

RIVERSIDE CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1131872

Details

Other names TANKERTON EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Company number [06983393](#)

Registered 2009-09-28

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Riverside Church
Riverside Works
Thanet Way
Chestfield
Whitstable
CT5 3JQ

Phone 01227250240

Email info@riversideuk.org

Website www.riversideuk.org

Activities

Objects: (A) TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATEMENT OF BELIEFS APPEARING IN THE SCHEDULE HERETO IN TANKERTON, WHITSTABLE KENT AND IN SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT AND TO FULFIL SUCH OTHER PURPOSES WHICH ARE EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE ACCORDING TO THE LAW OF ENGLAND AND WALES AND ARE CONNECTED WITH THE CHARITABLE WORK OF THE CHARITY;(B) 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 COUNSELLING AND SUPPORT IN TANKERTON KENT AND IN SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES FROM TIME TO TIME MAY THINK FIT.(C) TO PROVIDE COMMUNITY FACILITIES FOR RECREATIONAL AND OTHER LEISURE-TIME OCCUPATION IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR PERSONS WHO HAVE NEED BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH POVERTY OR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE IN TANKERTON KENT AFORESAID AND IN SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT.

Activities: To advance the Christian faith, to relieve sickness and financial hardship, to provide community facilities for recreational and other use in the interests of social welfare for persons who have needs.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Other Finance, Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** TANKERTON, WHITSTABLE KENT
- Kent

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£485,298	£646,500	-	-
2023-12-31	£447,291	£545,731	-	-
2022-12-31	£654,768	£627,481	£1,332,210	13
2021-12-31	£537,293	£485,128	£1,304,923	11
2020-12-31	£535,571	£576,270	£1,252,758	13

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Sean Carter	Chair	2019-05-17
DARLENE BUSHELL		2018-06-26
Michael Edward Clements		2026-03-23
Rebecca Julia Swansbury		2024-01-29
SIMON BATESON		2015-11-17

RIVERSIDE CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1131872

Accounts

Riverside Church Annual Report & Financial Statements

For year ended December 2024

Registered charity no. 1131872

Company no. 6983393

This report covers the period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024



RIVERSIDE CHURCH



Introduction

Riverside is a vibrant and growing affirming church community of adults, children and young people meeting in Whitstable, Kent.

The church was established in 1925 and has been faithfully worshipping God and serving the local community for nearly a hundred years.

Our aim is to be a blessing to our community through sharing the love and compassion of God to those we meet.

Having our own building allows us to hire rooms to commercial and public-sector organisations during the week. This conference activity generates an income stream that supports our charitable activities.

We also have an on-site café which forms a community space right at the heart of the building. It provides a relaxed, friendly environment where everyone is welcome - old friends can come together, and new friendships can be made.

Our goal is to see the transformation of our communities through the goodness of Jesus.

We believe the goodness of Jesus is for everyone and we are passionate about helping people encounter his life-changing power.

Our broad aims continue to be the following:

- Creating spaces and opportunities for people to encounter the good news of Jesus and His transforming presence.
- Equipping and supporting people to do life well.
- Bringing practical and spiritual relief to the vulnerable and those in need.
- Doing things well.



Review

2024 has been a year where we have seen all our compassion projects grow significantly.

All Wrapped Up saw the parents and carers of over five-hundred and thirty referred children from all the local schools in Whitstable and Herne Bay, come to Riverside to choose presents at our free Winter Wonderland. We also gave two-hundred and five families food vouchers and treat bags, feeding over eight hundred people.

One of our church members created a bespoke software system to handle all the client referrals from the school family liaison officers and health visitors. This proved invaluable in helping the smooth running of the project.

We held two quiz nights at Riverside this year - one to raise money for our Holiday Hunger project and the other to raise money for Headway and for the Air Ambulance. Both were a tremendous success and raised much needed funds.

One of the highlights of the year was our first same-sex wedding at Riverside. Mel and Di got married in July with a packed auditorium full of friends and guests. For many people it was their first experience of church, and we had lots of positive feedback and comments.

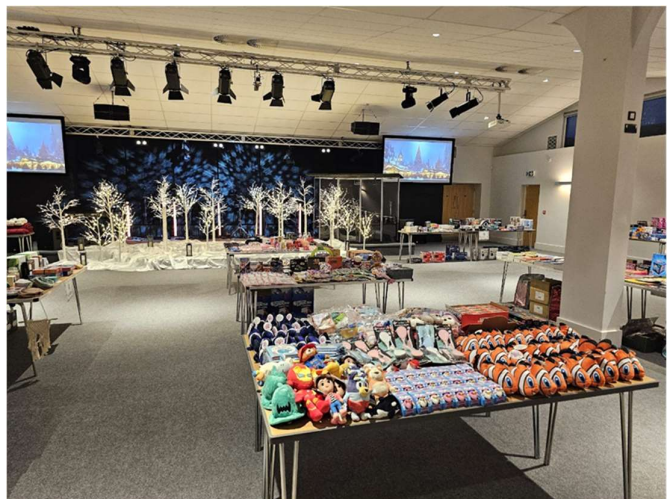
In September we held an appreciation meal at Riverside for all the volunteers involved in the Haven project. This gave their trustees an opportunity to thank the large team and cast vision for the future.

The church has also begun to explore wider connections with other affirming churches following the Fruitful conference in May.

Lead Pastors Simon and Keely attended a leader's gathering at St Mary's Bryanston Square in November to build relationships and look at how support could be offered to churches exploring inclusivity.

2024 has once again been a year where we have seen God do amazing things through the life of the church. Our reputation with the local community continues to go from strength to strength as they see the value that Riverside adds.

Our vision to be a church that is 'good for everyone' continues to grow and we look forward to all the opportunities that the new year will bring.



Objective 1: Advance the Gospel

Creating spaces and opportunities for people to encounter the good news of Jesus and His transforming presence...

2024 was a year where we focused on developing our culture to be 'good for everyone'. We used a Sunday series called 'Foundations' to unpack some of our core beliefs as a church. This led into a second series called 'This Is Us' where we outlined some aspirational distinctives for Riverside as a church:

- In our relationship with God, we try to be intimate, expectant, inspired and led.
- In our relationship with ourselves we believe we are loved, accepted, and being transformed by God.
- In our relationships with others, we try to be honest, authentic, and interdependent.
- In our sharing we try to be relevant, real, and good for everyone.
- In our outlook we try to be welcoming, loving, inclusive and safe.
- In our actions we try to be kind, generous, helpful, practical, and responsible.
- In our thinking we try to be open, always learning, and comfortable with questions.

The church continues to grow, and we expanded our children's ministry by adding an additional group called 'Mayflies' for the nought to two-and-a-half-year old children.

We continued to welcome new people to Riverside hosting a Welcome Evening in February where thirty newcomers had chance to meet each other, share food and hear the history and vision of the church. We also ran an Alpha course for people wanting to discover more about the Christian faith. We held two baptism services this year with ten people sharing how Jesus has changed their lives.

We introduced 'Pause' weeks at the end of long sermon series to encourage people to recap, reflect on what they had learnt and then think about how it relates to their lives. These have proved really popular in helping people apply good principles to their lives.

We took a popcorn machine to the Welcome Fair at Kent University to give away free popcorn and tell new students about Riverside as an affirming church in the area.

We attended the first Fruitful conference in May, and we were invited to be on a panel to discuss 'leading your church into inclusivity.' We continue to support other churches across the country looking to make this journey.



Objective 2: Improve Life

Riverside continues to host and welcome a wide variety of people. Our Sunday morning services provides a place of connection, support, and practical teaching to equip people to do life well.

Our work transforming part of our building into a Youth Hub continued and we were able to open it in the middle of the year. This has been a large financial investment for the church but is proving to be an incredible resource for church youth and for the community. The vision was to create a space where young people felt safe - a sort of 'home from home' - where they could be themselves. The Hub has a number of different 'zones' including a bar and kitchen area where young people can prepare food and drinks. There are also gaming, chill and activity zones.

In July we employed a new Youth Pastor, Abbie Beale, who is now working with church youth and also has been invited into the two local high schools, The Whitstable School, and Herne Bay High School to do mentoring and support. Since Abbie started, our engagement with young people has soared, and we are partnering with local youth workers and organisations to provide excellent provision.

Equipping and supporting people to do life well...

We have also hosted young people from the FAR Academy which is a full-time Independent Specialist Post 16 College for young people with EHCPs, who struggle with their social emotional and mental health and provides practical learning in a safe, holistic, and nurturing environment.

In June we held our first Riverside Camping Weekend in Meopham. The event was an enormous success with around one hundred adults and children attending. We had lovely sunny weather and many great activities across the weekend concluding with an open-air service on the Sunday morning. It was the perfect way to build community and enjoy extended time together.

We hosted three 'bar nights' to help create connection across the church and wider community. They were hosted in the café, and we invited local musicians to provide live music. These events were well attended, with lots of friends and guests experiencing the Riverside community.

We have invested in our volunteer leaders with two events and lunches, with guest speakers David Steell from One Church Brighton and Rebecca Swansbury from the Diocese of Canterbury.



Objective 3: Bring Relief

Growbaby has had an amazing year and has really flourished. We moved down to our new home in the Youth HUB in the summer and we have had lots of positive feedback from parents who love our space.

Growbaby gives away excellent quality clothes and equipment for children up to age 5 to any families in need - no questions asked.

Since it started six years ago it has grown from having a few families visit to now having anything from twenty-five to forty-three on any given Monday.

During the week we have referrals from Social Workers, Early Help workers, Health Visitors and Midwives who are all dealing with families in crisis and need our help. And they are coming from as far away as Medway, Folkstone and Dover such is the need and lack of provision.

We help them with everything, from buggy boards to stairgates, to full pram systems and we fill Moses baskets for new parents with everything they will need. They know that Riverside is the place that will help them out when their families are in a crisis - when often they have nowhere else to turn to.



Bringing practical and spiritual relief to the vulnerable and those in need...

In 2024 we completed the second summer of holiday hunger. We went from working with just one school in 2023 as a pilot, to working with four schools with thirty-three families feeding eighty-six children.

Each week during the summer holiday, eighty-six food bags went out - forty-three with lunch foods and forty-three with bread products and fruit. Each bag held enough to feed two children. God's provision has been overwhelming and to see people's circumstances and hear their stories has been very humbling. Our plan is to continue to extend this project and work with more schools during 2025.

We also continue to support several local projects with finances and volunteers. Some examples are:

- Street Pastors - a caring night-time presence on the streets of Whitstable and Herne Bay.
- Haven - a project providing care and support for the homeless and vulnerable in the Whitstable area.
- Coastal Family Hub - providing mental health support to children, young people and families in Whitstable, Herne Bay, and Reculver.



Doing Things Well

Staffing: This year we added Charlie Leys as Business Development Manager - Riverside Conferencing, Abbie Beale as Youth Pastor and KC Hunnisett as Ministry and Welcome Facilitator. We also said goodbye to Kim Wood who retired from her role as Church Administrator.

Site: Our main project and financial investment this year was the completion of the Youth Hub and Growbaby space. We secured a grant for a Pana football cage for the Youth Hub. We also invested in new signage and gate flags to help improve navigation to our site.

Events: Our conferencing and event hire continued to grow throughout 2024 with many organisations seeing Riverside as their venue of choice. In February we hosted the 'Queer Joy at Work' conference for the local council.

We have created a new website for Riverside Conferencing and continue to develop excellent networks with local businesses and community organisations.

This involves everything, from the way we relate to people, to the way we manage our facility & develop our organisation...

On-Site Partners: CXK uses Riverside as a local hub for their staff as they provide career guidance and training programmes to help young people build the skills and confidence they need to find a job.

Volunteers: We actively encourage people to volunteer their time and get involved, serving in some capacity.

Projects like All Wrapped Up and Holiday Hunger mobilise hundreds of volunteer hours from within the church and the wider community to serve families in need.

We have a large volunteer Sunday team which facilitate our welcoming and serving culture.

We also have had new volunteers joining the office team during the week.

Riverside could not operate at the level we do without the dedication of our volunteers in the church, and from the local community, and we are hugely appreciative of their ongoing generosity.



Connected Charities & Partner Projects

Riverside is proud to support the following organisations...



Riverside continues to be an active supporter of Churches Together in Whitstable (CTiW).



CTiW provide Street Pastors who patrol every Friday night providing a caring and reassuring presence on the streets.



Haven is a joint church initiative supporting the homeless and vulnerable in the Whitstable area.



CTiW jointly support a local Christians Against Poverty (CAP) centre. CAP provides free debt counselling and additional life skills services.



Working in Romania to alleviate poverty, through partnership with churches.



OM's Ship Ministry is sharing knowledge, help and hope in and around the world's port cities.



We hold our monthly Herne Bay Hub meetings at the school and also support them with projects like All Wrapped Up and Holiday Hunger.



Supporting child mental health
Whitstable Herne Bay
and Reculver

Coastal Family Hub provides mental health support to children, young people and families in Whitstable, Herne Bay, and Reculver.



Inclusive Church is a network of churches, groups and individuals uniting around a vision of church which celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate.



Riverside supports the work of Mission Aviation Fellowship which enables over 2,000 aid, development, and mission organisations to bring medical care, emergency relief, long-term development, and Christian hope to thousands of communities.



Riverside supports the work of Open Doors which is an international ministry serving persecuted Christians and churches worldwide.



Riverside Youth Hub partners with FAR Skate which empowers young people who struggle with their social emotional and mental health. It provides practical learning in a safe, holistic, and nurturing environment.

Strategic Report

Business Review

Riverside Church is in a stable position both financially and in terms of attendance.

Our total source of income from all sources was £485,298.

Our expenditure totalled £646,500.

Our room hiring and cafe income generated income of £224,997.

Our financial statements at the rear of this report provide more information.

Risk Management

We have systems of internal control which are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include: -

- an annual budget approved by the Trustees.
- regular consideration by the Trustees of financial reports.
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties.
- identification and management of risks.

We aim to review the main risks the church faces on a regular basis. The Trustees consider the key risks to a church like ours to be finances, safeguarding, health and safety and human resources. We employ staff with key skills in these areas. We also engage third party experts for advice when needed.

We believe that our internal financial controls conform to the guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.

Investment Powers and Policy

Our Articles authorise us to invest our funds. Cash balances are currently held across four banks. We operate a policy of keeping available funds within interest-bearing deposit accounts. We maintain a level of free reserves to mitigate against the risk that the charity experiences an unexpected event which would put us in financial difficulty.

This might include an event which would bring Riverside Church into disrepute; the premises being forced to close for an extended period of time; or a serious decline in the economic environment we operate in.



Plans for the future

We believe the appropriate level of unrestricted reserves should be based upon a proportion of our regular costs as follows:

- Four months of our long-term commitments, such as mortgage and utilities payments and the cost of running our Sunday services which would be a vital activity to maintain.
- Three months of medium-term commitments such as permanent staff costs and the monthly financial support we provide to partner charities.
- One month of short-term costs, including the day-to-day ministry activity of the church.

Our review has estimated this target level is £120,000. The reserves held as of 31 December 2024 are at this level. We review, on a 6-monthly basis, the level of reserves held.

During the year, the Trustees conducted a full review of the reserves policy to ensure it remained up to date and relevant.

2024 was a year of expansion for Riverside building on the foundation of becoming an affirming church in 2022.

We feel this new foundation has greatly increased our positive reputation in the community, with many people seeking out the church because of our inclusivity and affirming status.

We are also maturing as a caring expression of God's love into our coastland communities.

The core values within the church, such as trust and authenticity continue to grow. This is creating a safe environment for people to deepen relationships and explore faith, whilst wrestling with life's questions.

Our Vision Sunday this year focused on 'looking forward with expectation' and we want to continue to build on our excellent foundations and our growing reputation in the community.

We ended 2024 with a sense of thankfulness, looking forward to all that God was going to do through the church in 2025.



Information about Riverside Church

We believe that we comply with the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and specifically the advancement of religion.

Charity Number: 1131872

Company Number: 6983393

Registered Office:

Riverside Church
Thanet Way
Whitstable
CT5 3JQ

Website: www.riversideuk.org

Governing Document & Organisational Structure:

We are a registered charity, constituted by means of our Memorandum and Articles of Association and operating as a church. We are also a company limited by guarantee, in which the company directors form the board of Trustees. The liability of each trustee in the event of winding up is limited to £10. The spiritual vision and direction of the church is set by the Senior Leadership Team who along with the Trustees form the membership of the company. The pay of the Senior Leadership Team staff is reviewed annually and benchmarked against pay levels in other churches of comparable size and operation.

Associated Professionals

Principal Bankers:

HSBC Bank
9 Rose Lane
Canterbury
Kent
CT1 2JP

Accountants:

Kreston Reeves LLP
Chartered Accountants
37 St. Margaret's Street
Canterbury
Kent
CT1 2TU

Independent Examiners:

Samantha M Rouse FCCA DChA
Chartered Accountants
37 St. Margaret's Street
Canterbury
Kent
CT1 2TU

Solicitors:

Parry Law Sols
12-14 Oxford Street
Whitstable
CT5 1DE

Information

(continued)

Trustees and Senior Staff

Trust Board (TB)

The Trustees who have served during the year are as follows: -

Kirsteen Magee	Chair
Simon Bateson	Lead Pastor
Darlene Bushell	Finance
Sean Carter	Health & Safety
Rebecca Swansbury	Safeguarding

(started 29.01.24)

The company secretary is Kim Wood.

Appointment of Trustees & SLT

New Trustees and SLT members are appointed when appropriate. Suitable candidates are generally selected from within the church and are considered based on their skills, experience, and sympathy with the aims of the church. Trustees and SLT members are appointed by the combined Trustees and Senior Leadership Team. These two teams constitute the membership of the charitable company. New Trustees have the opportunity of reviewing appropriate documents, including the management accounts, as part of their induction process.

Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

The day to day running of the church is delegated to the employed pastoral staff and operational staff. The staff are led by Simon & Keely Bateson (Lead Pastors) and their Senior Leadership Team which is as follows: -

Simon Bateson	Lead Pastor
Keely Bateson	Lead Pastor
Martin Franks	Assistant Pastor
Jacob Perrins	Assistant Pastor
Debbie Franks	SLT
Emma Perrins	SLT
Alan Chalkley	SLT
(Stepped down 15.06.24)	
Alison Chalkley	SLT
(Stepped down 15.06.24)	
Christine Gibson	SLT
Jackie Carter	SLT
Sean Carter	SLT & TB

Information

(continued)

Trustees' / Directors' Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees (who are also directors of Riverside Church for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In preparing this report, the Trustees have taken advantage of the small companies' exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Trustees on22.07.25..... and signed on their behalf by



Simon Bateson Trustee / Director

RIVERSIDE CHURCH

(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent examiner's report For the year ended 31 December 2024

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Riverside Church ('the Charitable company')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charitable company for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the Charitable company (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charitable company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Charitable company's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Charitable company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charitable company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.

