

WEST ORCHARD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Registered Charity number 1130080

WEST ORCHARD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

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WEST ORCHARD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

West Orchard United Reformed Church Charity is a local church of the United Reformed Church in Great Britain, and is a member church of West Midlands Synod of the Church. It was registered on 10 June 2009 as Charity Number 1130080.

West Orchard United Reformed Church is situated at:

Baginton Road

Coventry, CV3 6FP

Telephone 024 76 419927

Email: westorchard@yahoo.co.uk

www.westorchard.urc.org.uk

Bankers:

CAF Bank Limited, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

The members of the Elders' Meeting for the time being are recognised as the charity trustees. Those who served as Elders in the year ended 31 December 2023 were:

Miss Pauline Lockett	Church Secretary
Mrs Jenny Barnes	Resigned July 2023
Mrs Margaret Costigan	
Mrs Mary Goodwin	
Mrs Sarah Jarrad	
Mrs Margaret O'Kane	
Mrs Susan Matthews	Chair

The Church buildings, manse and bungalow are vested in the United Reformed Church (West Midlands) Trust Limited as trustees and held for the benefit of West Orchard URC in accordance with the trusts applicable to URC properties.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The activities of West Orchard United Reformed Church are overseen by the Elders Meeting of the Church in accordance with the provisions of The Structure of the United Reformed Church determined by the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church, and supplemented by the rules of West Orchard Church. The governing document of the registered charity is a statement adopted by the Church Meeting on 29 March 2009.

The Elders Meeting is responsible for the financial administration of the Church, and the care and maintenance of Church premises, manse and bungalow. The Church Meeting (of all members wishing to attend) gives general guidance on the life and work of the Church.

The members of the Elders' Meeting are the minister in pastoral charge together with up to 15 members of West Orchard URC. Elders are nominated and elected by members of West Orchard URC in Church Meeting. Elders serve for two years, retire by rotation and are eligible for re-election for up to three terms of office (maximum 6 years).

The Members of the Elders' Meeting are the trustees of the registered charity during their period of service as elders.

In 2023 the Elders Meeting met 12 times. It is assisted in the administration of the Church and its property by committees established for Management, Finance, Personnel, Social and Administration

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

As a local congregation of the United Reformed Church, West Orchard URC seeks to advance the Christian religion through its activities and the facilities offered to the community by its building, and its objective is described more specifically in its mission statement as "sharing God's love so that all may know Jesus".

The Elders' Meeting is aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in "the Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit" and has regard to it in the administration of the Church.

The Elders' Meeting believes that the Church provides benefit to the public by:

- Providing resources and facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for the congregation and for anyone else who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers;
- Promoting Christian values and service by members of the congregation to the community, for the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

West Orchard URC is a friendly informal church made up of people from differing backgrounds united by our faith in God and his Son, Jesus Christ. The original church was built in 1776 in Coventry city centre but was destroyed in the blitz of 1940/41. It was rebuilt on its present site in south Coventry in 1947. In recognition of the past, the stained-glass windows of the new church reflect many of the trades upon which Coventry built its reputation over the years, as well as acknowledging our own origins.

In 2021 we entered into discussions to join together with our sister church Warwick Road URC and on 05 December 2021 our church meeting voted to accept the resolution to merge with Warwick Road and create a new church. A new charity is in the process of being set up and

the new church is called Baginton Road United Reformed Church. Baginton Road URC held our first service on 06 February 2022. Until the new CIO is in place we shall continue to prepare Financial Statements for each former church separately.

During the last twelve months we have met for worship each Sunday. The morning services are family centred in their style of worship – all ages are included. We have used a combination of modern songs and traditional hymns led by our singing group. Sunday evening services are usually more meditative, quiet and thoughtful. We have formed strong partnerships with other Christian Fellowships in the area especially the Belonging Church, Hope Springs and Quinton Park Baptists. We have tried various new forms of worship – café style worship and agenda-less worship. We have Advent and Easter courses and several home groups who facilitate bible studies and discussions. Womens' prayer breakfast and mens' breakfast give more opportunity for reflections and fellowship. Our minister Revd Yvonne Stone retired on 30 November 2022 so our church is currently in vacancy.

