtors and prepayments Analysis of debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Prepayments and accrued income	1,604	1,864
Total	<u>1,604</u>	<u>1,864</u>

11 Cash at bank and in hand

	2020 £	2019 £
COIF Charities Deposit Fund	11,000	1,000
RBS Current	113,264	194,349
NatWest (Woodlands)	-	926
RBS Savings	79	78
Petty Cash	67	-
	<u>114,409</u>	<u>196,354</u>

12 Creditors & Accruals

Analysis of creditors: falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Accruals	2,177	14,451
Other creditors	6,604	7,625
Total	8,781	22,076

13 Charity funds

	Balance at 01 January 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Investment gains/(losses)	Balance at 31 December 2020 £
<i>Restricted Funds</i>					
Legacy	4,136		(47)		4,089
	4,136	0	(47)		4,089
<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>					
General	105,817	67,548	(123,067)	(212)	50,086
Designated (Trinity Hale Project)	71,609	400,000	(413,343)	-	58,266
	177,427	467,548	(536,411)	(212)	108,352
Total Funds	181,563	467,548	(536,458)	(212)	112,441

2019 Comparative

	Balance at 1 January 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Investment gains/(losses)	Balance at 31 December 2019 £
Restricted Funds					
Legacy	-	5,000	864	-	4,136
	-	5,000	864	-	4,136
Unrestricted Funds					
General	153,793	73,352	(121,816)	488	105,817
Designated (Trinity Hale Project)	- 21,190	400,000	(307,201)	-	71,609
	132,603	473,352	429,017	488	177,427
Total Funds	132,603	478,352	(429,881)	488	181,563

Restricted Funds

Restricted Funds can only be used for the specific purpose for which they were entrusted to the church.

These monies are not at the disposal of the church meeting for any other purpose and represent:

Legacy

A legacy was received in 2019 which had specific restrictions meaning that it can only be spent on organ repairs and maintenance.

Designated Fund (Trinity Hale Project)

This fund contains monies received from the diocese following the sale of some of the church buildings at Trinity Hale. Altrincham United Reformed Church is using some of these proceeds of sale to upgrade the remaining building at Trinity Hale. Work is now well underway on the building of a new hall and kitchen on the side of the church which will be used for:

- church activities
- availability for hire by the local community
- possible provision of simple lunches for the benefit of the local community.
- possible provision of a dementia support group

The Trustees all give freely their time and expertise without any form of remuneration or other benefit in cash or kind (2019: £nil). Expenses were reimbursed to Susan Jesson of £39 (2019: £266). This was for supplies purchased for the charity.

Donations of £1,740 were received in the year from Trustees.

There were no related further party transactions in the period.

The charity's insurance provides Trustee Indemnity Cover.