RIVERSIDE CHURCH

(A company limited by guarantee)

**Independent examiner's report (continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

This report is made solely to the Charitable company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charitable company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charitable company and the Charitable company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed: *S M Rouse*

Dated: 22 July 2025

S M Rouse FCCA DChA

Kreston Reeves LLP
Chartered Accountants
Canterbury

RIVERSIDE CHURCH
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies:	4				
Weekly offering		25,937	-	25,937	33,811
Donations eligible for Gift Aid		148,754	-	148,754	148,459
Gift Aid		35,575	-	35,575	40,148
Gifts & miscellaneous income		13,768	13,126	26,894	10,607
Other donations and legacies		9,115	7,255	16,370	17,423
Other trading activities	5	164,288	-	164,288	132,117
Investments	6	67,480	-	67,480	64,726
Total income		464,917	20,381	485,298	447,291
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	53,940	-	53,940	44,922
Charitable activities:					
Other charitable activities		575,841	16,719	592,560	500,809
Total expenditure		629,781	16,719	646,500	545,731
Net movement in funds		(164,864)	3,662	(161,202)	(98,440)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		1,231,265	2,505	1,233,770	1,332,210
Net movement in funds		(164,864)	3,662	(161,202)	(98,440)
Total funds carried forward		1,066,401	6,167	1,072,568	1,233,770

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 19 to 34 form part of these financial statements.

RIVERSIDE CHURCH

(A company limited by guarantee)

Registered number: 06983393

Balance sheet

As at 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	<u>1,256,544</u>	<u>1,289,969</u>
		1,256,544	1,289,969
Current assets			
Debtors	13	9,478	11,235
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>268,901</u>	<u>392,275</u>
		278,379	403,510
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(39,492)</u>	<u>(26,544)</u>
Net current assets		238,887	376,966
Total assets less current liabilities		1,495,431	1,666,935
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15	<u>(422,863)</u>	<u>(433,165)</u>
Net assets excluding pension asset		1,072,568	1,233,770
Total net assets		1,072,568	1,233,770
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	16	6,167	2,505
Unrestricted funds	16	<u>1,066,401</u>	<u>1,231,265</u>
Total funds		1,072,568	1,233,770

The Charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Simon Bateson

Trustee

Date: 22.07.25

The notes on pages 19 to 34 form part of these financial statements.

RIVERSIDE CHURCH

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

1. General information

Riverside Church is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales with the company number 6983393 and the charity number 1131872.

The Charitable company's registered office is Riverside Church, Thanet Way, Whitstable, CT5 3JQ.

The financial statements have been prepared for the year ended 31 December 2024.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Riverside Church meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The financial statements are presented in pounds sterling are rounded to the nearest pound.

2.2 Company status

The charitable company is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees and senior leadership team named in the Charity's information page. In event of the charitable company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charitable company.

2.3 Going concern

The Trustees have considered the Charitable Company's level of reserves and future incoming resources and concluded that these are sufficient to enable the charity to continue its operations for the foreseeable future. Therefore the accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

RIVERSIDE CHURCH

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Income

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

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the Charitable company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the Charitable company, can be reliably measured.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

2.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Charitable company to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charitable company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.6 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charitable company; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

RIVERSIDE CHURCH
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.7 Taxation

The Charitable company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charitable company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

2.8 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

A review of impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of any fixed asset may not be recoverable. Shortfalls between the carrying value of any fixed assets and their recoverable amounts are recognised as impairments. Impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating the income and expenditure account.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, .

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold property	- Land - not depreciated, Buildings - over 20 years
Fixtures and fittings	- 5 years straight line
Computer equipment	- 3 years straight line
Other fixed assets	- Not depreciated

2.9 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.10 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

RIVERSIDE CHURCH

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Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.11 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charitable company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.12 Financial instruments

The Charitable company 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 with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.13 Finance costs

Borrowing costs associated with direct expenditure on properties undergoing major refurbishment are capitalised.

Interest is capitalised as from the commencement of the development work until the practical date of completion.

2.14 Pensions

The Charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charitable company to the fund in respect of the year.

2.15 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charitable company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charitable company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

RIVERSIDE CHURCH

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Tangible fixed assets

The charity has recognised tangible fixed assets with a carrying value of £1,256,544 at the reporting date (see note 12). The assets are stated at their cost less provision for depreciation and impairment. The charity's accounting policy sets out the approach to calculating depreciation for immaterial assets acquired. For material assets such as land and buildings, the company determines at acquisition reliable estimates for the useful life of the asset, its residual value and decommissioning costs. These estimates are based upon such factors as the expected use of the acquired asset and market conditions. At subsequent reporting date the Trustees consider whether there are any factors such as technological advancements or changes in market conditions that indicate a need to reconsider the estimates used.

Where there are indicators that the carrying value of tangible assets may be impaired the charity undertakes tests to determine the recoverable amount of assets. These tests require estimates of the fair value of assets less cost to sell and of their value in use. Wherever possible, the estimate of the fair value of assets is based upon observable market prices less incremental cost for disposing of the asset. The value in use calculation is based upon a discounted cash flow model, based upon the charity's forecasts for the foreseeable future which do not include any restructuring activities that the charity is not yet committed to or significant future investments that will enhance the asset's performance. The recoverable amount is most sensitive to the discount rate used for the discounted cash flow model as well as expected future cash flows and the growth rate used for extrapolation purposes.

RIVERSIDE CHURCH
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations				
Weekly Offering	25,937	-	25,937	33,811
Donations eligible for Gift Aid	148,754	-	148,754	148,459
Gift Aid	35,575	-	35,575	40,148
Gifts & miscellaneous income	13,768	13,126	26,894	10,607
Subtotal detailed disclosure	<u>224,034</u>	<u>13,126</u>	<u>237,160</u>	<u>233,025</u>
Donations	2,039	7,255	9,294	11,423
Grants	7,076	-	7,076	6,000
Subtotal	<u>9,115</u>	<u>7,255</u>	<u>16,370</u>	<u>17,423</u>
	<u>233,149</u>	<u>20,381</u>	<u>253,530</u>	<u>250,448</u>
Total 2023	<u><u>220,828</u></u>	<u><u>29,620</u></u>	<u><u>250,448</u></u>	

5. Income from other trading activities

Income from non charitable trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Cafe income and other trading income	164,288	164,288	132,117
	<u>132,117</u>	<u>132,117</u>	
Total 2023	<u><u>132,117</u></u>	<u><u>132,117</u></u>	

RIVERSIDE CHURCH
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Use of building	60,709	60,709	58,468
Investment income	6,771	6,771	6,258
	<u>67,480</u>	<u>67,480</u>	<u>64,726</u>
Total 2023	<u>64,726</u>	<u>64,726</u>	

7. Expenditure on raising funds

Fundraising trading expenses

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Cafe expenses	53,940	53,940	44,922
	<u>44,922</u>	<u>44,922</u>	<u>44,922</u>
Total 2023	<u>44,922</u>	<u>44,922</u>	

8. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Institutions 2024 £	Grants to Individuals 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Mission support	19,819	989	20,808	27,411
	<u>23,057</u>	<u>4,354</u>	<u>27,411</u>	
Total 2023	<u>23,057</u>	<u>4,354</u>	<u>27,411</u>	

RIVERSIDE CHURCH
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Grant funding of activities 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Charitable activities	421,782	20,808	149,970	592,560	500,809
Total 2023	<u>365,882</u>	<u>27,411</u>	<u>107,516</u>	<u>500,809</u>	

Analysis of direct costs

	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	319,677	276,004
Church Ministries	38,965	34,155
Equipment & maintenance	19,769	16,295
Insurance (church)	5,061	4,918
Utilities (church)	32,269	29,006
Other staff costs	6,041	5,504
	<u>421,782</u>	<u>365,882</u>

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Depreciation	77,671	71,474
Photocopying/Storage/Postage	1,067	803
Professional fees	8,297	7,824
Catering	1,117	938
Music/Copyright fees/Equipment	1,227	1,552
Miscellaneous costs	21,928	(7,762)
Independent examiner's fee	2,385	2,615
Interest	36,278	30,072
	<u>149,970</u>	<u>107,516</u>

RIVERSIDE CHURCH
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

10. Staff costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	293,391	254,216
Social security costs	16,356	12,764
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	9,930	9,024
	<u>319,677</u>	<u>276,004</u>

The average number of persons employed by the Charitable company during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Employees	18	15

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

The total compensation paid in respect of the key management personnel amounts to £111,441 (2023: £106,929).

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

Simon Bateson received remuneration in his capacity of Lead Pastor and not as a Trustee. This remuneration amounted to £57,636 (2023: £54,832).

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2023- £NIL).

During the year ended 31 December 2024, no Trustees expenses have been incurred (2023 - £NIL).

RIVERSIDE CHURCH
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Other fixed assets £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 January 2024	1,631,455	105,540	147,452	83,567	1,968,014
Additions	-	6,064	-	38,182	44,246
Transfers between classes	121,749	-	-	(121,749)	-
At 31 December 2024	<u>1,753,204</u>	<u>111,604</u>	<u>147,452</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,012,260</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 January 2024	441,100	90,872	146,073	-	678,045
Charge for the year	70,160	6,132	1,379	-	77,671
At 31 December 2024	<u>511,260</u>	<u>97,004</u>	<u>147,452</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>755,716</u>
Net book value					
At 31 December 2024	<u><u>1,241,944</u></u>	<u><u>14,600</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,256,544</u></u>
At 31 December 2023	<u><u>1,190,355</u></u>	<u><u>14,668</u></u>	<u><u>1,379</u></u>	<u><u>83,567</u></u>	<u><u>1,289,969</u></u>

Freehold land of £350,000 in relation to the Riverside Campus has not been depreciated as its residual value is likely to exceed its valuation and therefore its economic useful life is likely to be infinite.

13. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	5,906	8,527
Other debtors	45	-
Tax recoverable	3,527	2,708
	<u><u>9,478</u></u>	<u><u>11,235</u></u>

RIVERSIDE CHURCH
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank loans	10,422	9,599
Trade creditors	6,419	3,452
Other taxation and social security	19,230	9,093
Accruals and deferred income	3,421	4,400
	39,492	26,544
	<u><u>39,492</u></u>	<u><u>26,544</u></u>

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank loans	422,863	433,165
	<u><u>422,863</u></u>	<u><u>433,165</u></u>

Included within the above are amounts falling due as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Between one and two years		
Bank loans	11,315	10,422
	<u><u>11,315</u></u>	<u><u>10,422</u></u>
Between two and five years		
Bank loans	40,102	36,936
	<u><u>40,102</u></u>	<u><u>36,936</u></u>
Over five years		
Bank loans	371,446	385,807
	<u><u>371,446</u></u>	<u><u>385,807</u></u>

The aggregate amount of liabilities payable or repayable wholly or in part more than five years after the reporting date is:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Payable or repayable by instalments	371,446	385,807
	<u><u>371,446</u></u>	<u><u>385,807</u></u>

The amounts in bank loans relate to a re-mortgage from HSBC UK Bank PLC, and were previously used to purchase the site for the new church building. There is a guarantee in favour of HSBC UK Bank PLC over the property at Riverside Works in relation to this loan.

RIVERSIDE CHURCH
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

16. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
General fixed reserve	120,000	-	-	-	120,000
Designated fixed asset fund	847,205	-	-	(23,946)	823,259
Compassion Projects fund	-	4,482	(9,091)	10,054	5,445
	<u>967,205</u>	<u>4,482</u>	<u>(9,091)</u>	<u>(13,892)</u>	<u>948,704</u>
General funds					
General Funds	264,060	460,435	(620,690)	13,892	117,697
	<u>1,231,265</u>	<u>464,917</u>	<u>(629,781)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,066,401</u>
Restricted funds					
Defibrillator grant	31	-	-	-	31
Christmas Project	2,474	20,381	(16,719)	-	6,136
	<u>2,505</u>	<u>20,381</u>	<u>(16,719)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,167</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>1,233,770</u></u>	<u><u>485,298</u></u>	<u><u>(646,500)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,072,568</u></u>

RIVERSIDE CHURCH

(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Transfers between funds

Designated fixed asset fund - the transfer of £23,946 to unrestricted general funds represents the decision by the Trustees to show separate the funds allocated to fixed assets less any associated liabilities.

Compassion projects fund- the transfer of £10,054 received from unrestricted general funds is to reflect a decision by the Trustees to designate pantry, growbaby and welfare donations in to one Compassion fund.

Purposes of designated funds

General Fixed Reserve - this represents funds set aside in accordance with the Charity's reserves policy.

Designated fixed asset fund - this represents the book value of the fixed assets less any associated liabilities and are deemed by the Trustees not to be freely available funds.

Compassion projects fund- this represents gifts received towards pantry, growbaby and welfare projects.

Purposes of restricted funds

Defibrillator grant - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the purchase of a defibrillator.

Christmas project fund- this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the Christmas projects.

Purposes of restricted funds (prior year)

Building Development fund (previously Phase 3 fund) - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the development of the Riverside Church site including the area known as Phase 3.

Herne Bay Hub Project - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the Herne Bay Hub Project.

RIVERSIDE CHURCH
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
General fixed reserve	100,000	-	-	20,000	120,000
Designated fixed asset fund	589,966	-	-	257,239	847,205
	<u>689,966</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>277,239</u>	<u>967,205</u>
General funds					
General Funds	<u>638,443</u>	<u>417,671</u>	<u>(494,243)</u>	<u>(297,811)</u>	<u>264,060</u>
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>1,328,409</u>	<u>417,671</u>	<u>(494,243)</u>	<u>(20,572)</u>	<u>1,231,265</u>
Restricted funds					
Building Development Fund	-	9,500	(30,072)	20,572	-
Herne Bay Hub Project	771	-	(771)	-	-
Defibrillator grant	31	-	-	-	31
Christmas Project	2,999	20,120	(20,645)	-	2,474
	<u>3,801</u>	<u>29,620</u>	<u>(51,488)</u>	<u>20,572</u>	<u>2,505</u>
Total of funds	<u>1,332,210</u>	<u>447,291</u>	<u>(545,731)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,233,770</u>

RIVERSIDE CHURCH
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

17. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
Designated funds	967,205	4,482	(9,091)	(13,892)	948,704
General funds	264,060	460,435	(620,690)	13,892	117,697
Restricted funds	2,505	20,381	(16,719)	-	6,167
	<u>1,233,770</u>	<u>485,298</u>	<u>(646,500)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,072,568</u>

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
Designated funds	689,966	-	-	277,239	967,205
General funds	638,443	417,671	(494,243)	(297,811)	264,060
Restricted funds	3,801	29,620	(51,488)	20,572	2,505
	<u>1,332,210</u>	<u>447,291</u>	<u>(545,731)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,233,770</u>

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,256,544	-	1,256,544
Current assets	272,212	6,167	278,379
Creditors due within one year	(39,492)	-	(39,492)
Creditors due in more than one year	(422,863)	-	(422,863)
Total	<u>1,066,401</u>	<u>6,167</u>	<u>1,072,568</u>

RIVERSIDE CHURCH
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

18. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,289,969	-	1,289,969
Current assets	401,005	2,505	403,510
Creditors due within one year	(26,544)	-	(26,544)
Creditors due in more than one year	(433,165)	-	(433,165)
Total	<u>1,231,265</u>	<u>2,505</u>	<u>1,233,770</u>

19. Pension commitments

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Charity to the fund and amounted to £9,930 (2023 - £9,024). At the balance sheet date, no contributions were due (2023: £NIL) and were included in creditors in the previous year.

20. Related party transactions

During the year, 4 (2023: 5) Charity Trustees have made donations to the Charity totalling £24,657 (2023: £29,950).

L Bushell, the daughter of D Bushell, a Trustee of the Charity was employed during the year. The total compensation she received was £25,786 (2023: £22,931) commensurate to this role.

RIVERSIDE CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1131872

Accounts

Riverside Church
Annual Report
& Financial Statements

For year ended December 2023

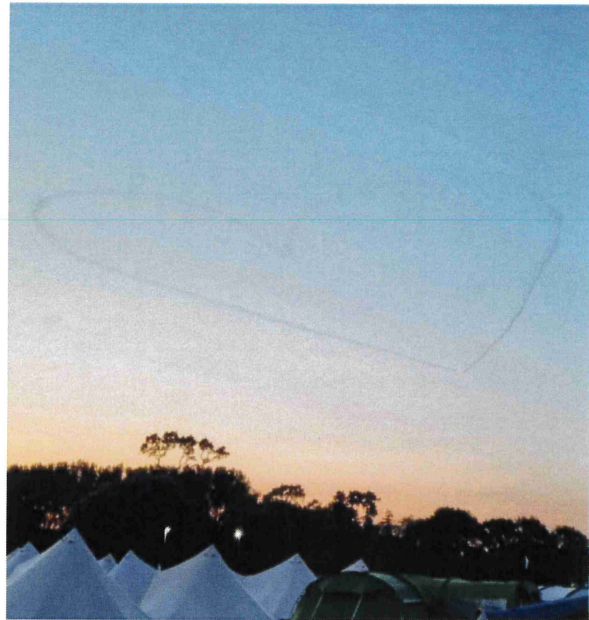
Registered charity no. 1131872

Company no. 6983393

This report covers the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023



RIVERSIDE CHURCH



Riverside Church, Thanet Way, Whitstable, Kent CT5 3JQ www.riversideuk.org

Introduction

Riverside is a vibrant and growing church community of adults, children and young people meeting in Whitstable, Kent.

The church was established in 1925 and has been faithfully worshipping God and serving the local community for nearly a hundred years.

Our aim is to be a blessing to our community through sharing the love and compassion of God to those we meet.

Having our own building allows us to hire rooms to commercial and public-sector organisations during the week. This conference activity generates an income stream that supports our charitable activities.

We also have an on-site café which forms a community space right at the heart of the building. It provides a relaxed, friendly environment where everyone is welcome - old friends can come together, and new friendships can be made.

Our goal is to see the transformation of our communities through the goodness of Jesus.

We believe the goodness of Jesus is for everyone and we are passionate about helping people encounter his life-changing power.

Our broad aims continue to be the following:

- Creating spaces and opportunities for people to encounter the good news of Jesus and His transforming presence.
- Equipping and supporting people to do life well.
- Bringing practical and spiritual relief to the vulnerable and those in need.
- Doing things well.