Our membership at 31 December 2023 was 71.

We have a heart for outreach and in the year have been pleased to see expansion in our Bounce and Play toddler group, call in for coffee mornings, Sing Your Heart out Group, Tea dances, craft group and adult keep fit class. We host a weekly lunch club for the elderly and in July had a Holiday from Home with three days of fun and activities for senior members of the community.

Younger members enjoyed a Christmas activity day including a visit from alpacas. We continue to have good relationships with local schools to support religious education. We also have busy Scouting and Guiding groups who meet in the church centre.

We celebrated the King's coronation with a party, held a Burns supper, games nights, musical concerts, cream tea, charity soup lunch for Christian Aid and MacMillan coffee morning. In December we had a Christmas Bazaar which raised funds for our Church and Scout unit. We also hosted a Knitted bible exhibition which raised funds to replace parts in the community defibrillator.

All church users are required to adhere to statutory child protection regulations and key voluntary helpers who care for children have been DBS checked. There is a designated Child Protection Officer.

During 2023 the members and friends of West Orchard raised £5,002 which has been passed on to 12 different charitable causes shown in note 10 of the report and accounts.

The majority of the events and activities are organised and run by volunteers and rely on the efforts of a number of willing people. The commitment of these members and friends of West Orchard is a particular strength of our Church. These people work tirelessly to promote Christian values and to minister to the community in order to benefit individuals and society as a whole.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

In the year ended 31 December 2023 the Charity had an overall deficit of £64,285 (2022 had a deficit of £193,174). These figures are after accounting for the movement in the unrealised gain on investment which was a gain of £69,755 in 2023 and a loss of £100,746 in 2022. The deficit for church operations before taking account of the movement in the value of the investment was a deficit of £134,040 in 2023 and a deficit of 92,428 in 2022. Income increased in the year but costs increased by more resulting in this higher deficit.

The total reserves of the charity at 31 December 2023 were £844,875 (2022: £909,160). Movements on the various funds making up the result for the year were as follows:

£	At 31 Dec 23	At 31 Dec 22	Increase/ (decrease)
General Fund	9,854	9,002	852
Designated Funds	830,864	889,450	(68,586)
Restricted Funds	4,147	708	3,449
Total Reserves	844,875	909,160	(64,285)

General Fund

Income to the General Fund was £90,045 which was £3,379 lower than in 2022 (£93,424).

2022 had included an insurance claim for loss of earnings due to Covid of £9,416 so 2023 income fell as there was no insurance claim in this year. Excluding this, other income rose by £6,037 in the year due to higher room bookings, property rental and pulpit supply reclaim from synod, offset against lower free will giving, donations and fund raising.

Expenditure was £120,943 which was £5,055 more than in 2022 (£115,888). This rise was due to higher energy costs and staffing costs which included the cost of the caretaker recruited in Nov 22 for the whole of 2023. Ministerial and manse costs stopped in 2023 due to the vacancy and we were able to reclaim council tax as the manse was unoccupied.

The trustees approved a transfer of £50,000 from the Legacy Fund to the General Fund to cover the deficit for the year and add to the general reserves.

Designated Funds: There are six Designated Funds (note 17 in the accounts) which had an overall decrease in the year of £68,586 (2021 had a decrease of £191,877). The most significant change was a swing in the unrealised gain on investment. This has had an increase of £69,755 in 2023 against a reduction in valuation of £100,746 in 2022.

