

Rushden Mission Church

Statutory Information

Legal Status

Rushden Mission Church is an unincorporated association with Managing Trustees appointed by a meeting of the Members.

Principal Office

Rushden Mission Church
159 Wellingborough Road
Rushden NN10 9TA

Registered Address

1 St Peters Ave
Rushden
NN10 6XW

Charity Trustees

Mrs Linda Jane Crawley
Mr David Lloyd Rooksby
Mrs Gillian Lindsey Russell
Mrs Thandiwe Washoma
Mr David McGrath
Mr Thomas Joseph Poulton

Property Holding Trustees

Mrs Linda Jane Crawley
Mr David Lloyd Rooksby
Mrs Gillian Lindsey Russell
Mrs Thandiwe Washoma

Minister of the Church

Rev David Bracken

Bankers

Barclays Bank PLC
9 Midsummer Place
MILTON KEYNES
MK9 3GB

Co-operative Bank Plc
P.O. Box 101
Manchester
M60 4EP

Solicitors

Wilson Browne
The Manor House
Market Square
Higham Ferrers
NN10 8BT

Independent Examiner

Mr Robert French

The Trustees Report

Year ended 31st October 2022

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st October 2022.

Charitable Objects

The Charity is governed by a constitution adopted 1st April 2009. The Objects of the Church are:

- To advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the World as the Trustees (acting according to the will of God as discerned by the Church Members) from time to time may think fit.
- To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods, or services of any kind, including through the provision of advice and support in such parts of the United Kingdom or the World as the Trustees (acting as aforesaid) from time to time may think fit.
- To advance Christian education and pursue and promote general charitable purposes consistent with the Christian faith in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the World as the Trustees (acting as aforesaid) from time to time may think fit.

The Church occupies premises which are held by the above listed Property Holding Trustees and the Trust is entirely compatible with the above objects.

Public Benefit

The Trustees consider that the activities of the Charity are conducted for the public benefit, in particular two of the charitable purposes as set out by the Charity Commission in its general guidance on public benefit are met:

- The advancement of education and
- The advancement of religion

An explanation of these activities is given below in the section Objectives and Activities.

Organisational Structure and Decision-making processes.

Members of the Church are accepted in accordance with the Constitution, which requires them to make a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ and to subscribe and adhere to, in belief and lifestyle, the Statement of Beliefs.

The Members meeting normally takes place four times per year and has responsibility for the overall policy of the Church. In accordance with the Constitution, the Members appoint Trustees who accept responsibility for the legal aspects of the Charity. The constitution states that there should be a minimum of three Trustees but does not stipulate a maximum number. The Church Meeting also appoints up to six Church Leaders, who together with the Minister, Church Secretary and Treasurer, are responsible for the day to day running of the Church's work and witness. All members are encouraged to take an appropriate part in the spiritual and practical tasks involved in the furtherance of the charitable objective. In accordance with the constitution a person may serve as both a Trustee and Church Leader, or any other officer of the Church.

Relevant matters may be submitted to the Church Meeting by the Trustees for guidance or may be raised by Members in Church Meeting for further consideration by the Trustees. Though the Constitution permits decisions to be made at Church Meetings by appropriate majorities, the Church seeks to work by consensus wherever possible.

The Church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted regarding the Disclosure and Barring Service and Safeguarding Policies in place for both Children and Vulnerable Adults.

The Church is a member of The Wesleyan Reform Union of Churches.

The Church is affiliated to Rushden & Higham Council of Churches, the Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs, and the East Northants Faith Group.

Objectives and Activities

To achieve the Principal Objective, which is set out above, the Church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community. The aim is to show the love of Jesus Christ in both word and deed and to bring people into a closer relationship with Him as living Lord.

Central to the work and witness of the Church is the provision of regular public service of Christian worship. This service takes place in person each Sunday at 10.45 am. However, we also offer this service as a live stream through Facebook. There are also occasional services at other times which are advertised on the Church Notice Board and the website at www.rushdenmission.co.uk. A children's programme operates during the morning services. The Church seeks to be a friendly and welcoming community, and anybody is welcome to attend any of these services.

The Church operates a house group each week, and a monthly men's group to encourage the growth of faith and discipleship.