Review

We began 2023 by re-launching our church small groups, rebranding them 'Life Groups', focusing on creating smaller environments to help people do life together. We used a Sunday series to help communicate core values around community, growth, encouragement, vulnerability, and worship. This re-launch helped us to re-envision people in the importance of meeting in smaller settings and many newcomers to the church became integrated into existing groups Life Groups and new ones that were created.

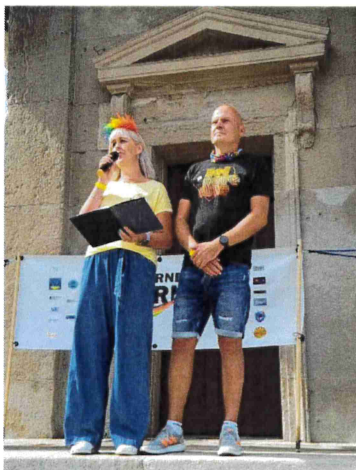
Simon & Keely Bateson were invited to speak at Herne Bay Pride in September. This was a real honour and reflected the reputation Riverside now has as an LGBTQ+ Christian ally in the community.

We spent time training our senior team around the issues associated with spiritual abuse in churches to ensure it could be recognised and prevented. We also looked at season of life with our leadership team to understand the different opportunities and challenges each stage of life brings.

In January Tina Bateson went out from Riverside to join the OM Ministry Ship the Logos Hope.

The Logos Hope is used to share knowledge, help, and hope in and around the world's port cities. Since 1970, OM's Ship Ministry has brought the world's largest floating bookfairs to nearly 500 individual ports in more than 150 countries. When the ship is in port, teams visit communities to offer practical help and the hope of the gospel alongside local churches and partner agencies. Tina has signed up to do two years on the ship and regularly connects back with the church and the Sunday children's groups who love to hear of her adventures and pray for her onward journey.

Our Vision Sunday this year focused on 'looking forward with expectation.' We want to continue to build on our excellent foundations and our growing reputation in the community. We ended 2023 with a sense of excitement looking forward to all that God was going to do through the church in 2024.



Objective 1: Advance the Gospel

Creating spaces and opportunities for people to encounter the good news of Jesus and His transforming presence...

Our Sunday services continued to see growth through 2023 with many people enquiring about faith or reconnecting with a church community after long absences.

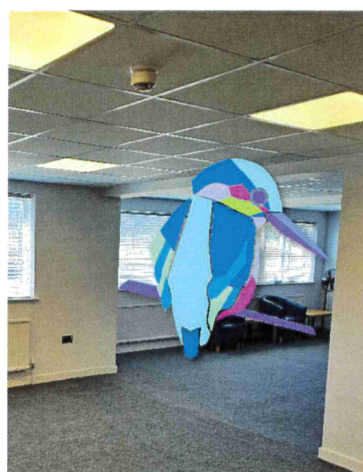
We developed a preaching training community to widen the number of speakers who would be available on a Sunday. These people were trained to communicate the good news of Jesus in contemporary ways.

We also started a new monthly evening gathering called Open Space to explore different aspects of the Christian faith and create an environment to explore, discuss, reflect, and grow together. The emphasis was not to look for the single 'right answer' but to look for greater understanding of God and each other. The first evening looked at 'How the Bible Really Works' and was a great success, providing a safe space for deeper questions and theological opinions to be explored.

We created more space for our growing Kingfishers children's group (reception age to 11s) by joining two of our rooms together. This has provided a great home for their Sunday group, making more room for activities and fun.

We continue to host events for Churches Together in Whitstable including a large service celebrating the combined ministries of the churches. We also hosted a retreat day for the church leaders to provide an opportunity for prayer, reflection, and relationship.

We finished the year with our morning Family Carols and our Evening Carol services, both being really well attended. Riverside continues to present the good news of Jesus in accessible, contemporary, and practical ways. We are excited by the number of people who testify to the warmth of welcome they receive when they come to the church. We are convinced this is the most positive and effective way to share the love of God.



Objective 2: Improve Life

Riverside continues to host and welcome a wide variety of people. Our Sunday morning services provide a place of connection, support, and practical teaching to equip people to do life well.

Our variety of different sized rooms provide flexible training spaces for many stakeholders, including local NHS trusts and councils.

Our café space provides a great space to meet and connect with friends. Many local community groups also use it to gather and build relationships and combat isolation and loneliness.

This year we refurbished our Lower Lounge to make it a more welcoming space and this change has been warmly received by all our guests and visitors.

We continue to hold events that help connect and support people. Our Cherish Breakfast ladies event helps to bring women together around an inspirational theme.

Equipping and supporting people to do life well...

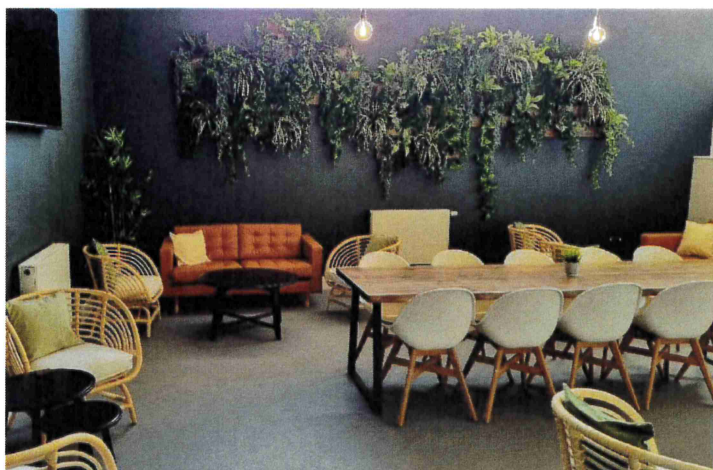
We also held a Cherish Christmas Crafts evening in December which was extremely successful.

Regular Board Game Evenings also create a great social gathering space.

Herne Bay HUB, our monthly off-site gathering at Briary Primary School is going from strength to strength. We are seeing growing number of families connect with the morning to enjoy breakfast, games, activities, and music. A team of Riverside staff and volunteers facilitate the event which runs parallel to our main Sunday service at Riverside.

This year we decided to increase our investment in young people by recruiting a full-time Youth Pastor. This role will involve supporting and empowering young people in local schools and using our soon to be completed Youth Hub.

As at the end of 2023 we are still waiting to employ the right person for this role.



Objective 3: Bring Relief

Bringing practical and spiritual relief to the vulnerable and those in need...

This year we transitioned our Pantry project to a relational model working closely with Canterbury Food Bank to ensure we could provide food relief to those most in need. We focused on three principal areas:

- Providing help to those we are in direct relationship with.
- Providing emergency relief through connections with local social workers and social prescribers.
- Working with Family Liaison Officers in local schools through projects such as Holiday Hunger and All Wrapped Up.

This transition has made our Pantry project even more effective in getting the help to those who need it most.

In October we focused on the work of Christians Against Poverty (CAP) in our Sunday service. CAP provides a free debt counselling service and additional life skills training.

We continue to financially support the work of our local CAP Debt Centre.

In June we held a fundraising quiz for local charity SNAAP who support parents and carers of children with special needs. The event raised £2.5k for the charity. We also continue to support several local projects with finances and volunteers. Some examples are:

- Street Pastors - a caring night-time presence on the streets of Whitstable and Herne Bay.
- Haven - a project providing care and support for the homeless and vulnerable in the area.
- Coastal Family Hub providing mental health support to children, young people and families in Whitstable, Herne Bay and Reculver.

All Wrapped Up is a project of Riverside Church working with local schools and partners to provide Christmas presents and food hampers to families in need. This year we mobilised 110 volunteers in our auditorium 'Winter Wonderland' to provide presents for over 500 children, with 267 families receiving food vouchers to feed over 1200 people.



Doing Things Well

This involves everything, from the way we relate to people, to the way we manage our facility & develop our organisation...

Staffing: No additional staff were added to the team this year. We have sourced a new cleaning company which is providing an excellent service.

Site: Our new CCTV installation was completed with additional cameras now overlooking the carpark. New batteries were installed in our car park solar lights after the theft of the previous ones.

We were the recipients of B&Q Neighbourly grant where staff from our local store came and refreshed our front borders with new planting and installed new planters by our main entrance. We are grateful to B&Q for their generous contribution.

Events: Our conferencing and event hire continued to grow throughout 2023 with many organisations seeing Riverside as their venue of choice. We regularly see five-star ratings for our venue and service and feedback continues to be excellent for the whole team.

This year we extended the reach of our café services by launching a new website.

On-Site Partners: CXK uses Riverside as a local hub for their staff as they provide career guidance and training programmes to help young people build the skills and confidence they need to find a job.

Volunteers: We actively encourage people to volunteer their time and get involved, serving in some capacity.

Projects like All Wrapped Up mobilise hundreds of volunteer hours from within the church and the wider community to serve families in need.

We also have a large volunteer Sunday team which facilitate our welcoming and serving culture.

Riverside could not operate at the level we do without the dedication of our volunteers in the church, and from the local community, and we are hugely appreciative of their ongoing generosity.



Connected Charities & Partner Projects



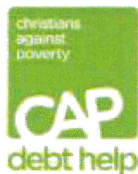
Riverside continues to be an active supporter of Churches Together in Whitstable (CTiW).



CTiW provide Street Pastors who patrol every Friday night providing a caring and reassuring presence on the streets.



is a joint church initiative to create a warm friendly place for the homeless in the area.



CTiW jointly support a local Christians Against Poverty (CAP) centre. CAP provides free debt counselling and additional life skills services.



Working in Romania to alleviate poverty, though partnership with churches.



OM's Ship Ministry is sharing knowledge, help and hope in and around the world's port cities.



Supporting charities who demonstrate their impact on the health & wellbeing of their community.



Coastal Family Hub provides mental health support to children, young people and families in Whitstable, Herne Bay and Reculver.



Inclusive Church is a network of churches, groups and individuals uniting together around a shared vision of church which celebrates and affirms every person and does not discriminate.



Riverside supports the work of Mission Aviation Fellowship which enables over 2,000 aid, development, and mission organisations to bring medical care, emergency relief, long-term development, and Christian hope to thousands of communities.



Riverside supports the work of Open Doors which is an international ministry serving persecuted Christians and churches worldwide.



CXK is a charity which supports children, young people, adults, and families and is one of our rental partners at Riverside.

Strategic Report

Business Review

Riverside Church is in a stable position both financially and in terms of attendance.

Our total source of income from all sources was £447,291.

Our expenditure totalled £545,731.

Our room hiring and cafe income generated income of £190,585.

Our financial statements at the rear of this report provide more information.

Risk Management

We have systems of internal control which are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include: -

- an annual budget approved by the Trustees.
- regular consideration by the Trustees of financial reports.
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties.
- identification and management of risks.

We aim to review the main risks the church faces on a regular basis. The Trustees consider the key risks to a church like ours to be finances, safeguarding, health and safety and human resources. We employ staff with key skills in these areas. We also engage third party experts for advice when needed.

We believe that our internal financial controls conform to the guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.

Investment Powers and Policy

Our Articles authorise us to invest our funds. Cash balances are currently held with HSBC Bank and Charity Bank. We operate a policy of keeping available funds within interest-bearing deposit accounts. We maintain a level of free reserves to mitigate against the risk that the charity experiences an unexpected event which would put us in financial difficulty.

This might include an event which would bring Riverside Church into disrepute; the premises being forced to close for an extended period of time; or a serious decline in the economic environment we operate in.

Reserves Policy

We believe the appropriate level of unrestricted reserves should be based upon a proportion of our regular costs as follows:

- Four months of our long-term commitments, such as mortgage and utilities payments and the cost of running our Sunday services which would be a vital activity to maintain.
- Three months of medium-term commitments such as permanent staff costs and the monthly financial support we provide to partner charities.
- One month of short-term costs, including the day-to-day ministry activity of the church.

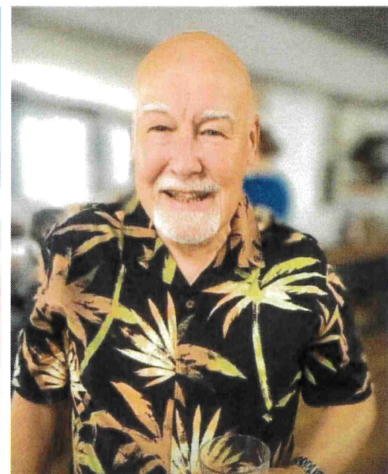
Our review has estimated this target level is £120,000. The reserves held as of 31 December 2023 are at this level. We review, on a 6-monthly basis, the level of reserves held. During the year, the Trustees conducted a full review of the reserves policy to ensure it remained up to date and relevant.

Plans for the future

2023 was a year of expansion for Riverside building on the foundation of becoming an affirming church in 2022. We feel this new foundation has greatly increase our positive reputation in the community with many people seeking us out because of our inclusivity.

We are maturing as a caring expression of God's love into our coastland communities. Core values within the church such as trust and authenticity continue to grow, creating a safe environment for people to deepen relationships and explore faith whilst wrestling with life's questions.

We will continue to pursue our overall vision of being Good for Everyone through every aspect of our organisation. We want everyone who encounters Riverside to have a positive and encouraging experience, and we will continue to use all our resources to ensure this is the case. We believe our Youth Hub which will open in 2024 will be a huge help to the well-being of young people in our area.



Information about Riverside Church

We believe that we comply with the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and specifically the advancement of religion.

Charity Number: 1131872

Company Number: 6983393

Registered Office:

Riverside Church
Thanet Way
Whitstable
CT5 3JQ

Website: www.riversideuk.org

Governing Document & Organisational Structure:

We are a registered charity, constituted by means of our Memorandum and Articles of Association and operating as a church. We are also a company limited by guarantee, in which the company directors form the board of Trustees. The liability of each trustee in the event of winding up is limited to £10. The spiritual vision and direction of the church is set by the Senior Leadership Team who along with the Trustees form the membership of the company. The pay of the Senior Leadership Team staff is reviewed annually and benchmarked against pay levels in other churches of similar size and operation.

Associated Professionals

Principal Bankers:

HSBC Bank
9 Rose Lane
Canterbury
Kent
CT1 2JP

Accountants:

Kreston Reeves LLP
Chartered Accountants
37 St. Margaret's Street
Canterbury
Kent
CT1 2TU

Solicitors:

Parry Law Sols
12-14 Oxford Street
Whitstable
CT5 1DE

Information (continued)

Trustees and Senior Staff

Trust Board (TB)

The Trustees who have served during the year and to date are as follows: -

Kirsteen Magee	Chair
Simon Bateson	Lead Pastor
Matt Haines	Facilities (Stepped down 06.03.23)
Darlene Bushell	Finance
Sean Carter	Health & Safety
Rebecca Swansbury	Safeguarding (Appointed 29.01.24)

The company secretary is Kim Wood.

Appointment of Trustees & SLT

New Trustees and SLT members are appointed when appropriate. Suitable candidates are generally selected from within the church and are considered based on their skills, experience, and sympathy with the aims of the church. Trustees and SLT members are appointed by the combined Trustees and Senior Leadership Team. These two teams constitute the membership of the charitable company. New Trustees have the opportunity of reviewing appropriate documents, including the management accounts, as part of their induction process.

Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

The day to day running of the church is delegated to the employed pastoral staff and operational staff. The staff are led by Simon & Keely Bateson (Lead Pastors) and their Senior Leadership Team which is as follows: -

Simon Bateson	Lead Pastor
Keely Bateson	Lead Pastor
Martin Franks	Assistant Pastor
Jacob Perrins	Assistant Pastor
Debbie Franks	SLT
Emma Perrins	SLT
Alan Chalkley	SLT
Alison Chalkley	SLT
Christine Gibson	SLT
Jackie Carter	SLT
Sean Carter	SLT & TB

Information

(continued)

Trustees' / Directors' Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees (who are also directors of Riverside Church for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

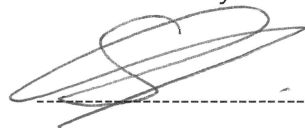
- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In preparing this report, the Trustees have taken advantage of the small companies' exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Trustees on ...01.07.24... and signed on their behalf by



Simon Bateson Trustee / Director

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent examiner's report
For the year ended 31 December 2023

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Riverside Church ('the Charitable company')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charitable company for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the Charitable company (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charitable company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Charitable company's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Charitable company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charitable company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent examiner's report (continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2023

This report is made solely to the Charitable company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charitable company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charitable company and the Charitable company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed: 

Dated: **1 July 2024**

Samantha Rouse FCCA DChA

Kreston Reeves LLP
Chartered Accountants
Canterbury

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies:	3				
Weekly offering		33,811	-	33,811	47,208
Donations eligible for Gift Aid		140,899	7,560	148,459	143,414
Gift Aid		40,148	-	40,148	35,875
Gifts & miscellaneous income		1,728	8,879	10,607	7,105
Deemed notional interest on loans		-	-	-	1,750
Other donations and legacies		4,242	13,181	17,423	29,002
Profit on disposal of fixed assets		-	-	-	146,382
Other trading activities	4	132,117	-	132,117	99,346
Investments	5	64,726	-	64,726	49,981
Other income	6	-	-	-	94,705
Total income		417,671	29,620	447,291	654,768
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	44,922	-	44,922	32,289
Charitable activities:					
Other charitable activities		449,321	51,488	500,809	595,192
Total expenditure		494,243	51,488	545,731	627,481
Net (expenditure)/income		(76,572)	(21,868)	(98,440)	27,287
Transfers between funds	16	(20,572)	20,572	-	-
Total transfers		(20,572)	20,572	-	-
Net movement in funds		(97,144)	(1,296)	(98,440)	27,287
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		1,328,409	3,801	1,332,210	1,304,923
Net movement in funds		(97,144)	(1,296)	(98,440)	27,287
Total funds carried forward		1,231,265	2,505	1,233,770	1,332,210

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 19 to 36 form part of these financial statements.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)
Registered number: 06983393

Balance sheet
As at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	1,289,969	1,296,273
Current assets			
Debtors	13	11,235	9,319
Cash at bank and in hand		392,275	606,503
		<u>403,510</u>	<u>615,822</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(26,544)	(41,755)
Net current assets		<u>376,966</u>	574,067
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,666,935</u>	1,870,340
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15	(433,165)	(538,130)
Total net assets		<u>1,233,770</u>	<u>1,332,210</u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	16	2,505	3,801
Unrestricted funds	16	1,231,265	1,328,409
Total funds		<u>1,233,770</u>	<u>1,332,210</u>

The Charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:


Simon Bateson
 Trustee

Date: 01.07.24

The notes on pages 19 to 36 form part of these financial statements.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

1. General information

Riverside Church is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales with the company number 6983393 and the charity number 1131872.

The Charitable company's registered office is Riverside Church, Thanet Way, Whitstable, CT5 3JQ.