1. Property Fund Movement +£7,539
£20,000 was transferred from the General Fund and an energy efficiency grant from Synod of £24,343 was received against the cost of new boilers. £55,562 was transferred from the legacy fund to cover the net cost of boilers and new roof on the bungalow. Main expenditure was £70,625 on boilers, £9,280 on new bungalow roof and £5,585 on new circuit board and emergency lights. Other repairs were £7,766 in the year. The balance on the fund stands at £20,726 at 31 Dec 2023.

2. Youth Fund

Movement -£89

Donations from coffee in church are set aside for young people's projects, activity days and outings. The balance on the fund at 31 December 2023 was £773.

3. Legacy Fund

Movement -£105,562

This fund was set up in 2014 on the receipt of a legacy of £1,296,500. £292,650 was transferred to other Church funds in 2014 leaving a balance of 1,003,850 to be spent on major projects as decided by church meeting. In 2023 £50,000 was transferred to General reserves of the charity and £55,562 transferred to the property fund. The balance at 31 December 2023 was £500,146.

4. Mission, Outreach and Worship Fund

Movement -£39,325

This fund was created in Dec 2018 by transfer of £200,000 from the Legacy Fund to cover the salary and general costs of a Mission Outreach and Worship leader for a five year period. The balance on the fund at 31 December 2023 was £24,996.

5. Unrealised Gain on Investment

Movement £69,755

In 2016 £500,000 was invested in a CCLA Ethical Investment fund. The investment was valued at £779,954 at 31 December 2023 giving an unrealised gain of £279,954 (valuation was £710,199 at 31 December 2022). The unrealised gain rose by £69,755 in the year. Any gain will only be realised on the sale of the investment.

6. Lunch Club

Movement -£904

This fund records all receipts and costs of the Lunch club which serves a meal each week to senior members of the community. A donation to church funds of £1,750 was made in the year. The balance on the fund was £4,269 at 31 December 2023.

Restricted Funds

The balance of £1,490 in restricted funds relates to monies collected but not yet paid to other charities at the year end. The manse was vacated in Dec 22 and temporarily rented from May 23. A restricted fund was set up to hold the rental income less all costs related to the manse. The balance at 31 December 2023 was £2,667. Total restricted funds at 31 December 2023 were £4,157.

Reserves Policy

The aim of the Trustees is to achieve unrestricted general funds, which are the free reserves of the charity, at a level which will support the day to day running costs of the church for a period of three months. At 31 December 2023 the unrestricted reserves were £840,718.

This report was approved by the Elders' Meeting and is signed on its behalf by P Luckett

....., as Church secretary.

West Orchard United Reformed Church

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
		General 2023	Designated 2023	2023	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources						
Incoming resources from generated funds						
Voluntary Income	2	36,643	-	5,784	42,427	57,892
Activities for generating funds	3	18,514	-	-	18,514	13,455
Investment income	4	32,328	-	9,241	41,569	28,461
Income from charitable activities	5	-	4,649	-	4,649	5,567
Other Income		2,560	24,343		26,903	-
Total incoming resources		90,045	28,992	15,025	134,062	105,375
Resources expended						
Costs of generating funds	6	1,817	418	-	2,235	6,928
Charitable activities:						
URC Ministry & Mission Fund	7	39,256	-	-	39,256	41,484
Direct ministerial costs	8	(842)	(1,308)	-	(2,150)	3,885
Costs of Church activities	9	78,370	136,473	6,574	221,417	135,100
Donations made	10	2,342	-	5,002	7,344	10,406
Total resources expended		120,943	135,583	11,576	268,102	197,803
Net incoming / (outgoing) resources before transfers		(30,898)	(106,591)	3,449	(134,040)	(92,428)
Unrealised gain (loss) on Investments	11	-	69,755	-	69,755	(100,746)
Gross transfers between funds	12	31,750	(31,750)	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		852	(68,586)	3,449	(64,285)	(193,174)
Reconciliation of funds						
Fund balances brought forward at 1 January		9,002	899,450	708	909,160	1,102,334
Net movement in funds		852	(68,586)	3,449	(64,285)	(193,174)
Total funds carried forward		9,854	830,864	4,157	844,875	909,160

