

Charity Number 1130504

**Avenue Saint Andrew's Southampton  
United Reformed Church Charity**



**Report and Financial Statements  
Year Ending 31 December 2023**

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**Avenue St. Andrew's Southampton United Reformed Church Charity  
Trustees' Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

**Legal and administrative information**

Avenue St. Andrew's Southampton United Reformed Church Charity is a member of the national United Reformed Church and is a Registered Charity (Number 1130504). It is also a member of the South West Hants Group of the United Reformed Church (SWHG) that includes:-

- Avenue St Andrew's URC
- Isaac Watts URC

**Addresses**

Avenue St. Andrew's URC, The Avenue, Southampton, SO17 1XQ  
The United Reformed Church, 86 Tavistock Place, London, WC1H 9RT

**Trustees** for the year ended 31/12/2023 being:-  
S Dawson, J McGavin\*, M Howard,  
P Humphreys, S Wallingford\*

\*Denotes retired 31/12/2023  
Appointed 1/1/2024:-  
A Gosling

**SWHG Ministers** Rev'd Dr S Hall

**Community Worker** Ms R. Gange

**Secretary** Miss S. Dawson

**Treasurer** Mrs B D'Souza

**Independent Examiners** Fiander Tovell Limited, Chartered Accountants,  
Stag Gates House, 63/64 The Avenue, Southampton,  
SO17 1XS

**Bankers** CAF Bank, West Malling, Kent  
TSB, High Street, Southampton.  
HSBC, 55 Above Bar, Southampton (for AMC)

## **Avenue St. Andrew's Southampton United Reformed Church Charity Trustees' Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

The Trustees, who are the Elders of Avenue St Andrew's Southampton United Reformed Church Charity, present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023. 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, 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 and guidance given by the national URC.

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

The charity is called "Avenue St. Andrew's Southampton United Reformed Church Charity" and comprises all assets and funds held by and on behalf of the "Avenue St. Andrew's Southampton United Reformed Church" other than properties held under the trusts declared in Schedule 2 of the United Reformed Church Act 1972 (as amended by the United Reformed Church Acts 1981 and 2000) and those held on other specifically declared trusts.

The charity is governed under Trusts distilled from the United Reformed Church Acts (1972, 1981 and 2000) and Scheme of Union (1972).

Those members of the Elders' Meeting of Avenue St Andrew's Church who are qualified to serve as charity trustees are collectively the Charity Trustees and are appointed and shall act in accordance with the procedures for the time being laid down by the Church Meeting of Avenue St. Andrew's Church which shall be in conformity with the Scheme of Union of the United Reformed Church.

The Elders of the Church are nominated by four Church Members and their names are taken to the Church Meeting to be considered. If appointed they have an induction meeting with the Minister and are strongly encouraged to attend an annual training day. Elders are appointed to serve a three year term. The Elders meet regularly (at least 10 times per annum) under the chairmanship of the Minister in order to fulfil their obligations as Trustees of the Charity.

The Elders are assisted in the governance of the Charity by a Management Committee of Elders and Members of Avenue St. Andrews. The prime objective of the Management Committee is:-

To assist the Elders in the responsible management of the Church's resources and to promote the principle of sound governance in all activities.



## **Avenue St. Andrew's Southampton United Reformed Church Charity Trustees' Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

The Management Committee consists of a minimum of five members of Avenue St Andrew's Church and will include the Minister, the Chair, the Church Treasurer, the Church Secretary and a church member. The Chair of the Management Committee is elected by the membership of the Church at the Church's Annual General Meeting.

### **Objectives and Activities**

The charity considers it fulfils the requirements of charitable purpose and public benefit as set out in the Charities Act 2011. In reviewing its aims and objectives and in planning activities the charity has considered the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

#### **Aims and Objectives**

The aim of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the Scheme of Union of the United Reformed Church. The mission statement adopted by Avenue St. Andrew's is:

"Believing worship to be central to our lives we see our mission as continuing to grow, both as individuals and as a fellowship, so as to further our Christian service and witness within the community and the world."

The charity has set the following objectives:-

- Promoting the Christian Faith
- Teaching the faith to all ages.
- Providing training, nurture and activities for children and young people.
- Serving the community.
- Giving pastoral care and support to members and others in need, particularly those in sickness, distress or poverty.
- Providing premises and resources for community groups and activities.