The financial statements have been prepared for the year ended 31 December 2023.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Riverside Church meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The Charitable company's financial statements are presented in Sterling and are rounded to the nearest Pound.

2.2 Company status

The charitable company is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees and senior leadership team named in the Charity's information page. In event of the charitable company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charitable company.

2.3 Going concern

The Trustees have considered the Charitable Company's level of reserves and future incoming resources and concluded that these are sufficient to enable the charity to continue its operations for the foreseeable future. Therefore the accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Income

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

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the Charitable company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the Charitable company, can be reliably measured.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

2.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Charitable company to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charitable company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

A review of impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of any fixed asset may not be recoverable. Shortfalls between the carrying value of any fixed assets and their recoverable amounts are recognised as impairments. Impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating the income and expenditure account.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is not charged on freehold land.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, .

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold property	- Land - not depreciated, Buildings - over 20 years
Fixtures and fittings	- 5 years straight line
Computer equipment	- 3 years straight line
Other fixed assets	- Not depreciated

2.7 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.8 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.9 Financial instruments

The Charitable company 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 with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.10 Finance costs

Borrowing costs associated with direct expenditure on properties undergoing major refurbishment are capitalised.

Interest is capitalised as from the commencement of the development work until the practical date of completion.

2.11 Pensions

The Charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charitable company to the fund in respect of the year.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.12 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charitable company; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.13 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charitable company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.14 Taxation

The Charitable company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charitable company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

2.15 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charitable company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charitable company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.16 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Tangible fixed assets

The charity has recognised tangible fixed assets with a carrying value of £1,289,969 at the reporting date (see note 12). The assets are stated at their cost less provision for depreciation and impairment. The charity's accounting policy sets out the approach to calculating depreciation for immaterial assets acquired. For material assets such as land and buildings, the company determines at acquisition reliable estimates for the useful life of the asset, its residual value and decommissioning costs. These estimates are based upon such factors as the expected use of the acquired asset and market conditions. At subsequent reporting date the Trustees consider whether there are any factors such as technological advancements or changes in market conditions that indicate a need to reconsider the estimates used.

Where there are indicators that the carrying value of tangible assets may be impaired the charity undertakes tests to determine the recoverable amount of assets. These tests require estimates of the fair value of assets less cost to sell and of their value in use. Wherever possible, the estimate of the fair value of assets is based upon observable market prices less incremental cost for disposing of the asset. The value in use calculation is based upon a discounted cash flow model, based upon the charity's forecasts for the foreseeable future which do not include any restructuring activities that the charity is not yet committed to or significant future investments that will enhance the asset's performance. The recoverable amount is most sensitive to the discount rate used for the discounted cash flow model as well as expected future cash flows and the growth rate used for extrapolation purposes.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Donations				
Weekly Offering	33,811	-	33,811	38,819
Donations eligible for Gift Aid	140,899	7,560	148,459	151,204
Gift Aid	40,148	-	40,148	36,010
Gifts & miscellaneous income	1,728	8,879	10,607	12,386
Deemed notional interest on loans	-	-	-	933
Subtotal detailed disclosure	216,586	16,439	233,025	239,352
Donations	3,242	8,181	11,423	1,523
Legacies	-	-	-	14,685
Grants	1,000	5,000	6,000	8,794
Subtotal	4,242	13,181	17,423	25,002
Total 2023	220,828	29,620	250,448	264,354
Total 2022	237,497	26,857	264,354	

4. Income from other trading activities

Income from non charitable trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Cafe income and other trading income	132,117	132,117	99,346
Total 2022	99,346	99,346	

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Use of building	58,468	58,468	47,913
Investment income	6,258	6,258	2,068
Total 2023	<u>64,726</u>	<u>64,726</u>	<u>49,981</u>
Total 2022	<u>49,981</u>	<u>49,981</u>	

6. Other incoming resources

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Insurance income	-	-	94,705
Total 2022	<u>94,705</u>	<u>94,705</u>	

Insurance income relates to the proceeds received from the insurance claim, following the flooding of the premises in August 2021.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

7. Expenditure on raising funds

Fundraising trading expenses

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Cafe expenses	44,922	44,922	32,289
	<u>44,922</u>	<u>44,922</u>	
Total 2022	32,289	32,289	
	<u>32,289</u>	<u>32,289</u>	

8. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Institutions 2023 £	Grants to Individuals 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Mission support	23,057	4,354	27,411	21,257
	<u>23,057</u>	<u>4,354</u>	<u>27,411</u>	
Total 2022	17,150	4,107	21,257	
	<u>17,150</u>	<u>4,107</u>	<u>21,257</u>	

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Grant funding of activities 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Charitable activities	365,882	27,411	107,516	500,809	595,192
Total 2022	425,983	21,257	147,952	595,192	

Analysis of direct costs

	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs	276,004	247,753
Church Ministries	34,155	126,465
Equipment & maintenance	16,295	19,243
Insurance (church)	4,918	4,022
Utilities (church)	29,006	22,870
Other staff costs	5,504	5,630
Total 2022	365,882	425,983

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Depreciation	71,474	91,286
Photocopying/Storage/Postage	803	961
Professional fees	7,824	8,954
Catering	938	591
Music/Copyright fees/Equipment	1,552	1,490
Miscellaneous costs	(7,762)	17,736
Independent examiner's fee	2,615	1,950
Interest	30,072	24,984
Total 2023	107,516	147,952

10. Staff costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	254,216	229,123
Social security costs	12,764	10,444
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	9,024	8,186
	276,004	247,753

The average number of persons employed by the Charitable company during the year was as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Employees	15	13

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

The church leadership team are considered to be key management personnel. The total compensation paid in respect of the key management personnel amounts to £106,929 (2022: £107,288).

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

Simon Bateson received remuneration in his capacity of Lead Pastor and not as a Trustee. This remuneration amounted to £54,832 (2022: £53,245).

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2022 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 December 2023, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2022 - £NIL).

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Other fixed assets £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 January 2023	1,631,455	95,983	147,452	27,954	1,902,844
Additions	-	9,557	-	55,613	65,170
At 31 December 2023	<u>1,631,455</u>	<u>105,540</u>	<u>147,452</u>	<u>83,567</u>	<u>1,968,014</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 January 2023	377,027	88,380	141,164	-	606,571
Charge for the year	64,073	2,492	4,909	-	71,474
At 31 December 2023	<u>441,100</u>	<u>90,872</u>	<u>146,073</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>678,045</u>
Net book value					
At 31 December 2023	<u>1,190,355</u>	<u>14,668</u>	<u>1,379</u>	<u>83,567</u>	<u>1,289,969</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>1,254,428</u>	<u>7,603</u>	<u>6,288</u>	<u>27,954</u>	<u>1,296,273</u>

Freehold land of £350,000 in relation to the Riverside Campus has not been depreciated as its residual value is likely to exceed its valuation and therefore its economic useful life is likely to be infinite.

13. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	8,527	5,795
Tax recoverable	2,708	3,524
	<u>11,235</u>	<u>9,319</u>

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank loans	9,599	17,364
Trade creditors	3,452	5,182
Other taxation and social security	9,093	16,104
Accruals and deferred income	4,400	3,105
	<u>26,544</u>	<u>41,755</u>

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank loans	<u>433,165</u>	<u>538,130</u>

Riverside Church
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Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

Included within the above are amounts falling due as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Between one and two years		
Bank loans	10,422	18,122
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Between two and five years		
Bank loans	36,936	59,226
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Over five years		
Bank loans	385,807	460,782
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The aggregate amount of liabilities payable or repayable wholly or in part more than five years after the reporting date is:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Payable or repayable by instalments	385,807	460,782
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	385,807	460,782
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The amounts in bank loans relate to a re-mortgage from HSBC UK Bank PLC, and were previously used to purchase the site for the new church building. There is a guarantee in favour of HSBC UK Bank PLC over the property at Riverside Works in relation to this loan.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

16. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
General fixed reserve	100,000	-	-	20,000	120,000
Designated fixed asset fund	589,966	-	-	257,239	847,205
	<u>689,966</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>277,239</u>	<u>967,205</u>
General funds					
General funds	638,443	417,671	(494,243)	(297,811)	264,060
	<u>1,328,409</u>	<u>417,671</u>	<u>(494,243)</u>	<u>(20,572)</u>	<u>1,231,265</u>
Restricted funds					
Building Development Fund	-	9,500	(30,072)	20,572	-
Herne Bay Hub Project	771	-	(771)	-	-
Defibrillator grant	31	-	-	-	31
Christmas project	2,999	20,120	(20,645)	-	2,474
	<u>3,801</u>	<u>29,620</u>	<u>(51,488)</u>	<u>20,572</u>	<u>2,505</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>1,332,210</u></u>	<u><u>447,291</u></u>	<u><u>(545,731)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,233,770</u></u>

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Transfers between funds

Designated fixed asset fund - the transfer of £257,239 from unrestricted funds represents the decision by the Trustees to show separate the funds allocated to fixed assets less any associated liabilities.

General fixed reserve- the transfer of £20,000 received from unrestricted general funds is to reflect a decision by the Trustees to increase the level of fixed reserves to £120,000.

Purposes of designated funds

General Fixed Reserve - this represents funds set aside in accordance with the Charity's reserves policy.

Designated fixed asset fund - this represents the book value of the fixed assets less any associated liabilities and are deemed by the Trustees not to be freely available funds.

Purposes of restricted funds

Building Development fund (previously Phase 3 fund) - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the development of the Riverside Church site including the area known as Phase 3.

Herne Bay Hub Project - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the Herne Bay Hub Project.

Defibrillator grant - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the purchase of a defibrillator.

Christmas project fund- this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the Christmas projects.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
General fixed reserve	80,000	-	-	20,000	100,000
Designated fixed asset fund	810,901	-	-	(220,935)	589,966
	<u>890,901</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(200,935)</u>	<u>689,966</u>
General funds					
General funds	403,944	627,911	(586,856)	193,444	638,443
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>1,294,845</u>	<u>627,911</u>	<u>(586,856)</u>	<u>(7,491)</u>	<u>1,328,409</u>
Restricted funds					
Building Development Fund	-	10,340	(24,051)	13,711	-
Pantry Project	6,229	-	-	(6,229)	-
Herne Bay Hub Project	2,305	1,902	(3,436)	-	771
Defibrillator grant	31	-	-	-	31
Youth Fund	1,513	-	(1,522)	9	-
Christmas project	-	13,665	(10,666)	-	2,999
Hearing Fund	-	950	(950)	-	-
	<u>10,078</u>	<u>26,857</u>	<u>(40,625)</u>	<u>7,491</u>	<u>3,801</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>1,304,923</u></u>	<u><u>654,768</u></u>	<u><u>(627,481)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,332,210</u></u>

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Transfers between funds (prior year)

Designated fixed asset fund - the transfer of £220,935 to unrestricted funds represents the decision by the Trustees to show separate the funds allocated to fixed assets less any associated liabilities.

General fixed reserve- the transfer of £20,000 received from unrestricted general funds is to reflect a decision by the Trustees to increase the level of fixed reserves to £100,000.

Pantry Project- the transfer of £6,229 to unrestricted funds represents a transfer to reflect that there is no remaining balance of restricted funds attributable to this fund, and therefore the restricted fund has ceased.

Purposes of restricted funds (prior year)

Pantry Project - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the Pantry Project.

Youth fund - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the Youth activities.

Hearing fund- this represents grants received in relation to helping fund hearing packs.

17. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
Designated funds	689,966	-	-	277,239	967,205
General funds	638,443	417,671	(494,243)	(297,811)	264,060
Restricted funds	3,801	29,620	(51,488)	20,572	2,505
	<u>1,332,210</u>	<u>447,291</u>	<u>(545,731)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,233,770</u>

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2022 £
Designated funds	890,901	-	-	(200,935)	689,966
General funds	403,944	627,911	(586,856)	193,444	638,443
Restricted funds	10,078	26,857	(40,625)	7,491	3,801
	<u>1,304,923</u>	<u>654,768</u>	<u>(627,481)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,332,210</u>

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,289,969	-	1,289,969
Current assets	401,005	2,505	403,510
Creditors due within one year	(26,544)	-	(26,544)
Creditors due in more than one year	(433,165)	-	(433,165)
Total	1,231,265	2,505	1,233,770

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,296,273	-	1,296,273
Current assets	612,021	3,801	615,822
Creditors due within one year	(41,755)	-	(41,755)
Creditors due in more than one year	(538,130)	-	(538,130)
Total	1,328,409	3,801	1,332,210

19. Pension commitments

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Charity to the fund and amounted to £9,024 (2022 - £8,186). At the balance sheet date, no contributions were due (2022: £1,300) and were included in creditors in the previous year.

20. Related party transactions

During the year, 5 (2022: 6) Charity Trustees have made donations to the Charity totalling £29,950 (2022: £33,483).

L Bushell, the daughter of D Bushell, a Trustee of the Charity was employed during the year. The total compensation she received was £22,931 (2022: £19,822) commensurate to this role.

RIVERSIDE CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1131872

Accounts

Riverside Church Annual Report & Financial Statements

For year ended December 2022

Registered charity no. 1131872

Company no. 6983393

This report covers the period 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022



RIVERSIDE CHURCH



Riverside Church, Thanet Way, Whitstable, Kent CT5 3JQ www.riversideuk.org

Introduction

Riverside is a vibrant and growing church community of adults, children and young people meeting in Whitstable, Kent.

The church was established in 1925 and has been faithfully worshipping God and serving the local community for nearly a hundred years.

Our aim is to be a blessing to our community through sharing the love and compassion of God to those we meet.

Having our own building allows us to hire rooms to commercial and public-sector organisations during the week. This conference activity generates an income stream that supports our charitable activities.

We also have an on-site café which forms a community space right at the heart of the building. It provides a relaxed, friendly environment where everyone is welcome - old friends can come together, and new friendships can be made.

Our goal is to see the transformation of our communities through the goodness of Jesus.

We believe the goodness of Jesus is for everyone and we are passionate about helping people encounter his life-changing power.

Our broad aims continue to be the following:

- Creating spaces and opportunities for people to encounter the good news of Jesus and His transforming presence.
- Equipping and supporting people to do life well.
- Bringing practical and spiritual relief to the vulnerable and those in need.
- Doing things well.



Review

2022 was a big year for Riverside as we took the congregation on a journey to become a fully affirming church. We began a Sunday series called 'All One' in January looking at what it would mean for us to be a church which fully celebrates and affirms every person.

The series ran for seven Sundays coupled with evening sessions. These facilitated discussion and reflection and gave the opportunity to hear testimonies from people who had already journeyed this road.

In the All One series we looked back at the history of the church, referring to words that used to be over the pulpit in our original building in 1953. These were the words, 'All One in Christ Jesus' and were taken from the letter the apostle Paul wrote to the church in Galatia:

There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

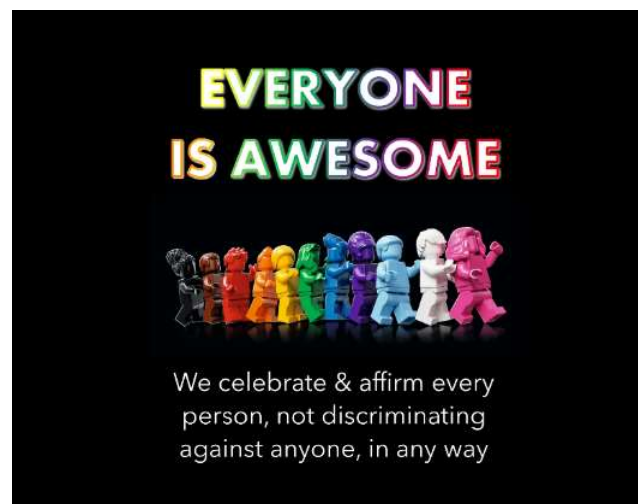
(Galatians 3:28)

We concluded our journey by arriving at a 'yielded consensus' as a church. This meant that even though people may hold differing views and biblical interpretations, the policy of Riverside would be one of full inclusion without any form of discrimination.

Becoming a fully affirming church meant Riverside needed to leave the Vineyard Churches movement and become an independent church. Both parties were honoured during this process and the Vineyard thanked us for all our 'hard work and service' and released us with 'great affection.'

Even though Riverside is now an independent church, we do not feel isolated. We have excellent relationships with the other church leaders in our town, and beyond that, many gifted and supportive friends who are with us for the continuing journey.

At the end of 2022 we feel we have achieved a fresh foundation from which to minister God's love and grace to our coastlands.



Objective 1: Advance the Gospel

Creating spaces and opportunities for people to encounter the good news of Jesus and His transforming presence...

In January of 2022 we were able to move our Sunday services back into the auditorium after the flood restoration works had been completed. Overcoming this period of adversity really strengthened the relational links within the church and encouraged everyone in seeing God's faithfulness.

Following our All One series, we became part of the Inclusive Church network in May. This year we have seen many new people connect with us to explore faith, and we have helped advise and encourage other church leaders on their own inclusion journeys.

We re-started our Worship Space service on a Sunday evening to create opportunity for unhurried worship, prayer, and reflection.

In June we held a baptism service with six people choosing to get baptised.

We made more space for our growing Kingfishers 5-11 children's group by joining two of our existing rooms together to make a larger Sunday space. This allowed us to incorporate new quiet zones for children with special needs.

We also strengthened our children's ministry by employing Lianne Midson, our Riverside Kids Team leader, for 1.5 days a week.

The plans for insulating and heating our large Youth space moved forward this year as we finalised the design specifications and secured a contractor to conduct the work in 2023.

We concluded a busy year with our All Wrapped Up project and our Christmas services. All these events provided wonderful opportunities to convey the good news of Jesus to our community as we continue in our vision to be 'good for everyone.'



Objective 2: Improve Life

Equipping and supporting people to do life well...

Riverside continues to be an invaluable resource for the community.

Our Sunday morning services provide a place of connection, support, and practical teaching to equip people to do life well.

During the week, our café space is often full of people using the space to meet, work or take part in local community groups in our newly refurbished lower lounge.

Our variety of different sized rooms provide flexible training spaces for many stakeholders, including local NHS trusts and councils. We also continue to host Mentalk - a safe drop-in space to promote men's mental health.

We launched a Games Night in September, to provide a place of social connection for all ages within the church and this has been well attended.

In August we met Tyler & Kate, the founders of Herne Bay LGBTQ+ Society. Riverside was invited to support the first Herne Bay Pride which took place in December.

Also in December we launched the Herne Bay HUB in partnership with Briary Primary School. We helped families at this school through 2021 with our Pantry Project and by providing Christmas dinner hampers. The Herne Bay HUB will enable us to continue to support local children and families through a monthly Family Fun Morning with breakfast, games, activities and music. A team of Riverside staff and volunteers facilitate the event at the same time as our main Sunday service at Riverside.