West Orchard United Reformed Church

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2023


	Note	Unrestricted funds General 2023 £	Designated 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Fixed assets						
Tangible assets	1c	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	11		779,954		779,954	710,199
		-	779,954	-	779,954	710,199
Current assets						
Debtors	13	688	-	-	688	932
Other debtors		42,146	-	-	42,146	5,675
Bank and cash balances	14	11,460	50,910	4,157	66,527	202,013
		54,294	50,910	4,157	109,361	208,620
Less current liabilities:						
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	15	(44,440)	-	-	(44,440)	(9,659)
		9,854	50,910	4,157	64,921	198,961
Net current assets						
		9,854	830,864	4,157	844,875	909,160
Total net assets						
Represented by :						
Charitable funds						
Restricted Funds	16	-	-	4,157	4,157	708
Unrestricted funds						
Designated	17	-	830,864	-	830,864	899,450
General		9,854	-	-	9,854	9,002
		9,854	830,864	4,157	844,875	909,160
Total funds						

Approved by the Church AGM held on 17 July 2024 and signed on its behalf by the Treasurer and Chair of the meeting

Signed


Treasurer

Signed


Chair

West Orchard United Reformed Church

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

Note

1 Accounting policies

1a Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been drawn up in accordance with applicable accounting standards. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) issued by the Charity Commission in March 2005, and the United Reformed Church guidance. The accruals basis of accounting has been adopted and the principal accounting policies set out below are applied consistently.

1b Fund accounting

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

Designated funds derive from a decision by the Church to allocate part of our general fund monies into funds for a specific purpose. The decision to create a designated fund can be reversed at any time, with the return of some or all of the balance(s) to general funds.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor, or contained in the terms of a grant. These monies are not at the disposal of the Church Meeting.

1c Tangible fixed assets

Freehold property: The Church, manse and bungalow (currently tenanted) buildings are vested in the United Reformed Church (West Midlands) Trust Limited and form no part of the assets of the Church. West Orchard is however responsible for maintenance and upkeep, and writes off all such expenditure in the year it is incurred. Revenue can be earned and retained by West Orchard from these assets.

Equipment: All equipment purchases are written off in the year of purchase.

1d Incoming resources

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. Legacies are accounted for when their receipt is certain and can be properly quantified. All other income is generally recognised when it is receivable.

1e Resources expended

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. Governance costs represent direct expenditure on the governance of the Church, including the production and independent scrutiny of these financial statements. As most of the governance, management and activities of the Church are 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.

1f Taxation

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.

1g Investments

Investments are stated at their market value as determined by our Investment advisors. Any revaluation gain or loss is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities. Unrealised gains are held in a revaluation reserve until the gain is realised.

West Orchard United Reformed Church

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

Note	Note	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
		General	Designated			
		2023	2023	2023	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£	£
2	Voluntary Income					
	Envelopes and standing orders	22,533			22,533	25,742
	Cash	3,596			3,596	3,487
	Special collections			4,780	4,780	5,244
	Tax refunds under gift aid	6,807	-	1,004	7,811	8,559
	Donations received	3,707	-	-	3,707	5,444
	Insurance claim	-			-	9,416
	Voluntary Income	36,643	-	5,784	42,427	57,892
3	Activities for generating funds					
	Use of rooms	16,270			16,270	9,737
	Church fund raising events	1,310			1,310	3,294
	Fairtrade sales	-			-	424
	Other income	934			934	-
	Activities for generating funds	18,514	-	-	18,514	13,455
4	Investment income					
	Bank Interest	1,618	-		1,618	903
	CCLA Investment Income	22,310	-		22,310	22,311
	Property rental	8,400	-	9,241	17,641	5,247
	Investment income	32,328	-	9,241	41,569	28,461
5	Income from charitable activities					
	Church events	-	317		317	802
	Exercise classes			-	-	-
	Lunch Club Income		4,332		4,332	4,765
	Income from charitable activities	-	4,649	-	4,649	5,567
6	Costs of generating funds					
	Church events fund raising	1,525	-		1,525	2,194
	Bungalow insurance	292	-		292	264
	Bungalow maintenance		418		418	3,904
	FairTrade purchases	-			-	566
	Costs of generating funds	1,817	418	-	2,235	6,928
7	URC Ministry & Mission Fund					
	The church contributes to the central URC costs of training and providing ministers (including the centralised payment of stipends, pension contributions and other benefits for ministers), running the denomination, and the wider mission of the national church. This annual budget amounts to some £22 million, 83% of which relates to ministry costs, and 93% is provided through the Ministry & Mission contributions from churches.					