#### **Activities and Achievements**

The church continues to meet its objectives through a range of church based activities. We continued with in person worship, but included live streaming where possible. We moved into the concourse for worship in colder months to conserve heating costs.

##### Regular Worship

- Weekly Sunday worship with activities for children
- Joint worship activities with other church in South West Hants Group
- Bible Study and prayer groups

## **Avenue St. Andrew's Southampton United Reformed Church Charity Trustees' Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

### Community Links

Avenue St. Andrew's is dedicated to providing good links with the community. As part of its outreach work the church supports a number of projects, including:-

- The Avenue Centre
- Social/Fitness activities for the over 60s
- The Avenue Multicultural Centre for asylum seekers and refugees
- Avenue Community Choir
- Monthly Coffee and Cake mornings
- Green Living Group, in cooperation with the Catholic City Centre parish.

During 2023 one of the charities with whom the church works in partnership to provide the Avenue Multicultural Centre, the Southampton and Winchester Visitors Group, took over the responsibility for its running, though the input of church members is still integral to the work.

We are continuing to employ a part time Community Worker to work broadening links between the church and the community.

The Church also interfaces with the community through funerals and services of marriage and baptism and in doing so seeks to provide support, guidance and comfort to members of the wider community. Links have continued with the local community Residents' Association.

The Church has established a link with a German Protestant Church in Winnweiler, South West Germany, and a group from Winnweiler visited Avenue St. Andrew's in November 2018. A group from Winnweiler is planned for October 2024.

### **Grant Making Policy**

The Benevolent Fund is for small grants and donations at the discretion of the Minister of Avenue St. Andrew's.

In addition, charities to receive donations from the Communion Fund are agreed annually by the Elders.

### **Membership**

At the end of 2023 there were 58 members (2022 - 60 members).

**Avenue St. Andrew's Southampton United Reformed Church Charity  
Trustees' Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

**Financial Review**

**Financial Activities and Results**

There was a surplus for the year on Halls funds of £30,520 and a deficit on the remaining General Funds before investment losses of £30,099 (excluding transfers to/from other funds), giving a combined surplus on General Funds before investment losses of £421, compared to a budgeted deficit of £11,484. £1,500 was transferred from the Ministers Fund to the General Fund to part fund the core costs of the community worker. £5,615 was transferred from the Legacies Fund to the General Fund to part fund the core costs of the community worker. £1,125 was transferred from the Communion Fund to the AMC fund to support their work. £202 was transferred from the Communion Fund to The CRCW Fund to support community projects. £100 was transferred from Legacies Fund to Avenue 2020 Fund to cover outgoings. There were net outgoings from the Solar fund of £2,904 and net outgoings from the New AV fund of £2,396. £4,384 was transferred from the General Fund to SWHG Fund.

Unrealised losses on investment assets totalled £490. Unrestricted Church Funds carried forward at the end of 2023 were £153,817 and the total including the Halls Fund is £161,357.

For the coming year, the Trustees approved the utilisation of reserves (legacies fund) to fund the following major projects:-

£1,500 for charitable/community causes.(AMC)  
£16,453 (over remaining term) to part fund Community Worker.  
£10,000 for building repairs.  
£44,000 for future roof repairs.(Phase 2) This has now been paused.

Major repairs to the church west end and tower have been completed. The cost of phase 1 has largely been met by grants from Heritage lottery, All churches Fund, Congregational and General Charitable Trust, and the Wessex Synod of the United Reformed Church; together with pledges and fundraising by members and friends, and transferring funds from legacies.

Our halls lettings have risen against our 2022 lettings, but are at a reduced level versus pre-pandemic. We do not see this returning back to pre-2020 levels in the near future. We continued to be impacted by high energy costs which meant we reviewed our use of the building and continued to move out of the sanctuary for Sunday services during the colder months. We are budgeting for a £2,524 deficit on the general fund for the year.

**Avenue St. Andrew's Southampton United Reformed Church Charity  
Trustees' Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

**Policies**

**Reserves Policy**

In considering the level of reserves the Trustees take into account the programme of expenditure for the major refurbishment of buildings, special projects and the objective of retaining general reserves at a level equivalent to six months of annual running costs. The balance of general reserves (£26,637 excluding Investment Revaluation Fund) equates to 3 months of running costs. We also have £47,000 uncommitted funds in Legacies. The second phase of refurbishment to the building has been put on hold indefinitely, but there may be a requirement of remedial work in the near future.