We concluded the year with a large Cherish Christmas Crafts event held at Riverside with about a hundred ladies enjoying making a variety of Christmas decorations.



Objective 3: Bring Relief

In March, Riverside held a large appeal for those affected by the conflict in Ukraine. We collected and sorted hundreds of items that were donated by the church and community. These items were then delivered to a partner church in Poland which was hosting Ukrainian refugees.

In September, we hosted an appreciation meal for the volunteers involved in the Haven Project. We also raised awareness and support for Christians Against Poverty on a CAP Sunday in October. In December, we undertook our biggest Christmas compassion project ever by turning our auditorium into a 'winter wonderland'. Through connections with local social workers and school family liaison officers, we invited families to come and choose presents for their children. 320 children received presents, stocking fillers and fleece blankets and 280 Christmas dinner hampers were distributed to families in need.

Bringing practical and spiritual relief to the vulnerable and those in need...

We continue to support several local projects with finances and volunteers:

- Street Pastors - a caring night-time presence on the streets of Whitstable and Herne Bay.
- Christians Against Poverty - a debt centre providing debt counselling service and advice free of charge.
- Haven - a project providing care and support for the homeless and vulnerable in the area.

We also support the work of several overseas ministries including Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) who fly charity relief organisations all over the world, Open Doors, supporting the persecuted church worldwide and the Grass Roots Trust who work with the impoverished in Romania.

We also continued to support a member of Riverside who is serving a custodial sentence. Riverside Café also operates a "Pay It Forward" scheme to provide a meal or drink for someone in need.



Doing Things Well

This involves everything, from the way we relate to people, to the way we manage our facility & develop our organisation...

Staffing: During this period we welcomed Lianne Midson onto our staff team as Riverside Kids Team Leader.

We also welcomed Peter Cornwell onto the team as our new Site Caretaker.

Site: In July we sold a side warehouse on the to Oyster cars. This helped to apportion the Riverside site in a more practical way and the funds raised will assist in the continuing development of Phase 3 of the building.

The flood restoration works carried out by BW May, in conjunction with Martello, were signed off in February bringing the building back to full operation.

Events: Our conferencing and event hire continued to grow throughout 2022 with many organisations seeing Riverside as their venue of choice. We regularly see five star ratings for our venue and service.

On-Site Partners: CXK uses Riverside as a local hub for their staff as they provide career guidance and training programmes to help young people build the skills and confidence they need to find a job.

Volunteers: We actively encourage people to volunteer their time and get involved, serving in some capacity.

The All Wrapped Up project and the Ukraine Appeal mobilised hundreds of volunteer hours to serve families in need.

We also have a large volunteer Sunday team which facilitate our welcoming and serving culture.

Riverside could not operate at the level we do without the dedication of our volunteers in the church, and from the local community, and we are hugely appreciative of their ongoing generosity.



Connected Charities & Partner Projects



Riverside continues to be an active supporter of Churches Together in Whitstable (CTiW).



Riverside provides a space for this charity to support carers across East Kent.



CTiW provide Street Pastors who patrol every Friday night providing a caring and reassuring presence on the streets.



CXX is a charity which supports children, young people, adults, and families and is one of our rental partners at Riverside.

CTiW Haven Project is a joint church initiative to create a warm friendly place for the homeless in the area. Based at St John's Methodist Hall it provides hot drinks, snacks, laundry, and shower facilities.



Riverside supports the work of Mission Aviation Fellowship which enables over 2,000 aid, development, and mission organisations to bring medical care, emergency relief, long-term development, and Christian hope to thousands of communities.



CTiW jointly support a local Christians Against Poverty (CAP) centre. CAP provides free debt counselling and additional life skills services.



Riverside supports the work of Open Doors which is an international ministry serving persecuted Christians and churches worldwide.



Canterbury Christian Schools' Work Trust works with primary and secondary schools with the SMSC framework.



Working in Romania to alleviate poverty, through partnership with churches.

We work in conjunction with MIND to host groups at Riverside promoting better mental health.



Strategic Report

Business Review

Riverside Church is in a stable position both financially and in terms of attendance.

Our total source of income from all sources was £654,768.

Our expenditure totalled £627,481.

Our room hiring and cafe income generated income of £147,259.

Our financial statements at the rear of this report provide more information.

Risk Management

We have systems of internal control which are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include: -

- an annual budget approved by the Trustees.
- regular consideration by the Trustees of financial reports.
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties.
- identification and management of risks.

We aim to review the main risks the church faces on a regular basis. The Trustees consider the key risks to a church like ours to be finances, safeguarding, health and safety and human resources. We employ staff with key skills in these areas. We also engage third party experts for advice when needed.

We believe that our internal financial controls conform to the guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.

Investment Powers and Policy

Our Articles authorise us to invest our funds. Cash balances are currently held with HSBC Bank and Charity Bank. We operate a policy of keeping available funds within interest-bearing deposit accounts. We maintain a level of free reserves to mitigate against the risk that the charity experiences an unexpected event which would put us in financial difficulty.

This might include an event which would bring Riverside Church into disrepute; the premises being forced to close for an extended period of time; or a serious decline in the economic environment we operate in.

Plans for the future

We believe the appropriate level of unrestricted reserves should be based upon a proportion of our regular costs as follows:

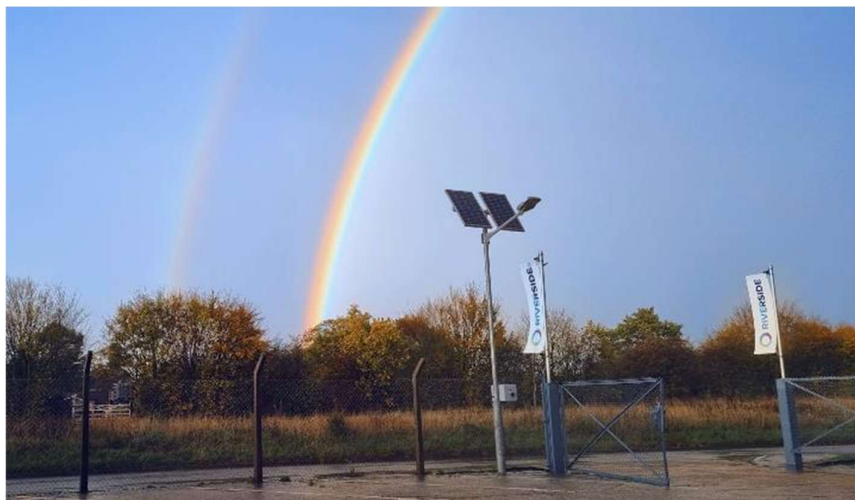
- Four months of our long-term commitments, such as mortgage and utilities payments and the cost of running our Sunday services which would be a vital activity to maintain.
- Three months of medium-term commitments such as permanent staff costs and the monthly financial support we provide to partner charities.
- One month of short-term costs, including the day to day ministry activity of the church.

Our review has estimated this target level is £100,000. The reserves held as of 31 December 2022 are at this level. We review, on a 6-monthly basis, the level of reserves held. During the year, the Trustees conducted a full review of the reserves policy to ensure it remained up to date and relevant.

2022 was a year of transition for Riverside as we journeyed to become a fully affirming church. This change was handled with maturity and sensitivity by the church family and we are now proud to be a place where anyone can be welcomed and fully affirmed, without any form of discrimination.

The aim is to now build on this foundation to be even more of a blessing to our coastlands. Our reputation for generous care and compassion continues to grow after delivering large-scale projects like All Wrapped Up, and in the next season we will be looking for more ways to serve the needs of our community.

We will continue to pursue our overall vision of being Good for Everyone through every aspect of our organisation. We want everyone who encounters Riverside to have a positive and encouraging experience, and we will continue to use all our resources to ensure this is the case.



Information about Riverside Church

We believe that we comply with the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and specifically the advancement of religion.

Charity Number: 1131872

Company Number: 6983393

Registered Office:

Riverside Church
Thanet Way
Whitstable
CT5 3JQ

Website: www.riversideuk.org

Governing Document & Organisational Structure:

We are a registered charity, constituted by means of our Memorandum and Articles of Association and operating as a church. We are also a company limited by guarantee, in which the company directors form the board of Trustees. The liability of each trustee in the event of winding up is limited to £10. The spiritual vision and direction of the church is set by the Senior Leadership Team who along with the Trustees form the membership of the company. The pay of the Senior Leadership Team staff is reviewed annually and benchmarked against pay levels in other churches of similar size and operation.

Associated Professionals

Principal Bankers:

HSBC Bank
9 Rose Lane
Canterbury
Kent
CT1 2JP

Accountants:

Kreston Reeves LLP
Chartered Accountants
37 St. Margaret's Street
Canterbury
Kent
CT1 2TU

Solicitors:

Parry Law Sols
12-14 Oxford Street
Whitstable
CT5 1DE

Information (continued)

Trustees and Senior Staff

Trust Board (TB)

The Trustees who have served during the year are as follows: -

Kirsteen Magee	Chair
Simon Bateson	Lead Pastor
Matt Haines	Facilities
Darlene Bushell	Finance
Paul Newman	VCUKI liaison (Stepped down 10.05.22)
Sean Carter	Health & Safety

The company secretary is Kim Wood.

Appointment of Trustees & SLT

New Trustees and SLT members are appointed when appropriate. Suitable candidates are generally selected from within the church and are considered based on their skills, experience, and sympathy with the aims of the church. Trustees and SLT members are appointed by the combined Trustees and Senior Leadership Team. These two teams constitute the membership of the charitable company. New Trustees have the opportunity of reviewing appropriate documents, including the management accounts, as part of their induction process.

Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

The day to day running of the church is delegated to the employed pastoral staff and operational staff. The staff are led by Simon & Keely Bateson (Lead Pastors) and their Senior Leadership Team which is as follows: -

Simon Bateson	Lead Pastor
Keely Bateson	Lead Pastor
Martin Franks	Assistant Pastor
Jacob Perrins	Assistant Pastor
Debbie Franks	SLT
Emma Perrins	SLT
Alan Chalkley	SLT
Alison Chalkley	SLT
Christine Gibson	SLT
Jackie Carter	SLT
Sean Carter	SLT & TB

Information

(continued)

Trustees' / Directors' Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees (who are also directors of Riverside Church for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In preparing this report, the Trustees have taken advantage of the small companies' exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Trustees on ...24.07.23..... and signed on their behalf by



Simon Bateson Trustee / Director

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent examiner's report
For the year ended 31 December 2022

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Riverside Church ('the Charitable company')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charitable company for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the Charitable company (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charitable company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Charitable company's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Charitable company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

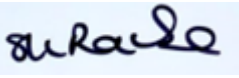
1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charitable company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent examiner's report (continued)
For the year ended 31 December 2022

This report is made solely to the Charitable company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charitable company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charitable company and the Charitable company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed: 

Dated: 24 July 2023

Samantha Rouse FCCA DChA

Kreston Reeves LLP
Chartered Accountants
37 St Margaret's Street
Canterbury
Kent
CT1 2TU

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies:	3				
Weekly offering		33,196	5,623	38,819	47,208
Donations eligible for Gift Aid		145,204	6,000	151,204	143,414
Gift Aid		36,010	-	36,010	35,875
Gifts & miscellaneous income		8,046	4,340	12,386	7,105
Deemed notional interest on loans		933	-	933	1,750
Other donations and legacies		14,108	10,894	25,002	146,979
Profit on disposal of fixed assets		146,382	-	146,382	-
Other trading activities	4	99,346	-	99,346	43,204
Investments	5	49,981	-	49,981	16,758
Other income	6	94,705	-	94,705	95,000
Total income		627,911	26,857	654,768	537,293
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	32,289	-	32,289	15,334
Charitable activities:					
Other charitable activities		554,567	40,625	595,192	469,794
Total expenditure		586,856	40,625	627,481	485,128
Net income/(expenditure)		41,055	(13,768)	27,287	52,165
Transfers between funds	16	(7,491)	7,491	-	-
Total transfers		(7,491)	7,491	-	-
Net movement in funds		33,564	(6,277)	27,287	52,165
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		1,294,845	10,078	1,304,923	1,252,758
Net movement in funds		33,564	(6,277)	27,287	52,165
Total funds carried forward		1,328,409	3,801	1,332,210	1,304,923

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 20 to 38 form part of these financial statements.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)
Registered number: 06983393

Balance sheet
As at 31 December 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	1,296,273	1,423,034
Current assets			
Debtors	13	9,319	107,380
Cash at bank and in hand		606,503	398,491
		<u>615,822</u>	<u>505,871</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(41,755)	(33,489)
Net current assets		<u>574,067</u>	472,382
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,870,340</u>	1,895,416
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15	(538,130)	(590,493)
Total net assets		<u><u>1,332,210</u></u>	<u><u>1,304,923</u></u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	16	3,801	10,078
Unrestricted funds	16	1,328,409	1,294,845
Total funds		<u><u>1,332,210</u></u>	<u><u>1,304,923</u></u>


The Charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:


Simon Bateson
Trustee
Date: 24.07.23

The notes on pages 20 to 38 form part of these financial statements.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash used in operating activities	80,727	40,115
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	2,068	880
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(16,008)	(1,374)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	197,865	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	183,925	(494)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Repayments of borrowing	(56,640)	(15,947)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	208,012	23,674
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	398,491	374,817
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	606,503	398,491
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The notes on pages 20 to 38 form part of these financial statements

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

1. General information

Riverside Church is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales with the company number 6983393 and the charity number 1131872.

The Charitable company's registered office is Riverside Church, Thanet Way, Whitstable, CT5 3JQ.

The financial statements have been prepared for the year ended 31 December 2022.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Riverside Church meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The Charitable company's financial statements are presented in Sterling and are rounded to the nearest Pound.

2.2 Company status

The charitable company is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees and senior leadership team named in the Charity's information page. In event of the charitable company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charitable company.

2.3 Going concern

The Trustees have considered the Charitable Company's level of reserves and future incoming resources and concluded that these are sufficient to enable the charity to continue its operations for the foreseeable future. Therefore the accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Income

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

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the Charitable company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the Charitable company, can be reliably measured.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

2.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Charitable company to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charitable company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.6 Government grants

Government grants relating to tangible fixed assets are treated as deferred income and released to the Statement of financial activities over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned. Other grants are credited to the Statement of financial activities as the related expenditure is incurred.

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

A review of impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of any fixed asset may not be recoverable. Shortfalls between the carrying value of any fixed assets and their recoverable amounts are recognised as impairments. Impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating the income and expenditure account.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is not charged on freehold land.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, .

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold property	- Land - not depreciated, Buildings - over 20 years
Fixtures and fittings	- 5 years straight line
Computer equipment	- 3 years straight line
Other fixed assets	- Not depreciated

2.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.10 Financial instruments

The Charitable company 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 with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.11 Finance costs

Borrowing costs associated with direct expenditure on properties undergoing major refurbishment are capitalised.

Interest is capitalised as from the commencement of the development work until the practical date of completion.

2.12 Pensions

The Charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charitable company to the fund in respect of the year.

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.13 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charitable company; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.14 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charitable company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.15 Taxation

The Charitable company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charitable company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

2.16 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charitable company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charitable company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.17 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Tangible fixed assets

The charity has recognised tangible fixed assets with a carrying value of £1,296,273 at the reporting date (see note 12). The assets are stated at their cost less provision for depreciation and impairment. The charity's accounting policy sets out the approach to calculating depreciation for immaterial assets acquired. For material assets such as land and buildings, the company determines at acquisition reliable estimates for the useful life of the asset, its residual value and decommissioning costs. These estimates are based upon such factors as the expected use of the acquired asset and market conditions. At subsequent reporting date the Trustees consider whether there are any factors such as technological advancements or changes in market conditions that indicate a need to reconsider the estimates used.

Where there are indicators that the carrying value of tangible assets may be impaired the charity undertakes tests to determine the recoverable amount of assets. These tests require estimates of the fair value of assets less cost to sell and of their value in use. Wherever possible, the estimate of the fair value of assets is based upon observable market prices less incremental cost for disposing of the asset. The value in use calculation is based upon a discounted cash flow model, based upon the charity's forecasts for the foreseeable future which do not include any restructuring activities that the charity is not yet committed to or significant future investments that will enhance the asset's performance. The recoverable amount is most sensitive to the discount rate used for the discounted cash flow model as well as expected future cash flows and the growth rate used for extrapolation purposes.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Donations				
Weekly Offering	33,196	5,623	38,819	47,208
Donations eligible for Gift Aid	145,204	6,000	151,204	143,414
Gift Aid	36,010	-	36,010	35,875
Gifts & miscellaneous income	8,046	4,340	12,386	7,105
Deemed notional interest on loans	933	-	933	1,750
Subtotal detailed disclosure	223,389	15,963	239,352	235,352
Donations	(4,194)	5,717	1,523	-
Legacies	14,685	-	14,685	100,000
Grants	3,617	5,177	8,794	23,396
Government grants	-	-	-	23,583
Subtotal	14,108	10,894	25,002	146,979
Total 2022	237,497	26,857	264,354	382,331
Total 2021	359,394	22,937	382,331	

Government grants are income received from the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme during the prior period.

4. Income from other trading activities

Income from non charitable trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Cafe income and other trading income	99,346	99,346	43,204
Total 2021	43,204	43,204	

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Use of building	47,913	47,913	15,878
Investment income	2,068	2,068	880
Total 2022	<u>49,981</u>	<u>49,981</u>	<u>16,758</u>
Total 2021	<u>16,758</u>	<u>16,758</u>	

6. Other incoming resources

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Insurance income	94,705	94,705	95,000
Total 2021	<u>95,000</u>	<u>95,000</u>	

Insurance income relates to the proceeds received from the insurance claim, following the flooding of the premises in August 2021.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

7. Expenditure on raising funds

Fundraising trading expenses

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Cafe expenses	32,289	32,289	15,334
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total 2021	15,334	15,334	
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	

8. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Institutions 2022 £	Grants to Individuals 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Mission support	17,150	4,107	21,257	24,009
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total 2021	21,785	2,224	24,009	
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2022 £	Grant funding of activities 2022 £	Support costs 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Charitable activities	425,983	21,257	147,952	595,192	469,794
Total 2021	<u>305,388</u>	<u>24,009</u>	<u>140,397</u>	<u>469,794</u>	

Analysis of direct costs

	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Staff costs	247,753	218,146
Church Ministries	126,465	49,817
Equipment & maintenance	19,243	11,270
Insurance (church)	4,022	3,853
Utilities (church)	22,870	21,571
Other staff costs	5,630	731
Total 2022	<u>425,983</u>	<u>305,388</u>

For comparative purposes Church Ministries costs are made up of costs previously classed as Creative Ministries, Youth Activities, Outreach activities and Care costs.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Depreciation	91,286	93,335
Photocopying/Storage/Postage	961	942
Professional fees	8,954	6,595
Catering	591	447
Music/Copyright fees/Equipment	1,490	2,701
Miscellaneous costs	17,736	8,458
Independent examiner's fee	1,950	1,425
Interest	24,984	26,494
Total 2022	147,952	140,397

10. Staff costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	229,123	202,160
Social security costs	10,444	8,864
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	8,186	7,122
	247,753	218,146

The average number of persons employed by the Charitable company during the year was as follows:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Employees	13	11

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

The church leadership team are considered to be key management personnel. The total compensation paid in respect of the key management personnel amounts to £107,288 (2021: £100,844).