West Orchard United Reformed Church

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

Note		Note	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
			General	Designated			
			2023	2023	2023	2023	2022
			£	£	£	£	£
8	Direct ministerial costs						
	Minister's fixed car allowance		-			-	819
	Minister's travel costs		-			-	157
	Minister's telephone		-			-	644
	Minister's books and training		-			-	100
	Manse Water		(148)			(148)	191
	Manse council tax		(694)			(694)	1,793
	Manse maintenance			(1,308)		(1,308)	181
	Direct ministerial costs		(842)	(1,308)	-	(2,150)	3,885
9	Costs of Church activities						
	Worship, praise and teaching						
	Pulpit supply		2,280			2,280	1,120
	Music		1,546			1,546	1,744
	Worship costs incl flowers		1,090			1,090	1,276
	Junior Church		62			62	30
	Children Activity Days		-	406		406	961
	Cards & communication		1,022			1,022	1,561
	Church events		1,977			1,977	3,274
	Subscription		489			489	527
	Children & Family Work			39,325		39,325	37,167
			8,466	39,731	-	48,197	47,660
	Other programmes						
	Training					-	-
	Lunch Club costs			3,486		3,486	3,083
	Exercise class costs				-	-	258
	Other costs		124			124	131
			124	3,486	-	3,610	3,472
	Church property costs						
	Direct cleaning costs		-			-	8,719
	Other cleaning costs		2,834			2,834	1,819
	Electricity		2,561			2,561	306
	Gas		18,391			18,391	11,486
	Water rates		1,486			1,486	1,828
	Insurance		6,160			6,160	5,694
	Maintenance	24		93,256	6,574	99,830	29,512
			31,432	93,256	6,574	131,262	59,364
	Administration						
	Staff Costs		34,038			34,038	18,207
	Photocopy / print costs		490			490	876
	Paper & Stationery		902			902	1,226
	Rent of photocopier		439			439	439
	Church telephone & WiFi		1,761			1,761	1,730
	Legal & Professional fees		718			718	2,126
	Administration		38,348	-	-	38,348	24,604
	Costs of Church activities		78,370	136,473	6,574	221,417	135,100

West Orchard United Reformed Church

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

Note	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	General	Designated			
	2023	2023			
	£	£	£	£	£
10					
Donations made					
Carriers of Hope				-	350
Christian Aid			402	402	346
Coffee Tots				-	900
Commitment for life			1,356	1,356	1,268
Coventry Boys & Girls club	250			250	-
Coventry City Mission	1,000		322	1,322	514
Coventry Food Bank	200		223	423	156
Coventry Refugee & Migrent centre				-	308
Coventry Youth for Christ	300			300	300
DEC Turkish earthquake Appeal			243	243	1,706
Guides / brownies				-	400
Hardship fund				-	20
Hope Coventry	100			100	-
Leprosy Mission			180	180	-
Macmillan Cancer Support			1,471	1,471	1,522
Myton Hospice				-	387
Open Doors			304	304	-
Other	22			22	-
Pancreatic Cancer			241	241	214
Royal British Legion			60	60	95
Salvation Army				-	350
Scouts			130	130	400
St Andrews House	200			200	350
St Francis Employ Support				-	308
TEN			70	70	-
Tiny Tim's	250			250	-
URC silence	20			20	20
Zoe's Place Trust				-	492
Donations made	2,342	-	5,002	7,344	10,406