**Investments Policy**

Other than a small holding in the Equities Investment Fund for Charities (Charifund) currently valued at £20,348 all other monies are held in Charity Aid Foundation and High Street bank accounts.

Any monies surplus to current account requirements are held in interest bearing accounts.

**Review of Major Risks**

The Church Management Committee monitors the major risks to the Church throughout the year. The most significant risk relates to the security, safety and maintenance of buildings. There are no adverse factors in the community surrounding the Church that should adversely affect membership. However the Covid 19 pandemic has had major implications on building usage and rental income.

In order to ensure the safety and welfare of vulnerable individuals using the Church premises, the Trustees have developed and implemented a Safe-guarding Policy.

Recognising the high level of usage of the Church premises by a wide range of the community, the Trustees have developed and implemented a Health and Safety Policy.

Insurance covers the risks associated with public liability, employee liability, trustee indemnity and the property risks of theft, fire, vandalism etc. The Trustees consider that the current level of insurance is set at the appropriate level.

**Avenue St. Andrew's Southampton United Reformed Church Charity  
Trustees' Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

**Plans for Future Periods**

Avenue St Andrew's has made plans for future periods including:-

- Return to a wider use of the church premises by community groups.
- Further development of community activities, following the extension of term of a Community Worker.
- Continued commitment to the development of the Southern Fellowship as its structures evolve and as patterns for shared ministry and resources adapt to changing situations.
- To adapt to the needs of a changing congregation, in which opportunities for spiritual nurture and growth in faith are seen as priorities.
- To support Assembly led United Reformed Church initiatives.
- To plan for a balanced budget with annual expenditure covered by annual income within three years.

**For and on behalf of the Elders:-**

*Mal E Howard*  
*Aislinne Dawson*

**Date:-** 30/6/24

**Avenue St. Andrew's Southampton United Reformed Church Charity  
Independent Examiner's Report  
To the Trustees of Avenue St Andrew's Southampton United Reformed  
Church Charity**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 10 to 20.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

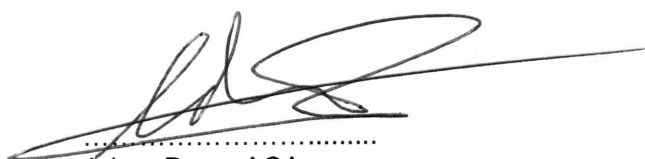
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**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 charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.



Adam Buse, ACA

Fiander Tovell Limited  
Stag Gates House  
63/64 The Avenue  
Southampton  
SO17 1XS

Dated ..... 21/7/24 .....