Two Prayer Meetings are held each week. We are a Church who believe in the power of prayer and the need to lift all matters before God.

Further details of these meetings can be obtained at the Sunday services of worship and on the Church website.

The Church also offers a lace making group and a weekly Community Café, "Faithful Blend".

All of these groups are open to the general public.

The Church provides a practice venue for the Rushden Mission Brass Band.

The Church is proud to be involved with and support these groups, with the purpose of assisting the community and demonstrating the love of Jesus Christ.

A number of WhatsApp groups encourage connection between friends and members of the church, for prayer but also practical engagement of the various groups.

Achievements and Performance

The Church does not measure the success of its programmes in numbers alone, either by headcount or by financial performance, but also in less tangible areas like fellowship and encouragement. The Trustees recognise that although these are difficult to measure, 2022 was a positive year in the life of the Church, as we continued to recover from the Covid Pandemic, said goodbye in June to our Minister of 16 years, the Rev Ian Fall and greeted our new Minister, the Rev David Bracken, in September. The Trustees believe that the Church will be able to continue its mission purposes in 2023 with enthusiasm.

Services are held each Sunday, with an average total in person attendance of approximately forty-five adults and children. Due to the live streaming of services we are able to connect with a larger number of people and reach those who are no longer able to attend a church service in person. A Home Group meets in member's homes to encourage the growth of faith and discipleship.

The Church has a committed youth team who encourage spiritual growth, support, and friendship for children of the Church and their families and seek to welcome and engage with the local community and friends through a variety of mission activities throughout the year.

The team lead a Sunday morning children's group, Sudz, providing a fun and relaxed atmosphere to help the children and young people develop in their faith. The children performed at a Nativity service during the year.

To give opportunity to reach out to family, friends and the local community, the Youth Team hosted an alternative Halloween party in a safe and secure environment, allowing us to show love and share our faith.

A Children's craft event was held at Christmas and was well attended by families from around the locality.

The older youth have also been joining in with townwide youth events that the youth leaders feel encourages the young people in their own faith and allow the youth to connect with their Christian peers.

"Curry Club", a men's group meet monthly to provide men with conversation, support and food, and "Father to Father", meets monthly to encourage the growth of faith and discipleship.

Through Pillow Talk, and our support of Rushden Mission Brass Band the church has been able to encourage the learning and development of new skills in a Christian environment.

The Church has reached out into the wider community by visiting homes in the locality of the Church building at Easter with an Easter Egg and an invitation to events happening at the Church. Christmas events were well attended with Carols on the Car Park, the Carol Service with the Rushden Mission Brass Band, and the Children's Nativity.

The Church is available to serve the community with funeral services. This year four funerals and one memorial service have been held. These services gave the Minister and other members of the Church the opportunity to comfort and support the bereaved at difficult times in their lives. We are also available for wedding services, where we are able to celebrate with the couple and their families, but no weddings have been held this year. We seek to draw close to the community in the key events and moments of their lives.

During the Remembrance weekend in November a "Reflect & Remember" event was held to enable those in the locality to come to the Church and have the opportunity to remember loved ones who had died during the covid pandemic.

A believers' baptisms, by total immersion, was held on Easter Sunday.

Rushden Mission Church is involved in prayerful and financial support for the work of the Luwero Community Projects in Uganda and a Church based community project in Nagpur in India.

The Church has financially supported the work of the local Homeless Night Shelter and by way of gifts of food we have supported the local Food Bank.

"Faithful Blend", our Community Café, meet each Thursday, providing an opportunity for both Church and neighbourhood to come together for company and conversation. A special morning for Macmillan Cancer Support was held and raised £200.

A training morning was held to give a better understanding of Mental Health First Aid and how to deal with a referral in an emergency.

Church Membership has remained at thirty-six. During the year two members have died, two members have moved away from the area and four new members have joined.

Financial Review

The Church seeks to raise most of the funds it needs to conduct its activities from within its own membership and congregation. During the year a Grant of £5,000 per year for three years from the Wesleyan Reform Union of Churches was agreed to support the Ministry of the Church. This first instalment of £1,250 was received for the year commencing 1st October 2022 on 17th November 2022. No wider public appeal was made for funds during the year.