West Orchard United Reformed Church

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

Note	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	General	Designated			
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
11	Investments				
	Market Value at 31 December 2022	710,199		710,199	810,945
	Additions in year at cost	-		-	-
	Net gain / (loss) on revaluation	69,755		69,755	(100,746)
	Market Value at 31 December 2023	779,954	-	779,954	710,199
<p>£500,000 was invested in 259,121.06 units in COIF Charity Ethical Investment Fund with CCLA in 2015. The market Value of the investment at 31 December 2023 was £779,954</p>					
12	Gross transfers between funds				
	Legacy to General Fund	50,000	(50,000)	-	
	Legacy to property Fund		(55,562)		
	Property Fund	(20,000)	75,562		-
	Lunch Club	1,750	(1,750)	-	-
	To General Fund	31,750	(31,750)	-	-
13	Debtors				
	Tax recoverable under gift aid	688	-	688	932
	Debtors	688	-	688	932
14	Bank and cash balances				
	CAF Bank Current A/C	3,384		3,384	2,013
	CAF Bank Gold A/C	8,412	50,666	4,065	63,143
	Shawbrook Bank		-	-	180,000
	Bank and cash balances	11,796	50,666	4,065	66,527
15	Creditors - amounts falling due within one year				
	Utilities	44,440	-	-	44,440
16	Restricted Funds				
	Collections	Dementia	Manse	Total	
	B fwd	246	462	-	708
	Voluntary Income	5,784		5,784	6,384
	Rental Income		9,241	9,241	
	Donations made	(5,002)		(5,002)	(6,849)
	Maintenance costs		(6,574)	(6,574)	
	Transfer to General fund			-	(258)
	C fwd	1,028	462	2,667	4,157

The Church operates three restricted funds. Each financial year appeals are made for a variety of causes or organisations of a charitable nature. Payments from this fund match the sums received under the appeals. However, as some appeals cross the year end, and there are usually a number of collections over Christmas there are normally balances at the end of any financial year. Balance at 31 Dec 23 was £1028
A £500 donation received in 2017 specified it be used for dementia projects. Balance at 31 Dec 23 was £462
Manse was vacated in Dec 22 and is being rented whilst unoccupied by minister.

West Orchard United Reformed Church

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

17	Designated Funds	Balance at 01 January 2023 £	Receipts in the Year £	Payments in the Year £	Unrealised Gain on Investment	Transfers (to) / from General Fund £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
	Property Fund	13,187	24,343	(92,366)		75,562	20,726
	Youth Fund	862	317	(406)			773
	Legacy	605,708	-	-		(105,562)	500,146
	Unrealised Gain on Investment	210,199			69,755		279,954
	Lunch Club	5,173	4,332	(3,486)		(1,750)	4,269
	Mission, Outreach, Worship fund	64,321		(39,325)			24,996
	Total	899,450	28,992	(135,583)	69,755	(31,750)	830,864

The Church operates six designated funds with the approval of Church Meeting.

The property fund maintains all Church property and meets property related running costs. By decision of a previous AGM, all historical balances plus the annually agreed transfer from general fund, and any designated donations, are available to the Church's Management Committee to meet the objectives of the fund. This approach allows the committee to operate with considerable freedom of budget devolution from Church Meeting, while permitting the committee to plan operations on a longer term basis.

The Youth Fund receives donations from the church specifically for projects for young people. It also accounts for the receipts and payments associated with the children's activity days and summer holiday club and retains any surplus made.