AVENUE ST ANDREW'S SOUTHAMPTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Note		Unrestricted Funds General £	Designated £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds General £	Designated £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2022 £
	<b>Income</b>								
	<b>Donations and legacies</b>								
2	Giving	49,306	-	5,366	54,672	47,267	-	5,181	52,448
3	Legacies	-	-	-	-	-	2,501	-	2,501
4	Grants receivable	6,000	-	3,500	9,500	5,500	-	5,000	10,500
	<b>Other trading activities</b>								
5	Fund raising	3,335	-	-	3,335	2,225	-	-	2,225
	<b>Investment income</b>								
6	Interest & dividends	2,853	-	657	3,510	1,423	-	657	2,080
	<b>Charitable activities</b>								
	Hall lettings	25,490	-	-	25,490	18,075	-	-	18,075
	SWHG receipts	-	-	2,116	2,116	-	-	2,332	2,332
	Other	660	-	-	660	846	-	-	846
	Other Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total income</b>	<b>87,644</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,639</b>	<b>99,283</b>	<b>75,336</b>	<b>2,501</b>	<b>13,170</b>	<b>91,007</b>
	<b>Expenditure</b>								
	<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>								
8	URC Ministry & Mission Fund	35,279	-	2,072	37,351	35,183	-	2,565	37,748
	Community Worker	13,115	-	-	13,115	12,772	-	-	12,772
	Manse expenses	-	-	2,886	2,886	-	-	3,101	3,101
	Office expenses	429	-	-	429	582	-	-	582
10	Cost of church activities	42,491	5,300	11,966	59,757	34,893	5,369	1,514	41,776
	Organ expenses	1,741	-	-	1,741	1,366	-	-	1,366
11	Donations to charities etc	-	-	3,519	3,519	58	-	2,439	2,497
	Grants and gifts	-	375	-	375	-	-	-	0
	Avenue Multicultural Centre expenses	(5,832)	-	6,561	729	(5,564)	-	6,740	1,176
	<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>87,223</b>	<b>5,675</b>	<b>27,004</b>	<b>119,902</b>	<b>79,290</b>	<b>5,369</b>	<b>16,359</b>	<b>101,018</b>
	<b>Net (expenditure)/income before investment gains/(losses)</b>	<b>421</b>	<b>(5,675)</b>	<b>(15,365)</b>	<b>(20,619)</b>	<b>(3,954)</b>	<b>(2,868)</b>	<b>(3,189)</b>	<b>(10,011)</b>
	<b>Gains/(losses) on investment assets</b>	<b>(490)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(490)</b>	<b>(1,229)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,229)</b>
	<b>Net (expenditure)/income for the year</b>	<b>(69)</b>	<b>(5,675)</b>	<b>(15,365)</b>	<b>(21,109)</b>	<b>(5,183)</b>	<b>(2,868)</b>	<b>(3,189)</b>	<b>(11,240)</b>
	<b>Transfers between funds</b>	<b>2,731</b>	<b>(6,638)</b>	<b>3,907</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,512</b>	<b>(7,035)</b>	<b>4,523</b>	<b>-</b>
	<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>2,662</b>	<b>(12,313)</b>	<b>(11,458)</b>	<b>(21,109)</b>	<b>(2,671)</b>	<b>(9,903)</b>	<b>1,334</b>	<b>(11,240)</b>
	<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>								
	<b>Total funds b/fwd 1 January 2023</b>	<b>33,929</b>	<b>137,079</b>	<b>28,094</b>	<b>199,102</b>	<b>36,600</b>	<b>146,982</b>	<b>26,760</b>	<b>210,342</b>
	<b>Total funds c/fwd 31 December 2023</b>	<b>36,591</b>	<b>124,766</b>	<b>16,636</b>	<b>177,993</b>	<b>33,929</b>	<b>137,079</b>	<b>28,094</b>	<b>199,102</b>

The notes on pages 12 to 20 form part of these financial statements

AVENUE ST ANDREW'S SOUTHAMPTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	12		4,818		10,683
Investments	13		<u>20,348</u>		<u>20,838</u>
			25,166		31,521
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	15		18,589		36,367
Cash at bank and in hand			<u>150,545</u>		<u>144,230</u>
			169,134		180,597
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	16		<u>(16,307)</u>		<u>(13,016)</u>
Net current assets			152,827		167,581
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>177,993</u>		<u>199,102</u>
<b>Represented by:-</b>					
Unrestricted income funds:					
General unrestricted funds	17		36,591		33,929
Designated funds	18		<u>124,766</u>		<u>137,079</u>
			161,357		171,008
Restricted income funds	19		16,636		28,094
<b>Total funds</b>			<u>177,993</u>		<u>199,102</u>

Approved by:-

For and on behalf of the Elders

*Mark E Howard*  
*Susanne Dawson*

Date 30/6/24



AVENUE ST ANDREW'S SOUTHAMPTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 **Charity information**

Avenue St Andrew's Southampton United Reformed Church Charity is an unincorporated charity (charity registration number 1130504). Its principal address is Avenue St Andrew's URC, The Avenue, Southampton, SO17 1XQ.

**ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

1a **Basis of accounting**

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, UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, applicable charity law and the United Reformed Church guidance. The church is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

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 in sterling, which is the functional currency of the church. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value.

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

1b **Fund Accounting**

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

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor, or contained in the terms of a grant. The restricted funds shown in these financial statements are funds that have been set up for purposes either specified by the donor or by the terms of a public appeal, and cannot be used for other purposes.

The designated funds shown in these financial statements are funds that have been set aside by the trustees for specific purposes.

Transfers are made between funds when adequate justification and supporting evidence is provided.

1c **Tangible fixed assets**

**Freehold property:** The Trustees of the church and manse buildings are the URC Wessex Synod Trust who hold them upon trust for purposes connected with Avenue St Andrews URC. Expenditure incurred on the church and manse is written off in the year it is incurred.