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

Simon Bateson received remuneration in his capacity of Lead Pastor and not as a Trustee. This remuneration amounted to £53,245 (2021: £50,053).

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2021 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 December 2022, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2021 - £NIL).

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Other fixed assets £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 January 2022	1,705,002	92,885	143,315	24,255	1,965,457
Additions	-	8,172	4,137	3,699	16,008
Disposals	(73,547)	(5,074)	-	-	(78,621)
At 31 December 2022	<u>1,631,455</u>	<u>95,983</u>	<u>147,452</u>	<u>27,954</u>	<u>1,902,844</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 January 2022	335,018	74,257	133,148	-	542,423
Charge for the year	64,073	19,197	8,016	-	91,286
On disposals	(22,064)	(5,074)	-	-	(27,138)
At 31 December 2022	<u>377,027</u>	<u>88,380</u>	<u>141,164</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>606,571</u>
Net book value					
At 31 December 2022	<u>1,254,428</u>	<u>7,603</u>	<u>6,288</u>	<u>27,954</u>	<u>1,296,273</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>1,369,984</u>	<u>18,628</u>	<u>10,167</u>	<u>24,255</u>	<u>1,423,034</u>

Freehold land of £350,000 in relation to the Riverside Campus has not been depreciated as its residual value is likely to exceed its valuation and therefore its economic useful life is likely to be infinite.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

13. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	5,795	3,696
Other debtors	-	864
Prepayments and accrued income	-	100,000
Tax recoverable	3,524	2,820
	<u>9,319</u>	<u>107,380</u>
	<u>9,319</u>	<u>107,380</u>

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Bank loans	17,364	16,641
Other loans	-	5,000
Trade creditors	5,182	4,131
Other taxation and social security	16,104	5,157
Accruals and deferred income	3,105	2,560
	<u>41,755</u>	<u>33,489</u>
	<u>41,755</u>	<u>33,489</u>

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Bank loans	538,130	555,493
Other loans	-	35,000
	<u>538,130</u>	<u>590,493</u>
	<u>538,130</u>	<u>590,493</u>

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

Included within the above are amounts falling due as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Between one and two years		
Bank loans	18,122	17,367
	<u>18,122</u>	<u>17,367</u>
Between two and five years		
Bank loans	59,226	56,761
Other loans	-	35,000
	<u>59,226</u>	<u>91,761</u>
Over five years		
Bank loans	460,782	481,365
	<u>460,782</u>	<u>481,365</u>

The aggregate amount of liabilities payable or repayable wholly or in part more than five years after the reporting date is:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Payable or repayable by instalments	460,782	481,365
	<u>460,782</u>	<u>481,365</u>

The amounts in other loans relate to loans given to the charity by members of the church. These loans are unsecured and interest free.

The amounts in bank loans relate to a re-mortgage from HSBC UK Bank PLC, and were previously used to purchase the site for the new church building. There is a guarantee in favour of HSBC UK Bank PLC over the property at Riverside Works in relation to this loan.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

16. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
General fixed reserve	80,000	-	-	20,000	100,000
Designated fixed asset fund	810,901	-	-	(220,935)	589,966
	<u>890,901</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(200,935)</u>	<u>689,966</u>
General funds					
General funds	403,944	627,911	(586,856)	193,444	638,443
	<u>403,944</u>	<u>627,911</u>	<u>(586,856)</u>	<u>193,444</u>	<u>638,443</u>
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>1,294,845</u>	<u>627,911</u>	<u>(586,856)</u>	<u>(7,491)</u>	<u>1,328,409</u>
Restricted funds					
Building Development Fund	-	10,340	(24,051)	13,711	-
Pantry Project	6,229	-	-	(6,229)	-
Herne Bay Hub Project	2,305	1,902	(3,436)	-	771
Defibrillator grant	31	-	-	-	31
Youth Fund	1,513	-	(1,522)	9	-
Christmas project	-	13,665	(10,666)	-	2,999
Hearing Fund	-	950	(950)	-	-
	<u>10,078</u>	<u>26,857</u>	<u>(40,625)</u>	<u>7,491</u>	<u>3,801</u>
Total of funds	<u>1,304,923</u>	<u>654,768</u>	<u>(627,481)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,332,210</u>

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Transfers between funds

Designated fixed asset fund - the transfer of £220,935 to unrestricted funds represents the decision by the Trustees to show separate the funds allocated to fixed assets less any associated liabilities.

Pantry Project- the transfer of £6,229 to unrestricted funds represents a transfer to reflect that there is no remaining balance of restricted funds attributable to this fund, and therefore the restricted fund has ceased.

Purposes of designated funds

General Fixed Reserve - this represents funds set aside in accordance with the Charity's reserves policy.

Designated fixed asset fund - this represents the book value of the fixed assets less any associated liabilities and are deemed by the Trustees not to be freely available funds.

Purposes of restricted funds

Building Development fund (previously Phase 3 fund) - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the development of the Riverside Church site including the area known as Phase 3.

Pantry Project - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the Pantry Project.

Herne Bay Hub Project - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the Herne Bay Hub Project.

Defibrillator grant - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the purchase of a defibrillator.

Youth fund - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the Youth activities.

Growbaby fund - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the Growbaby project.

Christmas project fund- this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the Christmas projects.

Hearing fund- this represents grants received in relation to helping fund hearing packs.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
General fixed reserve	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
Designated fixed asset fund	884,665	-	-	(73,764)	810,901
	<u>964,665</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(73,764)</u>	<u>890,901</u>
General funds					
General funds	276,489	514,356	(446,338)	59,437	403,944
	<u>276,489</u>	<u>514,356</u>	<u>(446,338)</u>	<u>59,437</u>	<u>403,944</u>
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>1,241,154</u>	<u>514,356</u>	<u>(446,338)</u>	<u>(14,327)</u>	<u>1,294,845</u>
Restricted funds					
Building Development Fund	-	11,880	(24,744)	12,864	-
Pantry Project	9,268	5,978	(9,017)	-	6,229
Herne Bay Hub Project	2,305	-	-	-	2,305
Defibrillator grant	31	-	-	-	31
Youth Fund	-	4,079	(2,566)	-	1,513
Growbaby	-	1,000	(2,463)	1,463	-
	<u>11,604</u>	<u>22,937</u>	<u>(38,790)</u>	<u>14,327</u>	<u>10,078</u>
Total of funds	<u>1,252,758</u>	<u>537,293</u>	<u>(485,128)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,304,923</u>

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Transfers between funds (prior year)

Designated fixed asset fund - the transfer of £73,764 from unrestricted funds represents the decision by the Trustees to show separate the funds allocated to fixed assets less any associated liabilities.

17. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2022 £
Designated funds	890,901	-	-	(200,935)	689,966
General funds	403,944	627,911	(586,856)	193,444	638,443
Restricted funds	10,078	26,857	(40,625)	7,491	3,801
	<u>1,304,923</u>	<u>654,768</u>	<u>(627,481)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,332,210</u>

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2021 £
Designated funds	964,665	-	-	(73,764)	890,901
General funds	276,489	514,356	(446,338)	59,437	403,944
Restricted funds	11,604	22,937	(38,790)	14,327	10,078
	<u>1,252,758</u>	<u>537,293</u>	<u>(485,128)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,304,923</u>

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,296,273	-	1,296,273
Current assets	612,021	3,801	615,822
Creditors due within one year	(41,755)	-	(41,755)
Creditors due in more than one year	(538,130)	-	(538,130)
Total	1,328,409	3,801	1,332,210

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,423,034	-	1,423,034
Current assets	495,793	10,078	505,871
Creditors due within one year	(33,489)	-	(33,489)
Creditors due in more than one year	(590,493)	-	(590,493)
Total	1,294,845	10,078	1,304,923

19. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	27,287	52,165
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	91,286	93,335
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	(2,068)	(880)
Gain on sale of fixed assets	(146,382)	-
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	98,061	(102,666)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	12,543	(1,839)
Net cash provided by operating activities	80,727	40,115

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

20. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash in hand	606,503	398,491
Total cash and cash equivalents	606,503	398,491

21. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 January 2022 £	Cash flows £	At 31 December 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	398,491	208,012	606,503
Debt due within 1 year	(21,641)	4,277	(17,364)
Debt due after 1 year	(590,493)	52,363	(538,130)
	(213,643)	264,652	51,009

22. Pension commitments

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Charity to the fund and amounted to £8,186 (2021 - £7,122). At the balance sheet date, contributions were due amounting to £1,300 (2021: £635) and are included in creditors.

23. Related party transactions

On 1 March 2016, G Magee, the husband of K Magee, a Trustee of the Charity, gave the Charity an interest free loan amounting to £50,000, of which is fully paid as at 31 December 2022.

During the year, 6 (2021: 6) Charity Trustees have donations to the Charity totalling £33,483 (2021: £38,363).

L Bushell, the daughter of D Bushell, a Trustee of the Charity was employed during the year. The total compensation she received was £19,822 (2021: £17,819) commensurate to this role.

RIVERSIDE CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1131872

Accounts



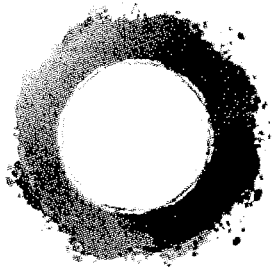
Riverside Church
Annual Report
& Financial Statements

For year ended December 2021

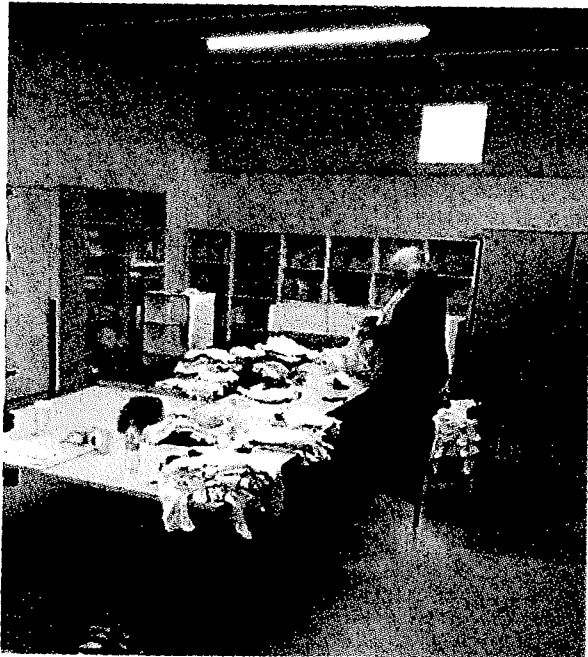
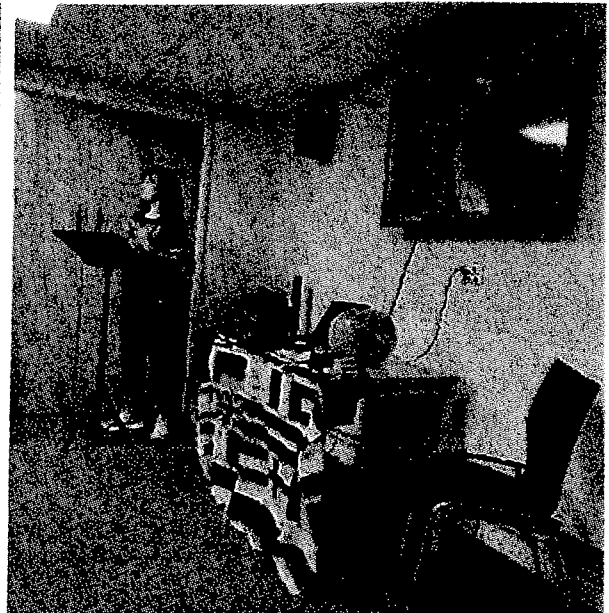
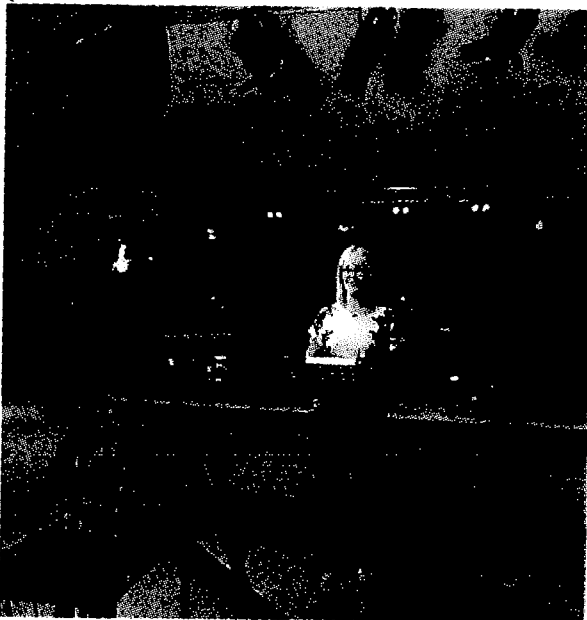
Registered charity no. 1131872

Company no. 6983393

This report covers the period 1 January 2021 to 30 December 2021



RIVERSIDE CHURCH



Riverside Church, Thanet Way, Whitstable, Kent CT5 3JQ www.riversideuk.org

Introduction

Riverside is a vibrant and growing church community of adults, children and young people meeting in Whitstable, Kent.

The church was established in 1925 and has been faithfully worshipping God and serving the local community for more than 90 years.

Our aim is to be a blessing to our community through sharing the love and compassion of God to those we meet.

Having our own building allows us to hire rooms to commercial and public-sector organisations during the week. This conference activity generates an income stream that supports our charitable activities.

We also have an on-site café which forms a community space right at the heart of the building. It provides a relaxed, friendly environment where everyone is welcome - old friends can come together, and new friendships can be made.

Our goal is to see the transformation of our communities through the goodness of Jesus.

We believe the goodness of Jesus is for everyone and we are passionate about helping people encounter his life-changing power.

Our broad aims continue to be the following:

- Creating spaces and opportunities for people to encounter the good news of Jesus and His transforming presence.
- Equipping and supporting people to do life well.
- Bringing practical and spiritual relief to the vulnerable and those in need.
- Doing things we **II**.



Review

2021 has been an eventful and challenging time for Riverside Church.

We began the year still under COVID lockdown restrictions, meaning the church was unable to gather together for services in our building. We continued to maintain connection during this period using online platforms for our services. We also developed initiatives like 'Coffee Chat' on our Instagram page to help communicate the ongoing life of the church.

In April we were able to gather again and we held our first services back in our building. We used a free ticketing system and two smaller services to help maintain a safe, socially distant environment.

Riverside café re-opened in May to the delight of the local community and we were able to provide a safe space for everyone to connect and enjoy.

Just as we were finding our 'new normal', the church suffered more adversity in August.

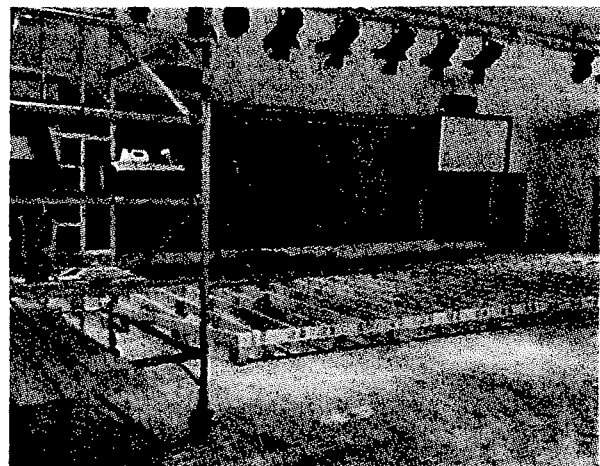
A major sewer running through the Riverside site became blocked during a night of heavy rain. This resulted in a large amount of contaminated water entering our building. Our auditorium was flooded, meaning we could no longer use it to hold our Sunday services.

We adapted our café space to hold two smaller services so the damaged areas could be assessed and restoration works could begin. This was still ongoing at the end of December 2021.

Our café services proved to be a great success and provided an intimate setting for people to re-engage after the isolation and anxiety experienced during the pandemic.

Even though we have faced large challenges, we are pleased to report that the church has not just survived these adversities, but in many ways has flourished.

We have continued to be a valued resource to our community, providing a welcome place to gather and connect.



Objective 1: Advance the Gospel

At the beginning of 2021, our services continued to be online only. We invested time and resources to ensure that our online content was of a high quality and carried the same ethos and values of our gathered church.

We gained more experience in video editing and production during this time and found Riverside Online was an effective way of conveying the good news of Jesus to our church family and to those further afield.

Our onsite services returned in April and we began by holding two smaller socially distanced gatherings. The flood in August rendered our auditorium unusable so we looked for creative ways to continue to gather.

We decided to meet in our café space, holding two smaller morning services. These were very well attended by the church family who adapted very well to the change.

Creating spaces and opportunities for people to encounter the good news of Jesus and His transforming presence...

During this period we rebranded and relaunched our children's ministry 'Riverside Kids' with the help of a new volunteer team leader. Our under 5s group became 'Dragonflies' and our 5-11s became Kingfishers. We also launched new initiatives like 'Pray-Ground' to help the children learn to pray for others from an early age.

We welcomed Dr Steve Burnhope to one of our Senior Leadership Team and Trustee meetings. Steve came to talk about his new book 'How to Read the Bible Well' and gave the team valuable insights into conveying the Gospel message.

Towards the end of 2021 we began to explore the process of transitioning Riverside to become a fully affirming and inclusive church for the LGBTQ+ community.

2021 ended with us hosting a Christmas fair and three carol services with many people from the local community attending.



Objective 2: Improve Life

Equipping and supporting people to do life well...

Each Sunday we run a morning service with teaching and worship in an informal and relaxed atmosphere. We provide practical, biblical teaching using a variety of gifted speakers. Our children and youth have age-related teaching in their groups and also meet in their programmes during the week.