The most significant area of expenditure relates to the employment of our Minister. The role is to lead and co-ordinate the Church's activities including the Sunday Services. He provides pastoral care for the congregation and others. He helps equip and encourage the membership in their life, Christian witness, and service.

This Church expressed its part in the life of the wider church by making grants to national and international Christian organisations and societies with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the Church's own charitable purpose.

The Church is heavily dependent on its membership working as volunteers in all aspects of the Church's activities. Many of the activities run with little or no impact on the Church's expenditure, but nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the Church's objectives. The Trustees wish to express their thanks for all the hard work which makes this possible.

The financial results for the year, together with a summary of the accounting policies adopted, are set out in the accompanying Financial Statements.

The Trustees report a net cash deficit for the year of £114. Regular offerings decreased from £31,132 per year to £28,222. Total annual income decreased by £21,963 from £72,327 to £50,364, but there was an exceptional income of £27,471 from the sale of the Dickins Church in the previous year. Total annual expenditure has increased by £1,660 from £48,817 to £50,477.

The Church Building is now 122 years old and whilst generally in good order there are matters that continue to require attention. With a change of Minister, the opportunity was taken to refresh the Manse at a cost of £6,368, a further £3,525 was spent on repairs and improvement to the Church Building.

The Trustees remain concerned that the current level of expenditure is unsustainable beyond the medium term unless the falling trend of offering income over the past few years can be reversed. The grant from the Wesleyan Reform Union of Churches as mentioned above of £5,000 per year for three years gives comfort on this issue. The proceeds from the sale of the Dickins Church in the previous year has increased reserves.

The Trustees have an established Reserves Policy of holding approximately six months of costs in hand and are satisfied that the unrestricted reserves of £76,361, including £45,028 in Bank and Debtors (including HMRC Gift Aid of £7113), together with forecasts and projections, are adequate to enable the Church to function and meet its Charitable Objectives. The Church membership are fully aware of the situation, and the Trustees will keep the matter under constant review to prevent the Church from entering a situation where it cannot fully meet its liabilities as and when they fall due. The Trustees will make every effort to take corrective action to improve the ongoing financial situation and thus to maintain an adequately funded operation.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks facing the Church and are satisfied that there are policies in place to minimise these risks.

Signed by Tom Poulton 8th March 2023

Signed by Linda Crawley8th March 2023
On behalf of the Trustees of Rushden Mission Church

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 OCTOBER 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including General Receipts and Payments Account)

		2022	2021 Unrestricted Funds*
	notes		
Receipts:			
Weekly offerings		28,222	31,132
Donations and other income	2	11,059	5,682
Income tax recovered on gifts		7,700	8,042
Share of Sale of Dickins Church		0	27,471
Bandey and Bailey Trusts	11	2,231	0
Church Holiday	12	1,151	0
TOTAL RECEIPTS		<u>50,364</u>	<u>72,327</u>
Payments:			
Ministry	3	21,615	25,105
Fixed Assets	7	5,184	0
Upkeep of and improvements to Church & Manse	10	10,909	13,725
Administration		6,712	3,985
Donations made	4	5,491	5,956
Church Holiday Deposit	12	200	0
Sunday School & Youth Work		366	47
TOTAL PAYMENTS		<u>50,477</u>	<u>48,817</u>
Cash movement for the year		(114)	23,510
Cash and Bank balances brought forward		<u>37,612</u>	<u>14,102</u>
Cash and Bank balances carried forward		<u>37,498</u>	<u>37,612</u>

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT THE END OF THE PERIOD

		2022	2021
	notes		
Fixed Assets:			
Church Building	7	27,849	27,849
Manse Building	7	880	880
Fixtures & Fittings	7	4,370	329
Total Fixed Assets		<u>33,099</u>	<u>29,058</u>
Current Assets:			
Sundry Debtors	8	7,530	7,700
Bank & other cash balances		<u>37,498</u>	<u>37,612</u>
		45,028	45,312
Current Liabilities:			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(1,767)	(1,672)
Total Net Assets:		<u>76,361</u>	<u>72,698</u>
Funds:			
Unrestricted Funds		76,361	72,698
Total Funds:		<u>76,361</u>	<u>72,698</u>

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue

Trustee.....