**Equipment:** Tangible fixed assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised.

Depreciation is provided on fixed assets at the following rates:

Organ and pianos - 25% reducing balance

Office and other equipment - 20% straight line

1d **Fixed assets investments**

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and opening market value (purchase date if later). Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the market value at the year-end and opening market value (or purchase date if later).

1e **Impairment of fixed assets**

At each reporting end date, the church reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of impairment or loss (if any).

AVENUE ST ANDREW'S SOUTHAMPTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

- 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.  
Legacies and grants of a general nature, including government grants, are accounted for when there is entitlement, receipt is probable and the amount can be measured reliably.  
Income received in advance is deferred until the period to which it relates.  
All other income is generally recognised when it is receivable.
- 1g **Expenditure**  
The URC Ministry & Mission Fund contribution is paid regularly and is included in the financial statements for the year to which it relates.  
Resources expended are recognised in the period in 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 independent scrutiny of these financial statements.  
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**  
During 2009 the church became a registered charity in its own right.  
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.
- 1i **Debtors**  
Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.
- 1j **Creditors and provisions**  
Creditors and provisions are recognised where the church 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 provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.
- 1k **Financial instruments**  
The church only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.
- 1l **Cash and cash equivalents**  
Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.
- 1m **Employee benefits**  
The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.  
Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the church is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.
- 1n **Retirement benefits**  
The church operates a defined contribution scheme under auto-enrolment. Contributions payable are charged to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are payable.
- 1o **Critical accounting estimates and judgements**  
In the application of the church's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.  
The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.
- 1p **Going concern**  
At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the church has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

AVENUE ST ANDREW'S SOUTHAMPTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted		
		General	Designated	Funds	
		£	£	£	
2	<b>GIVING</b>				
	Pledged donations	34,643	-	1,200	35,843
	Sundry donations	4,265	-	2,813	7,078
	Income tax refunds due under Gift Aid	10,398	-	833	11,231
	Avenue Multicultural Centre	-	-	520	520
		<u>49,306</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,366</u>	<u>54,672</u>
3	<b>LEGACIES</b>				
	Legacies of £nil were received in 2023 (£2,501 in 2022)				
4	<b>GRANTS RECEIVABLE</b>				
	AMC Allen Lane	-	-	2,000	2,000
	AMC Grants from Partners	-	-	1,500	3,000
	URC Wessex Trust	6,000	-	-	6,000
	Southampton Churches Rent Deposit Scheme	-	-	-	-
		<u>6,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,500</u>	<u>9,500</u>
5	<b>FUND RAISING</b>				
	Church organisations donations	360	-	-	360
	Other social events	2,603	-	-	2,603
	Other fund raising	372	-	-	372
		<u>3,335</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,335</u>
6	<b>INVESTMENT INCOME</b>				
	Dividends and distributions	1,265	-	657	1,922
	Bank interest	1,588	-	-	1,588
		<u>2,853</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>657</u>	<u>3,510</u>
7	<b>MINISTRY &amp; MISSION FUND</b>				
	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 £22.9 million, 81% of which relates to minister costs. 77% is funded through the Ministry & Mission Fund contributions from churches.				
		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted	Total	Total
		General	Designated	Funds	
		£	£	£	£
8	<b>MINISTERIAL COSTS</b>				
	Ministry and Mission fund	34,428	-	1,365	35,793
	Ministers expenses	-	-	707	707
	Fees for visiting ministers	851	-	-	851
		<u>35,279</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,072</u>	<u>37,351</u>
9	<b>TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES</b>				
	No trustees (or persons connected with them) received any remuneration or expense payments during the year (2022: £nil).				