The **Legacy Fund** was created in 2014 upon the receipt of a legacy of £1,296,500 from a Church member. Church Meeting agreed to set aside 10% of the legacy in the Walter Hope Fund to be distributed to good causes. Funds were all distributed by Dec 2017 and the Walter Hope Fund was closed. Church Meeting agreed that 10% of Investment income each year be donated to charities, as recommended by Elders. Investment in Church buildings has further reduced the fund and the balance has been invested to provide an income stream for the church.

Revaluation reserve. Unrealised gains on Investments are held in a Revaluation Reserve account and will only be realised on the sale of the investment.

Lunch Club provides a two course lunch each week for senior members of the congregation and the community. A donation is made to the church and the balance of funds are held in the Designated Fund.

Mission, Worship and Outreach Fund was created in 2018 after Church Meeting approved recruitment of a Mission, Outreach and Worship Leader and £200,000 was set aside from the Legacy to fund salary and project costs for five year period.

West Orchard United Reformed Church

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

Note		2023 £	2022 £
18	Staff costs and trustees expenses		
	Salary costs	70,322	52,057
	At 31st December 2022 the Charity has 4 employees No employees had emoluments in excess of £60,000 Employee numbers	4	4
	Average number of FTE employees (based on 37 hour week)	2.3	2.3
19	Trustees		
	The Church is a registered as a charity with the Charity Commission and the serving Elders of the Church with the Minister are the registered Trustees. The minister retired on 30 Nov 22 and the church is currently in a vacancy period.		
a)	No sums were reimbursed to the trustees for their work as trustees		
b)	While travel and other expenses may be paid to trustees related to various needs of the Church, none of these payments relate to their duties as trustees.		
20	Pensions		
	The minister is employed by the National Church and pension contributions and arrangements are dealt with through that arrangement. The Church operates a workplace pension scheme with NEST which has 3 members		
21	Contingent liability		
	There are no material contingent liabilities.		
22	Post-balance sheet events		
	At Church meeting on 05 December 2021 it was agreed that West Orchard URC would unite with Warwick Road URC. The new Church will be known as Baginton Road URC and a new CIO will be set up in 2024 and the asset of both charities transferred to the new Charity.		

West Orchard United Reformed Church

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

Note	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	General	Designated			
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
23	Donations received (detailed analysis of part of note 2)				
	1,290			1,290	1,680
Scout group	360			360	320
Guides	34			34	42
Jam	300			300	910
Funerals / Weddings	340			340	335
Flowers	750			750	705
Tea Dance	633	-		633	1,452
Other Donations	3,707	-	-	3,707	5,444
24	Maintenance and major repairs (items > £1,000)				
		4,565		4,565	
Electric circuit boards		1,020		1,020	
Emergency lights		9,280		9,280	
Bungalow roof		70,625		70,625	
New Boilers			3,866	3,866	
Manse redecoration / refurb				-	4,775
Refurbish Office				-	3,525
BRURC Signage				-	3,068
Smal Hall decoration				-	1,000
Electric Heaters				-	3,327
Garden Care				-	1,462
Water heater repair and replace				-	3,384
Redevelopment plans		7,766	2,708	10,474	8,971
Other Repairs and Equipment					
Total Property Maintenance	-	93,256	6,574	99,830	29,512

West Orchard United Reformed Church

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

Independent examiner's report

I report on the financial statements of Ist Orchard URC for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 10 to 19.

Respective responsibilities

The Church is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and considers that the audit requirement of Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the general directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions of the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Church and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination of the Church funds, nothing came to my attention which gave me cause to believe otherwise than that the financial statements accord with the accounting records of the Church, and that those records satisfied the requirements of the Act. I am not aware of any matter to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Signed by the Independent Examiner: D.E. Grain

Dated: 5th July 2024

Diana Grain
c/o Rugby United Reformed Church
40 Hillmorton Road
Rugby
CV22 5AD