During the Covid pandemic our services moved online to provide a consistent weekly point of connection for the church. Some Small Groups continued to meet over Zoom and we introduced new initiatives like 'Coffee Chat' to help people feel connected with church life.

A new mental health support group for men was started at Riverside called 'MenTalk' in conjunction with MIND.

We said goodbye to our long running TOTs project due to an ageing volunteer team who were less confident following the pandemic.

We began to host events and conferences again in July when Covid restrictions were lifted.

Many of our long standing interest and support groups returned to Riverside and we continued to welcome new organisations who use our various spaces for training purposes.

We also hosted four weddings during 2021 ranging in size, dependent upon the social gathering legislation in force at the time.

The Riverside team made sure each couple had a unique and special day.



Objective 3: Bring Relief

Our biggest compassion ministry operating during 2021 was Pantry Project, due largely to the Covid pandemic.

Collaborating with local community partners we continued to provide high-quality food and essential items to those in need. Liaising with social workers and school family liaison officers we helped to feed hundreds of local families and individuals. This year, we also distributed Christmas dinner hampers and children's presents to the neediest families in the area.

Growbaby, which provides excellent quality, new and second-hand, baby clothes and equipment free of charge, continued to help those impacted by the pandemic.

We received large numbers of donations which were sorted and cleaned and re-distributed to those in need.

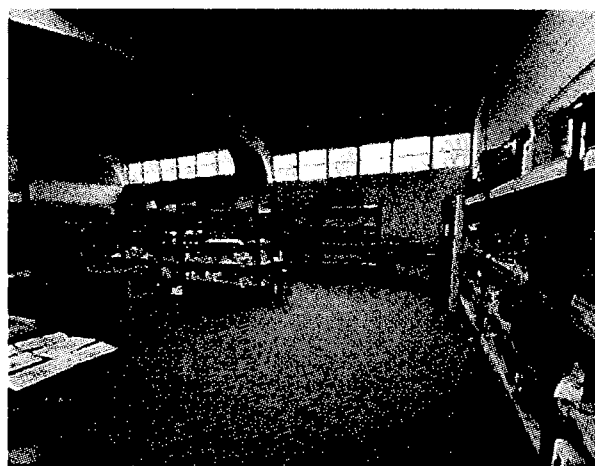
Bringing practical and spiritual relief to the vulnerable and those in need...

We support several local projects with finances and volunteers:

- Street Pastors - a caring night-time presence on the streets of Whitstable and Herne Bay.
- Christians Against Poverty - a debt centre providing debt counselling service and advice free of charge.
- Haven - a project providing care and support for the homeless and vulnerable in the area.

We also support the work of several overseas ministries including Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) who fly charity relief organisations all over the world, Open Doors, supporting the persecuted church worldwide and the Grass Roots Trust who work with the impoverished in Romania.

We also continued to support a member of Riverside who is serving a custodial sentence. Riverside Café also operates a "Pay It Forward" scheme where anyone can donate an extra meal or drink for someone in need.



Doing Things Well

This involves everything, from the way we relate to people, to the way we manage our facility & develop our organisation...

Staffing: During this period we welcomed Chris Graham onto our staff team in a Site Support role.

We also welcomed Holly Fulcher onto our café team.

Site: In September, Canterbury Food Bank moved off site and we re-located Pantry Project into the side warehouse to enable the refurbishment of the lower part of the building following the flood.

The restoration works by BW May, in conjunction with Martello, were still ongoing at the end of 2021. Our aim was to be back in our auditorium in early January 2022.

Events: Our conferencing began to return to normal from mid 2021, with regular clients returning and new clients using us for the first time.

On-Site Partners: CXK uses Riverside as a local hub for their staff as they provide career guidance and training programmes to help young people build the skills and confidence they need to find a job.

Volunteers: We actively encourage people to volunteer their time and get involved, serving in some capacity.

Riverside could not operate at the level we do without their generosity and dedication particularly through this difficult period.



Connected Charities & Partner Projects



Riverside continues to be an active supporter of Churches Together in Whitstable (CTiW).



Riverside provides a space for this charity to support carers across East Kent.



CTiW provide Street Pastors who patrol every Friday night providing a caring and reassuring presence on the streets.



CXK is a charity which supports children, young people, adults, and families and is one of our rental partners at Riverside.

Haven is a joint church initiative to create a warm friendly place for the homeless in the area. Based at St John's Methodist Hall it provides hot drinks, snacks, laundry, and shower facilities.



Riverside supports the work of Mission Aviation Fellowship which enables over 2,000 aid, development, and mission organisations to bring medical care, emergency relief, long-term development, and Christian hope to thousands of communities.

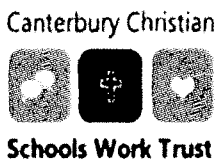


CTiW jointly support a local Christians Against Poverty (CAP) centre. CAP provides free debt counselling and additional life skills services.



Open Doors
60 years of serving persecuted Christians

Riverside supports the work of Open Doors which is an international ministry serving persecuted Christians and churches worldwide.



Canterbury Christian Schools' Work Trust works with primary and secondary schools with the SMSC framework.



Working in Romania to alleviate poverty, though partnership with churches.

We work in conjunction with MIND to host groups at Riverside prompting better mental health.



Strategic Report

Business Review

Riverside Church is in a stable position both financially and in terms of attendance.

Our total source of income from all sources was £537,293.

Our expenditure totalled £485,128.

Our room hiring and cafe income generated income of £59,082.

Our financial statements at the rear of this report provide more information.

Risk Management

We have systems of internal control which are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include: -

- an annual budget approved by the Trustees.
- regular consideration by the Trustees of financial reports.
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties.
- identification and management of risks.

We aim to review the main risks the church faces on a regular basis. The Trustees consider the key risks to a church like ours to be finances, safeguarding, health and safety and human resources. We employ staff with key skills in these areas. We also engage third party experts for advice when needed.

We believe that our internal financial controls conform to the guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.

Investment Powers and Policy

Our Articles authorise us to invest our funds. Cash balances are currently held with HSBC Bank and Charity Bank. We operate a policy of keeping available funds within interest-bearing deposit accounts. We maintain a level of free reserves to mitigate against the risk that the charity experiences an unexpected event which would put us in financial difficulty.

This might include an event which would bring Riverside Church into disrepute; the premises being forced to close for an extended period of time; or a serious decline in the economic environment we operate in.

Plans for the future

We believe the appropriate level of unrestricted reserves should be based upon a proportion of our regular costs as follows:

- Four months of our long-term commitments, such as mortgage and utilities payments and the cost of running our Sunday services which would be a vital activity to maintain.
- Three months of medium-term commitments such as permanent staff costs and the monthly financial support we provide to partner charities.
- One month of short-term costs, including the day to day ministry activity of the church.

Our review has estimated this target level is £80,000. The reserves held as of 31 December 2021 are at this level. We review, on a 6-monthly basis, the level of reserves held. During the year, the Trustees conducted a full review of the reserves policy to ensure it remained up to date and relevant.

2021 has been a challenging year for Riverside with the impact of Covid and the flood. The church has once again risen to these challenges and we are confident in the strength of the church community and the quality of the people who continue to serve the vision of Riverside.

We will continue to build upon the solid foundations we have established and as the church grows, we are looking for new and contemporary ways of engaging with and meeting the needs of those who join us.

As we emerge from COVID into the next season we want to build on our new community connections and pursue our vision of being "good for everyone."



Going Concern and COVID 19

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

While the impact of the COVID-19 virus has been assessed by the Trustees, as far as is reasonably possible, due to the unprecedented impact on the wider economy, it is difficult to evaluate with certainty the potential outcomes on the charity's income, its beneficiaries, and suppliers.

However, taking into consideration the UK Government's response and the charity's planning, together with the charity's level of reserves, the Trustees have concluded that the reserves and future incoming resources are sufficient to enable the charity to continue its operations for the foreseeable future.



Information about Riverside Church

We believe that we comply with the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and specifically the advancement of religion.

Charity Number: 1131872

Company Number: 6983393

Registered Office:

Riverside Church
Thanet Way
Whitstable
CT5 3JQ

Website: www.riversideuk.org

Governing Document &
Organisational Structure:

We are a registered charity, constituted by means of our Memorandum and Articles of Association and operating as a church. We are also a company limited by guarantee, in which the company directors form the board of Trustees. The liability of each trustee in the event of winding up is limited to £10. The spiritual vision and direction of the church is set by the Senior Leadership Team who along with the Trustees form the membership of the company.

Associated
Professionals

Principal Bankers:

HSBC Bank
9 Rose Lane
Canterbury
Kent
CT1 2JP

Accountants:

Kreston Reeves LLP
Chartered Accountants
37 St. Margaret's Street
Canterbury
Kent
CT1 2TU

Solicitors:

Parry Law Sols
12-14 Oxford street
Whitstable
CT5 1DE

Information (continued)

Trustees and Senior Staff

Trust Board (TB)

The Trustees who have served during the year are as follows: -

Kirsteen Magee	Chair
Simon Bateson	Lead Pastor
Matt Haines	Facilities
Darlene Bushell	Finance
Paul Newman	VCUKI liaison
Sean Carter	Health & Safety

The company secretary is Kim Wood.

Appointment of Trustees & SLT

New Trustees and SLT members are appointed when appropriate. Suitable candidates are generally selected from within the church and are considered based on their skills, experience, and sympathy with the aims of the church. Trustees and SLT members are appointed by the combined Trustees and Senior Leadership Team. These two teams constitute the membership of the charitable company. New Trustees have the opportunity of reviewing appropriate documents, including the management accounts, as part of their induction process.

Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

The day to day running of the church is delegated to the employed pastoral staff and operational staff. The staff are led by Simon & Keely Bateson (Lead Pastors) and their Senior Leadership Team which is as follows: -

Simon Bateson	Lead Pastor
Keely Bateson	Lead Pastor
Martin Franks	Assistant Pastor
Jacob Perrins	Assistant Pastor
Debbie Franks	SLT
Emma Perrins	SLT
Alan Chalkley	SLT
Alison Chalkley	SLT
Christine Gibson	SLT
Jackie Carter	SLT
Sean Carter	SLT & TB

Information

(continued)

Trustees' / Directors' Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees (who are also directors of Riverside Church for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

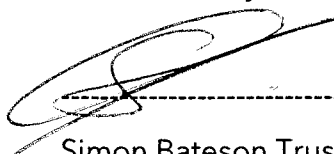
- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In preparing this report, the Trustees have taken advantage of the small companies' exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Trustees on31.09.22..... and signed on their behalf by



Simon Bateson Trustee / Director

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent examiner's report
For the year ended 31 December 2021

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Riverside Church ('the Charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the Charity (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.

This report is made solely to the Charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Charity's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed: 

Dated: 15/09/2022

Samantha Rouse FCCA DChA

Kreston Reeves LLP

Chartered Accountants

Canterbury

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 December 2021

		Unrestricted funds 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Restricted funds 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Total funds 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Total funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £
	Note				
Income from:					
Donations and legacies:	3				
Weekly offering		41,830	5,378	47,208	83,699
Donations eligible for Gift Aid		137,414	6,000	143,414	175,966
Gift Aid		35,875	-	35,875	52,075
Gifts & miscellaneous income		1,225	5,880	7,105	25,091
Deemed notional interest on loans		1,750	-	1,750	2,429
Other donations and legacies		141,300	5,679	146,979	69,855
Other trading activities	4	43,204	-	43,204	72,314
Investments	5	16,758	-	16,758	54,142
Other income	6	95,000	-	95,000	-
Total income		514,356	22,937	537,293	535,571
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	15,334	-	15,334	22,527
Charitable activities	9	431,004	38,790	469,794	553,742
Total expenditure		446,338	38,790	485,128	576,269
Net income/(expenditure)		68,018	(15,853)	52,165	(40,698)
Transfers between funds	16	(14,327)	14,327	-	-
Total transfers		(14,327)	14,327	-	-
Net movement in funds		53,691	(1,526)	52,165	(40,698)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		1,241,154	11,604	1,252,758	1,293,456
Net movement in funds		53,691	(1,526)	52,165	(40,698)
Total funds carried forward		1,294,845	10,078	1,304,923	1,252,758

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 20 to 38 form part of these financial statements.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)
Registered number: 06983393

Balance sheet
As at 31 December 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	1,423,034	1,514,995
Current assets			
Debtors	13	107,380	6,043
Cash at bank and in hand		398,491	374,817
		<u>505,871</u>	<u>380,860</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(33,489)	(35,797)
Net current assets		<u>472,382</u>	<u>345,063</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,895,416</u>	<u>1,860,058</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15	(590,493)	(607,300)
Total net assets		<u><u>1,304,923</u></u>	<u><u>1,252,758</u></u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	16	10,078	11,604
Unrestricted funds	16	1,294,845	1,241,154
Total funds		<u><u>1,304,923</u></u>	<u><u>1,252,758</u></u>


The Charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:


Simon Bateson
 Trustee
 Date: 13/09/22

The notes on pages 20 to 38 form part of these financial statements.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 December 2021

	12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	15 months ended 31 December 2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash used in operating activities	24,168	(142)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	880	3,395
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(1,374)	(37,399)
Net cash used in investing activities	(494)	(34,004)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	23,674	(34,146)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	374,817	408,963
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	398,491	374,817

The notes on pages 20 to 38 form part of these financial statements

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

1. General information

Riverside Church is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales with the company number 6983393 and the charity number 1131872.

The Charity's registered office is Riverside Church, Thanet Way, Whitstable, CT5 3JQ.

The financial statements have been prepared for the year ended 31 December 2021. The prior period comparative figures are for an extended 15 month period, being 1 October 2019 to 31 December 2020.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Riverside Church meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The Charity's financial statements are presented in Sterling and are rounded to the nearest Pound.

2.2 Company status

The charitable company is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees and senior leadership team named in the Charity's information page. In event of the charitable company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charitable company.

2.3 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. Whilst the impact of the COVID-19 virus has been assessed by the Trustees, so far as is reasonably possible, due to the unprecedented impact on the wider economy, it is difficult to evaluate with certainty the potential outcomes on the charity's income, its beneficiaries and its suppliers.

However, taking into consideration the UK Government's response and the Charity's planning, together with the charity's level of reserves, the Trustees have concluded that the reserves and future incoming resources are sufficient to enable the charity to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Income

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

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the Charity has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the Charity, can be reliably measured.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

2.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Charity to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.6 Government grants

Government grants relating to tangible fixed assets are treated as deferred income and released to the Statement of financial activities over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned. Other grants are credited to the Statement of financial activities as the related expenditure is incurred.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.7 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.8 Taxation

The Charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

2.9 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

A review of impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of any fixed asset may not be recoverable. Shortfalls between the carrying value of any fixed assets and their recoverable amounts are recognised as impairments. Impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating the income and expenditure account.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is not charged on freehold land.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, .

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold property	- Land - not depreciated, Buildings - over 20 years
Fixtures and fittings	- 5 years straight line
Computer equipment	- 3 years straight line
Other fixed assets	- Not depreciated

2.10 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.11 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.12 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.13 Financial instruments

The Charity 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 with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.14 Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charity to the fund in respect of the year.

2.15 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.16 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Tangible fixed assets

The charity has recognised tangible fixed assets with a carrying value of £1,423,034 at the reporting date (see note 11). The assets are stated at their cost less provision for depreciation and impairment. The charity's accounting policy sets out the approach to calculating depreciation for immaterial assets acquired. For material assets such as land and buildings, the company determines at acquisition reliable estimates for the useful life of the asset, its residual value and decommissioning costs. These estimates are based upon such factors as the expected use of the acquired asset and market conditions. At subsequent reporting date the Trustees consider whether there are any factors such as technological advancements or changes in market conditions that indicate a need to reconsider the estimates used.

Where there are indicators that the carrying value of tangible assets may be impaired the charity undertakes tests to determine the recoverable amount of assets. These tests require estimates of the fair value of assets less cost to sell and of their value in use. Wherever possible, the estimate of the fair value of assets is based upon observable market prices less incremental cost for disposing of the asset. The value in use calculation is based upon a discounted cash flow model, based upon the charity's forecasts for the foreseeable future which do not include any restructuring activities that the charity is not yet committed to or significant future investments that will enhance the asset's performance. The recoverable amount is most sensitive to the discount rate used for the discounted cash flow model as well as expected future cash flows and the growth rate used for extrapolation purposes.

2.17 Finance costs

Borrowing costs associated with direct expenditure on properties undergoing major refurbishment are capitalised.

Interest is capitalised as from the commencement of the development work until the practical date of completion.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Restricted funds 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Total funds 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Total funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £
Donations				
Weekly Offering	41,830	5,378	47,208	83,699
Donations eligible for Gift Aid	137,414	6,000	143,414	175,966
Gift Aid	35,875	-	35,875	52,075
Gifts & miscellaneous income	1,225	5,880	7,105	25,091
Deemed notional interest on loans	1,750	-	1,750	2,429
Subtotal detailed disclosure	218,094	17,258	235,352	339,260
Legacies	100,000	-	100,000	-
Grants	17,717	5,679	23,396	36,434
Government grants	23,583	-	23,583	33,421
Subtotal	141,300	5,679	146,979	69,855
Total 2021	359,394	22,937	382,331	409,115
Total 2020	335,521	73,594	409,115	

Government grants are income received from the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme during the period.

4. Income from other trading activities

Income from non charitable trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Total funds 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Total funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £
Cafe income and other trading income	43,204	43,204	72,314
Total 2020	72,314	72,314	

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Total funds 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Total funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £
Use of building	15,878	15,878	50,747
Investment income	880	880	3,395
Total 2021	<u>16,758</u>	<u>16,758</u>	<u>54,142</u>
Total 2020	<u>54,142</u>	<u>54,142</u>	

6. Other incoming resources

	Unrestricted funds 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Total funds 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Total funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £
Insurance income	95,000	95,000	-

Insurance income relates to the proceeds received from the insurance claim, following the flooding of the premises in August 2021.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

7. Expenditure on raising funds

Fundraising trading expenses

	Unrestricted funds 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Total funds 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Total funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £
Cafe expenses	15,334	15,334	22,527
Total 2020	<u>22,527</u>	<u>22,527</u>	

8. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Institutions 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Grants to Individuals 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Total funds 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Total funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £
Missionary support	21,785	2,224	24,009	27,164
Total 2020	<u>24,610</u>	<u>2,554</u>	<u>27,164</u>	

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Grant funding of activities 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Support costs 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Total funds 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Total funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £
Charitable activities	305,388	24,009	140,397	469,794	553,742
Total 2020	367,059	27,164	159,519	553,742	

Analysis of direct costs

	Total funds 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Total funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £
Staff costs	218,146	280,139
Creative ministries	43,691	18,404
Youth activities	3,279	2,608
Equipment & maintenance	11,270	20,237
Insurance (church)	3,853	3,912
Outreach activities	1,766	4,151
Utilities (church)	21,571	32,652
Care costs	1,081	2,947
Staff training and other costs	731	2,009
Total 2021	305,388	367,059

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	Total funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £
Depreciation	93,335	96,113
Photocopying/Storage/Postage	942	1,308
Professional fees	6,595	6,039
Catering	447	1,113
Music/Copyright fees/Equipment	2,701	1,528
Miscellaneous costs	8,458	17,676
Independent examiner's fee	1,425	1,400
Interest	26,494	34,342
Total 2021	140,397	159,519

10. Staff costs

	12 months ended 31 December 2021 £	15 months ended 31 December 2020 £
Wages and salaries	218,146	280,139
	218,146	280,139

The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year was as follows:

	12 months ended 31 December 2021 No.	15 months ended 31 December 2020 No.
Employees	11	13

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

10. Staff costs (continued)

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

The church leadership team are considered to be key management personnel. The total compensation paid in respect of the key management personnel amounts to £100,844 (2020: £119,802).