AVENUE ST ANDREW'S SOUTHAMPTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Unrestricted Funds			Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	General	Designated		Funds	£	£
	£	£		£		
<b>10 COSTS OF CHURCH ACTIVITIES</b>						
Church expenses:						
Water rates	681	-	-	-	681	433
Gas	5,110	-	-	-	5,110	2,940
Electricity	2,723	-	-	-	2,723	2,097
Repairs and maintenance	11,332	-	-	-	11,332	7,976
Insurance	5,415	-	-	-	5,415	4,997
Cleaning	6,221	-	-	-	6,221	6,164
	<u>31,482</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,482</u>	<u>24,607</u>
Repairs of buildings expenses:						
Rebate on VAT from Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme	(595)	-	-	-	(595)	-
Staff Costs: (all part time)						
Cleaner	-	-	-	-	-	-
Office administrators	6,162	-	-	-	6,162	5,630
Halls booking manager	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>6,162</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,162</u>	<u>5,630</u>
Printing and stationery						
P/copying and stationery	822	-	-	235	1,057	1,172
Computer items	565	-	-	198	763	1,314
	<u>1,387</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>433</u>	<u>1,820</u>	<u>2,486</u>
Other expenses						
Books and worship material	72	-	-	43	115	134
Licences	348	-	-	-	348	329
Depreciation of fixed assets	564	5,300	-	-	5,864	5,976
Other SWHG expenses	-	-	-	-	-	10
Catering expenses	84	-	-	-	84	67
Thank you gifts	-	-	-	-	-	42
Gifts for housebound/flowers	254	-	-	-	254	117
Green Living donations	205	-	-	-	205	-
School visits expenses	188	-	-	-	188	(100)
Tax enquiry fee	150	-	-	-	150	132
Turret expenses	-	-	-	100	100	100
Other expenses	-	-	-	-	-	215
Transfer of AMC funds to SWVG	-	-	-	11,390	11,390	-
Halls sundry expenses	90	-	-	-	90	111
	<u>1,955</u>	<u>5,300</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,533</u>	<u>18,788</u>	<u>7,133</u>
Governance costs						
Independent examination	2,100	-	-	-	2,100	1,920
Total cost of church activities	<u>42,491</u>	<u>5,300</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,966</u>	<u>59,757</u>	<u>41,776</u>

**10.1 EMPLOYEE REMUNERATION**

The gross salary costs for the year were £6,162 (2022: £5,630).

Social security costs were £nil (2022: £nil).

Employer's pension costs were £nil (2022: £nil).

The average number of employees during the year was 2 (2022:2).

No employee received remuneration exceeding £60,000 in either year.

AVENUE ST ANDREW'S SOUTHAMPTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

11 DONATIONS TO CHARITIES ETC. FROM COMMUNION COLLECTIONS

	Unrestricted Funds General £	Designated £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Communion Fund</b>					
The Avenue Centre	-	-	376	376	500
Mountbatten Hampshire	-	-	138	138	123
Southampton Basics Bank	-	-	1,241	1,241	1,166
Jeel al Amal	-	-	140	140	87
Practical Action	-	-	161	161	65
A Rocha	-	-	120	120	114
Amnesty International	-	-	123	123	57
Samaritans	-	-	112	112	129
Commitment for Life	-	-	445	445	130
Society of St James	-	-	148	148	126
SWVG for AMC	-	-	375	375	-
SWVG General	-	-	140	140	-
	-	-	3,519	3,519	2,497
<b>Benevolent Fund</b>					
Sundry donations to the needy	-	-	-	-	-
Total donations to charities etc.	-	-	3,519	3,519	2,497

12 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Organ & Piano £	Office Equipment £	Misc. Equipment £	Total £
Cost as at 1/1/2023	308	873	39,752	40,933
Additions in year	-	-	-	-
Disposals in year	-	-	-	-
Cost as at 31/12/2023	308	873	39,752	40,933
Depreciation as at 1/1/2023	308	873	29,069	30,250
Charge for the year	-	-	5,865	5,865
On disposals	-	-	-	-
Depreciation as at 31/12/2023	308	873	34,934	36,115
Net book value as at 31/12/2023	-	-	4,818	4,818
Net book value as at 31/12/2022	-	-	10,683	10,683

For the reasons stated in Accounting Policy note 1c, the church and manse buildings are not tangible fixed assets of the church. For insurance purposes the church buildings are insured by the church for £10,938,824. The church contents are insured by the church for £219,309.

AVENUE ST ANDREW'S SOUTHAMPTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

13 FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

		Listed investments £
<b>Market value</b>		
At 1 January 2023		20,838
Additions		-
Disposals		-
Valuation changes		(490)
At 31 December 2023		<u>20,348</u>
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£	£
Investments held at fair value comprise:		
Equities (M & G Charifund equity units)	<u>20,348</u>	<u>20,838</u>
Historical cost	<u>10,394</u>	<u>10,394</u>

14 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£	£
<b>Carrying amount of financial assets</b>		
Investments measured at fair value through net income/expenditure	<u>20,348</u>	<u>20,838</u>

15 DEBTORS

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£	£
Gift Aid Tax recoverable	9,334	28,148
Other debtors	8,626	7,621
Prepayments	<u>629</u>	<u>598</u>
	<u>18,589</u>	<u>36,367</u>

16 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	£	£
Other creditors	12,806	10,479
Income received in advance	<u>3,501</u>	<u>2,537</u>
	<u>16,307</u>	<u>13,016</u>

All income received in advance at the end of the prior year was released to incoming resources during the year.