Trustee.....

Signed by Gillian Lindsey Russell

Signed by David McGrath

Date: 15/03/2023

Date: 15/03/2023

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 OCTOBER 2022

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Basis of accounts:

- a) These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis
- b) There were no restricted or designated or endowment funds during the year.

2. Donations and other income:	notes	2022	2021
Donations to Church		7,784	3,777
Special Donations	6	1,006	196
Thank Offering		690	1,147
Other items		1,579	562
		<u>11,059</u>	<u>5,682</u>

3. Ministry:	notes	2022	2021
Minister's stipend		17,797	21,101
Pension contribution		1,401	1,691
Manse Rates etc.		2,417	2,312
		<u>21,615</u>	<u>25,105</u>

4. Donations made:	notes	2022	2021
Donations from 10% Fund	5	3,630	5,760
Special Donations	6	1,611	196
Other Donations		250	
		<u>5,491</u>	<u>5,956</u>

5. Donations 10% Fund :

The Church intends that 10% of weekly offerings be donated to Good Causes.

	notes	2022	2021
Amount allocated not yet donated b / fwd		1,562	4,209
10% Allocation for year		2,822	3,113
Less: Donations made in year	4	(3,630)	(5,760)
Amount allocated not yet donated c / fwd		<u>755</u>	<u>1,562</u>

The amounts not yet donated are not designated and could be re-allocated should the Church Meeting so elect.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 OCTOBER 2022

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

6. Special Donations Fund:	notes	2022	2021
Amount not yet donated b / fwd		605	605
Donations received in year	2	1,006	196
Less: Donations made in year	4	(1,611)	(196)
Amount received not yet donated c / fwd	9	<u>0</u>	<u>605</u>

7. Fixed Assets:		2022	2021
Church Building and additions at cost brought forward		27,849	27,849
Additions during year		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Church Building and additions at cost carried forward		<u>27,849</u>	<u>27,849</u>
Manse Building at cost		880	880
<u>Fixtures and Fittings</u>			
Cost brought forward		22,255	22,255
Additions during year		<u>5184</u>	<u>0</u>
Cost carried forward		<u>27,439</u>	<u>22,255</u>
Accumulated depreciation brought forward		21,926	21,820
Depreciation for year		<u>1143</u>	<u>106</u>
Accumulated depreciation carried forward		<u>23,069</u>	<u>21,926</u>
Net book value carried forward		<u>4,370</u>	<u>329</u>

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its estimated residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Buildings	0% per year
Fixtures and Fittings	Range of 10% - 20% per year

8. Sundry Debtors:	notes	2022	2021
Sundry Debtors		417	0
HMRC - Gift Aid		<u>7,113</u>	<u>7,700</u>
		<u>7,530</u>	<u>7,700</u>

9. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

Special Donations	6	0	605
Holiday Deposits	12	951	0
Other taxation and social security		192	250
Other creditors and accruals		<u>624</u>	<u>817</u>
		<u>1,767</u>	<u>1,672</u>

10. Upkeep of and improvements to Church & Manse

General Upkeep	6,200	4,547
Repairs and Renewals	4,709	3,802
Replacement Dorma Window	<u>0</u>	<u>5,376</u>
	<u>10,909</u>	<u>13,725</u>

11. L & E Bandey and Bailey Trusts

2,231
<u>2,231</u>

12. Holiday Deposits

Holiday Deposits Received	1,151
Deposit paid to Accomodation	<u>(200)</u>
	<u>951</u>

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 OCTOBER 2022

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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES/ MEMBERS OF RUSHDEN MISSION CHURCH

Report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 October 2022

Charity no: 1130048

**I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the
Rushden Mission Church ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 October 2022**

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner:

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

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

Independent examiner's statement:

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

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

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

Signed by:

R G FRENCH FCCA

Date: 15/03/2023

29 Pevensey Grove, Flitwick, Bedford, MK45 1SD

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 OCTOBER 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

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R G FRENCH FCCA

Date: 15/03/2023

29 Pevensey Grove, Flitwick, Bedford, MK45 1SD