AVENUE ST ANDREW'S SOUTHAMPTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

17 UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

The church operates 3 Unrestricted (General) Funds as follows:

General	The general purpose fund of the Church.
Investment Revaluation Reserve	Unrealised gains on Charifund Units. This is a sub fund of the General Fund.
Halls	Used to receive hire fees and pay hall charges.

17.1 The movements on the Unrestricted (General) Funds during the year were:

	General	Inv.Reval	Halls	Total
	£	£	£	£
Balance b/fwd 1 January 2023	16,465	10,444	7,020	33,929
Income	62,100	-	25,544	87,644
	78,565	10,444	32,564	121,573
Expenditure in year	(92,199)	-	4,976	(87,223)
Unrealised gain/(loss) on investments	-	(490)	-	(490)
Fund transfers	32,731	-	(30,000)	2,731
Balance c/fwd 31 December 2023	19,097	9,954	7,540	36,591

The movements on the Unrestricted (General) Funds during the prior year were:

	General	Inv.Reval	Halls	Total
	£	£	£	£
Balance b/fwd 1 January 2022	10,302	11,673	14,625	36,600
Income	57,234	-	18,102	75,336
	67,536	11,673	32,727	111,936
Expenditure in year	(83,583)	-	4,293	(79,290)
Unrealised (loss)/gain on investments	-	(1,229)	-	(1,229)
Fund transfers	32,512	-	(30,000)	2,512
Balance c/fwd 31 December 2022	16,465	10,444	7,020	33,929

18 The church operates four Designated Funds with the support of Church Meeting:

Legacies	A fund for money received as legacies, to be used to initiate church and community related projects in accordance with the aims and objectives of the church.
CRCW	A fund for supporting projects initiated by the Community Worker.
Solar	A fund for financing the solar panels.
New AV	A fund for financing the new audio visual equipment.

18.1 The movements on the Designated Funds during the year were:

	Legacies	CRCW	Solar	New AV	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Balance b/fwd 1 January 2023	126,618	343	2,904	7,214	137,079
Income	-	-	-	-	-
	126,618	343	2,904	7,214	137,079
Expenditure in year	(375)	-	(2,904)	(2,396)	(5,675)
Transfer to General fund	(5,615)	-	-	-	(5,615)
Transfer from Communion Fund	-	202	-	-	202
Transfer from New AV restricted fund	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer to AMC fund	(1,125)	-	-	-	(1,125)
Transfer to Avenue 2020 fund	(100)	-	-	-	(100)
Balance c/fwd 31 December 2023	119,403	545	-	4,818	124,766

A grant of £1,125 was made from Legacies Fund to AMC Fund to support their activities.

The movements on the Designated Funds during the prior year were:

	Legacies	CRCW	Solar	New AV	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Balance b/fwd 1 January 2022	131,397	168	5,807	9,610	146,982
Income	2,501	-	-	0	2,501
	133,898	168	5,807	9,610	149,483
Expenditure in year	-	(70)	(2,903)	(2,396)	(5,369)
Transfer to General fund	(5,680)	-	-	-	(5,680)
Transfer from Communion Fund	-	245	-	-	245
Transfer to New AV restricted fund	(1,500)	-	-	-	(1,500)
Transfer to AMC fund	(100)	-	-	-	(100)
Balance c/fwd 31 December 2022	126,618	343	2,904	7,214	137,079

# AVENUE ST ANDREW'S SOUTHAMPTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

### 19 RESTRICTED FUNDS

The church accounts include 10 Restricted Funds, where the monies 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:

Ministers To augment the minister's stipend.  
Organists To pay organists' fees.  
Organ To pay organ maintenance costs.  
The three above funds receive their income from charitable trusts.

Avenue 2020 A fund for financing restoration of the building and exploring and sharing our heritage.  
Benevolent Makes small grants and donations to individuals in need at the Minister's discretion.  
Junior Church To pay for costs associated with Junior Church.  
Communion A holding fund for donations given for the benefit of other charities.  
SWHG A holding fund for costs associated with the South West Hants Group of Churches.  
AMC A holding fund for costs associated with the Avenue Multicultural Centre.  
The Avenue Multicultural Centre is operated jointly with CLEAR (City Life Education and Action for Refugees) and the SWVG (Southampton and Winchester Visitors Group), providing advice and a drop in centre for Refugees and Asylum Seekers.  
During 2023 SWVG took over responsibility for running the AMC, so the fund balance was transferred to them as at 30/9/2023.  
New AV A fund for receiving donations for the New Audio Visual equipment.

19.1 The movements on the Restricted Funds during the year were:

	Avenue 2020	Ministers	Organists	Organ	Benev.
	£	£	£	£	£
Balance b/fwd 1 January 2023	-	3,761	1,161	4,005	1,346
Income	-	522	135	-	-
	-	4,283	1,296	4,005	1,346
Expenditure in year	(100)	-	-	-	-
Transfer between funds	100	(1,500)	-	-	-
Balance c/fwd 31 December 2023	-	2,783	1,296	4,005	1,346

	J.Church	Commun.	SWHG	AMC	New AV	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance b/fwd 1 January 2023	3,595	-	2,545	11,681	-	28,094
Income	-	4,846	2,116	4,020	-	11,639
	3,595	4,846	4,661	15,701	-	39,733
Expenditure in year	-	(3,519)	(5,434)	(17,951)	-	(27,004)
Transfer between funds	-	(1,327)	4,384	2,250	-	3,907
Balance c/fwd 31 December 2023	3,595	-	3,611	0	-	16,636

£1,125 was transferred from the Communion Fund to AMC Fund being donations given to support their activities.  
£202 was transferred from the Communion Fund to the CRCW Fund to support the projects of the Community Worker.  
£1,500 was transferred from the Ministers Fund to the General Fund to part fund the core costs of the Community Worker in accordance with the terms of the fund.

The movements on the Restricted Funds during the prior year were:

	Avenue 2020	Ministers	Organists	Organ	Benev.
	£	£	£	£	£
Balance b/fwd 1 January 2022	-	4,739	1,026	4,005	1,446
Income	-	522	135	-	-
	-	5,261	1,161	4,005	1,446
Expenditure in year	(100)	-	-	-	-
Transfer between funds	100	(1,500)	-	-	100
Balance c/fwd 31 December 2022	-	3,761	1,161	4,005	1,346

	J.Church	Commun.	SWHG	AMC	New AV	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balance b/fwd 1 January 2022	3,595	-	2,625	9,324	-	26,760
Income	-	4,535	2,332	5,646	-	13,170
	3,595	4,535	4,957	14,970	-	39,930
Expenditure in year	-	(2,439)	(7,080)	(6,740)	-	(16,359)
Transfer between funds	-	(2,096)	4,668	3,451	-	4,523
Balance c/fwd 31 December 2022	3,595	-	2,545	11,681	-	28,094

£1,851 was transferred from the Communion Fund to AMC Fund being donations given to support their activities.  
£245 was transferred from the Communion Fund to the General Fund to support the core costs of the Community Worker.  
£1,500 was transferred from the Ministers Fund to the General Fund to part fund the core costs of the Community Worker in accordance with the terms of the fund.



AVENUE ST ANDREW'S SOUTHAMPTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

20 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted	Total £
	General £	Designated £	Funds £	
Fund balances at 31 December 2023 are represented by:				
Fixed assets	-	25,166	-	25,166
Cash at bank and in hand	31,866	99,875	18,804	150,545
Other current assets/(liabilities)	4,725	(275)	(2,168)	2,282
	<u>36,591</u>	<u>124,766</u>	<u>16,636</u>	<u>177,993</u>

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted	Total £
	General £	Designated £	Funds £	
Fund balances at 31 December 2022 were represented by:				
Fixed assets	565	30,956	-	31,521
Cash at bank and in hand	11,654	106,123	26,453	144,230
Other current assets/(liabilities)	21,710	-	1,641	23,351
	<u>33,929</u>	<u>137,079</u>	<u>28,094</u>	<u>199,102</u>

21 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Donations of £9,610 were received from trustees and other related parties during the year (2022: £10,467).  
There were no other transactions with related parties during the year (2022: £nil).  
Remuneration costs relating to key management personnel were borne by the central URC, as detailed in note 7.