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

Simon Bateson received remuneration in his capacity of Lead Pastor and not as a Trustee. This remuneration amounted to £50,053 (2020: £58,809).

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2020 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 December 2021, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2020 - £NIL).

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Other fixed assets £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 January 2021	1,705,002	92,552	142,274	24,255	1,964,083
Additions	-	333	1,041	-	1,374
At 31 December 2021	<u>1,705,002</u>	<u>92,885</u>	<u>143,315</u>	<u>24,255</u>	<u>1,965,457</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 January 2021	267,268	55,680	126,140	-	449,088
Charge for the year	67,750	18,577	7,008	-	93,335
At 31 December 2021	<u>335,018</u>	<u>74,257</u>	<u>133,148</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>542,423</u>
Net book value					
At 31 December 2021	<u>1,369,984</u>	<u>18,628</u>	<u>10,167</u>	<u>24,255</u>	<u>1,423,034</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>1,437,734</u>	<u>36,872</u>	<u>16,134</u>	<u>24,255</u>	<u>1,514,995</u>

Freehold land of £350,000 in relation to the Riverside Campus has not been depreciated as its residual value is likely to exceed its valuation and therefore its economic useful life is likely to be infinite.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

13. Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	3,696	-
Other debtors	864	2,885
Prepayments and accrued income	100,000	201
Tax recoverable	2,820	2,957
	107,380	6,043

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Bank loans	16,641	15,781
Other loans	5,000	5,000
Trade creditors	4,131	5,009
Other taxation and social security	5,157	4,808
Accruals and deferred income	2,560	5,199
	33,489	35,797

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Bank loans	555,493	572,300
Other loans	35,000	35,000
	590,493	607,300

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

Included within the above are amounts falling due as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Between one and two years		
Bank loans	17,367	16,467
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Between two and five years		
Bank loans	56,761	35,111
Other loans	35,000	35,000
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Over five years		
Bank loans	481,365	520,722
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The aggregate amount of liabilities payable or repayable wholly or in part more than five years after the reporting date is:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Payable or repayable by instalments	481,365	520,722
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	481,365	520,722
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The amounts in other loans relate to loans given to the charity by members of the church. These loans are unsecured and interest free.

The amounts in bank loans relate to a re-mortgage from HSBC UK Bank PLC, and were previously used to purchase the site for the new church building. There is a guarantee in favour of HSCB UK Bank PLC over the property at Riverside Works in relation to this loan.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

16. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
General fixed reserve	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
Designated fixed asset fund	884,665	-	-	(73,764)	810,901
	<u>964,665</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(73,764)</u>	<u>890,901</u>
General funds					
General funds	276,489	514,356	(446,338)	59,437	403,944
	<u>276,489</u>	<u>514,356</u>	<u>(446,338)</u>	<u>59,437</u>	<u>403,944</u>
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>1,241,154</u>	<u>514,356</u>	<u>(446,338)</u>	<u>(14,327)</u>	<u>1,294,845</u>
Restricted funds					
Building Development Fund	-	11,880	(24,744)	12,864	-
Pantry Project	9,268	5,978	(9,017)	-	6,229
Herne Bay Hub Project	2,305	-	-	-	2,305
Defibrillator grant	31	-	-	-	31
Youth Fund	-	4,079	(2,566)	-	1,513
Growbaby	-	1,000	(2,463)	1,463	-
	<u>11,604</u>	<u>22,937</u>	<u>(38,790)</u>	<u>14,327</u>	<u>10,078</u>
Total of funds	<u>1,252,758</u>	<u>537,293</u>	<u>(485,128)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,304,923</u>

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Transfers between funds

Designated fixed asset fund - the transfer of £73,764 to unrestricted funds represents the decision by the Trustees to show separate the funds allocated to fixed assets less any associated liabilities.

Purposes of designated funds

General Fixed Reserve - this represents funds set aside in accordance with the Charity's reserves policy.

Designated fixed asset fund - this represents the book value of the fixed assets less any associated liabilities and are deemed by the Trustees not to be freely available funds.

Purposes of restricted funds

Building Development fund (previously Phase 3 fund) - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the development of the Riverside Church site including the area known as Phase 3.

Pantry Project - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the Pantry Project.

Herne Bay Hub Project - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the Herne Bay Hub Project.

Defibrillator grant - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the purchase of a defibrillator.

Grant for media - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the purchase of media equipment.

Youth fund - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the Youth activities.

Growbaby fund - this represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the Growbaby project.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 October 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2020 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
General fixed reserve	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
Designated fixed asset fund	883,847	-	-	818	884,665
	<u>963,847</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>818</u>	<u>964,665</u>
General funds					
General funds	327,113	461,977	(538,100)	25,499	276,489
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>1,290,960</u>	<u>461,977</u>	<u>(538,100)</u>	<u>26,317</u>	<u>1,241,154</u>
Restricted funds					
Building Development Fund	2,496	17,650	(20,146)	-	-
Pantry Project	-	35,523	(18,018)	(8,237)	9,268
Herne Bay Hub Project	-	2,850	-	(545)	2,305
Defibrillator grant	-	1,500	(5)	(1,464)	31
Grant for media	-	16,071	-	(16,071)	-
	<u>2,496</u>	<u>73,594</u>	<u>(38,169)</u>	<u>(26,317)</u>	<u>11,604</u>
Total of funds	<u>1,293,456</u>	<u>535,571</u>	<u>(576,269)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,252,758</u>

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Transfers between funds (prior year)

Designated fixed asset fund - the transfer of £818 from unrestricted funds represents the decision by the Trustees to show separate the funds allocated to fixed assets less any associated liabilities.

Pantry Project - the transfer of £8,237 represents funds which had been given for the purpose of the Pantry Project. Now these funds have been utilised for this purpose, the restriction has been satisfied and therefore transferred to unrestricted funds.

Herne Bay Hub Project - the transfer of £545 represents funds which had been given for the purpose of the Herne Bay Hub Project. Now these funds have been utilised for this purpose, the restriction has been satisfied and therefore transferred to unrestricted funds.

Defibrillator grant - the transfer of £1,464 represents funds which had been given for the purpose of purchasing a defibrillator. Now these funds have been utilised for this purpose, the restriction has been satisfied and therefore transferred to unrestricted funds.

Grant for media - the transfer of £16,071 represents funds which had been given for the purpose of purchasing media equipment. Now these funds have been utilised for this purpose, the restriction has been satisfied and therefore transferred to unrestricted funds.

17. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2021 £
Designated funds	964,665	-	-	(73,764)	890,901
General funds	276,489	514,356	(446,338)	59,437	403,944
Restricted funds	11,604	22,937	(38,790)	14,327	10,078
	<u>1,252,758</u>	<u>537,293</u>	<u>(485,128)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,304,923</u>

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 October 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2020 £
Designated funds	963,847	-	-	818	964,665
General funds	327,113	461,977	(538,100)	25,499	276,489
Restricted funds	2,496	73,594	(38,169)	(26,317)	11,604
	<u>1,293,456</u>	<u>535,571</u>	<u>(576,269)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,252,758</u>

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,423,034	-	1,423,034
Current assets	495,793	10,078	505,871
Creditors due within one year	(33,489)	-	(33,489)
Creditors due in more than one year	(590,493)	-	(590,493)
Total	1,294,845	10,078	1,304,923

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,514,995	-	1,514,995
Current assets	369,256	11,604	380,860
Creditors due within one year	(35,797)	-	(35,797)
Creditors due in more than one year	(607,300)	-	(607,300)
Total	1,241,154	11,604	1,252,758

19. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	12 months ended 2021 £	15 months ended 2020 £
Net income/expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	52,165	(40,698)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	93,335	96,114
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	(880)	(3,395)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(102,666)	6,102
Decrease in creditors	(17,786)	(58,265)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	24,168	(142)

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

20. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash in hand	398,491	374,817
Total cash and cash equivalents	398,491	374,817

21. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 January 2021 £	Cash flows £	At 31 December 2021 £
Cash at bank and in hand	374,817	23,674	398,491
Debt due within 1 year	(20,781)	(860)	(21,641)
Debt due after 1 year	(607,300)	16,807	(590,493)
	(253,264)	39,621	(213,643)

22. Pension commitments

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Charity to the fund and amounted to £7,122 (2020 - £8,406). At the balance sheet date, contributions were due amounting to £635 (2020: £570) and are included in creditors.

23. Related party transactions

During the year, 1 (2020: nil) Charity Trustee received a gift from the Charity in the value of £276 (2020: £nil). The Trustees first sought permission from the Charity Commission before enacting the gift. The gift was permitted due to it's one-off nature and it's minimal value.

On 1 March 2016, G Magee, the husband of K Magee, a Trustee of the Charity, gave the Charity an interest free loan amounting to £50,000, of which £40,000 is still outstanding as at 31 December 2021.

During the year, 6 (2020: 7) Charity Trustees have donations to the Charity totalling £38,363 (2020: £40,691).

L Bushell, the daughter of D Bushell, a Trustee of the Charity was employed during the year. The total compensation she received was £17,819 (2020: £21,993) commensurate to this role.

K Haines, the wife of M Haines, a Trustee of the Charity, was employed during the previous year. The total compensation she received was £nil (2020: £2,712) commensurate to this role.

RIVERSIDE CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1131872

Accounts

Riverside Church Annual Report & Financial Statements

For year ended December 2020

Registered charity no. 1131872

Company no. 6983393

This report covers the period 1 October 2019 to 30 December 2020



RIVERSIDE

vineyard church



Riverside Vineyard Church, Thanet Way, Whitstable, Kent CT5 3JQ www.riversideuk.org

Affiliated to  vineyard churches®

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Riverside Vineyard Church is a trading name for Riverside Church

Introduction

Riverside is a vibrant and growing church community of adults, children and young people meeting in Whitstable, Kent.

The church was established in 1925 and has been faithfully worshipping God and serving the local community for more than 90 years.

Our aim is to be a blessing to our community through sharing the love and compassion of God to those we meet.

Having our own building allows us to hire rooms to commercial and public-sector organisations during the week. This conference activity generates an income stream that supports our charitable activities.

We also have an on-site café which forms a community space right at the heart of the building.

It provides a relaxed, friendly environment where everyone is welcome - old friends can come together, and new friendships can be made.

Our goal is to see the transformation of our communities through the goodness of Jesus.

We believe the goodness of Jesus is for everyone and we're passionate about helping people encounter His life-changing power.

Our broad aims continue to be the following:

- Creating spaces and opportunities for people to encounter the good news of Jesus and His transforming presence.
- Equipping and supporting people to do life well.
- Bringing practical and spiritual relief to the vulnerable and those in need.
- To do things well.



Review

This report covers two very different seasons in the life of Riverside Church.

The first period, from the beginning of October 2019 through to the middle of March 2020, the church was operating as normal and was continuing to develop and serve people through its various ministries.

Our vision for this season was to 'multiply'. We were planning to launch our 'Herne Bay Hub' in Briary Primary School in May 2020 to provide an additional location for young families to connect with Riverside.

Then in mid-March 2020 COVID struck and everything changed.

Our gathered environments could no longer happen, our onsite café had to close and our room hire and conferencing activities completely stopped. The pandemic tested Riverside's ability to maintain relational connections and continue to serve our community.

Even against these huge challenges we are pleased to report that the church has not just survived but in many ways flourished.

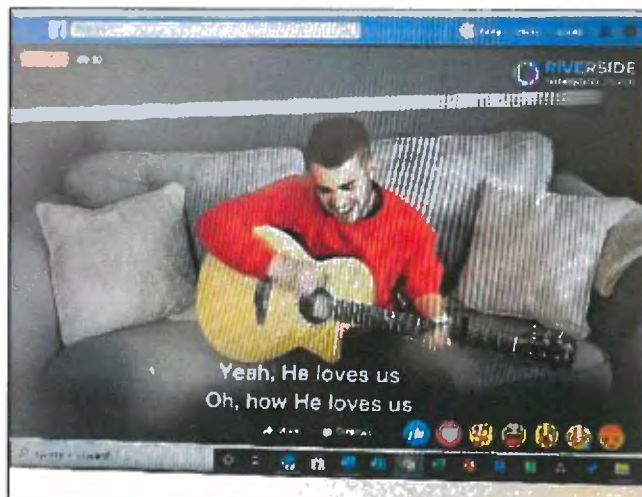
We have learnt new skills and taken advantage of new opportunities to continue to grow our vision to be "good for everyone".

We turned our auditorium into a food distribution centre for our Pantry Project which grew exponentially during this period. Through the generosity of the church and community partners, we were able to support hundreds of local families with food and essential household items.

The staff team had to become proficient in filming and video editing techniques, producing high quality service content for our YouTube channel.

During this period, we said goodbye to dearly loved members of the Riverside family. Pauline Etheridge-Flynn and Harry Jelfs passed away during this time. We were able to celebrate their incredible lives and be present to comfort their families.

This continues to be a very challenging time for the church, but despite the adversity, we believe our reputation as a valued part of the community has grown tremendously as we have demonstrated our faith, in love and action.



Objective 1: Advance the Gospel

We have continued to run Alpha courses during this period, providing a welcoming environment for people to explore the Christian faith. During the COVID lock-down, our courses moved online, using the Zoom platform. This helped people to stay connected and complete the course.

In the autumn of 2019 we hosted Student Lunches for the first time as a church and we saw a number of students connect with us from the University of Kent.

2019 concluded with one of our largest carol services, with nearly 300 people hearing the good news of the Christmas story.

We have continued to support the Churches Together in Whitstable, hosting a joint service at Riverside. This gave an opportunity for people from different churches to gather and celebrate our joint projects (Street Pastors, CAP Debt Centre and Haven) and pray for the future of our town.

Creating spaces and opportunities for people to encounter the good news of Jesus and His transforming presence.

We have been deepening our expression of prayer within half-nights of prayer and other prayer gatherings. We continue to pray for more opportunities to serve our community.

We've continued to support the Canterbury Christian Schools Work Trust (CCSWT) which brings an SMSC framework into local primary and secondary schools. During the pandemic CCSWT was able to continue to provide online content and support to local schools.

Our services moved online from mid-March using the Online Church platform and YouTube. This has enabled many people to remain connected with the good news of the gospel and also created a space for conversation and catchup. We also provided a 'Dial a Sermon' telephone service for those who struggled with online content.

This period concluded with an onsite carol service when restrictions were briefly lifted. We were also able to give Christmas gift bags to everyone in our church family – either at the carol service or through volunteers delivering them to people's doors.



Objective 2: Improve Life

Each Sunday we run a morning service with teaching and worship in an informal and relaxed atmosphere. We provide practical, biblical teaching using a variety of gifted speakers. Our children and youth have age-related teaching in their groups and also meet in their programmes during the week.

During the COVID pandemic our services moved online to provide a consistent weekly point of connection for the church. Small groups continued to meet over Zoom.

Up until March 2020, our Cherish women's events continued to create an opportunity to gather and inspire women with different activities and social events.

Men's events have also taken place to encourage men to gather and support one another.

We hosted another Classics Quiz night to provide a fun, social environment for the older generation.

Equipping and supporting people to do life well.

Our monthly Lego Club continued to grow providing a stimulating play environment for children and their carers, with a future plan to move the club to Briary Primary School when possible.

We launched our Riverside 360 Discipleship Year, offering a unique opportunity to experience a church ministry and community connection. Unfortunately due to the pandemic we have had no uptake on this course yet.

We also host many other friendship, interest and support groups such as Stitch & Chat, Alzheimer's, Carers' and Parkinson's support. A bereavement friendship group also continues to run.

To show support and appreciation to our local community providers during the pandemic we delivered 'treat boxes' to sixteen local schools and three medical centres. These were very gratefully received by the teaching and medical staff.



Objective 3: Bring Relief

Our biggest compassion ministry during this period has been Pantry Project. We were developing this area at the end of 2019, but COVID meant the needs of the community quickly became acute.

We responded by turning our auditorium into a food distribution hub, working with local community partners to provide high-quality food and essential items to those in need. Working with social workers and school family liaison officers we helped to feed hundreds of families and individuals. We also gave out sixty Christmas hampers to the neediest families in the area. Pantry Project was featured on BBC Southeast when the reporter, Ian Palmer, came to interview the volunteer team.

Growbaby, which provides good quality, new and second-hand, baby clothes and equipment free of charge, also helped those impacted by the pandemic. During this time we created an additional sorting and storage area to provide space for the growing project.

Bringing practical and spiritual relief to the vulnerable and those in need.

This year we had a visit from Kevin Crook from Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) who fly charity relief organisations all over the world. We support the work of MAF with regular financial contributions.

Our ongoing financial and volunteer support for local compassion projects includes:

Street Pastors – a caring night-time presence on the streets of Whitstable and Herne Bay.

Christians Against Poverty – a debt centre providing debt counselling service and advice free of charge.

Haven – a project providing care and support for the homeless and vulnerable in the area.

We also continue with prison ministry, supporting a member of Riverside who is serving a custodial sentence and we partner with the Grass Roots Trust who work in Romania.

Our Riverside Café also operates a “Pay It Forward” scheme where anyone can donate an extra meal or drink for someone in need.



Doing Things Well

A key goal at Riverside is to do things well. This involves everything, from the way we relate to people, to the way we manage our facility and develop the organisation.

Staffing: During this period we said goodbye to John Sales, our event caretaker, whose role was made redundant due to the affects of the COVID pandemic on our conferencing and room hire business.

Site: We continue to develop the Riverside site. During this time, a media suite was created to enable video and sound production. Our auditorium staging was also refitted with new lighting, acoustic panelling and a drum booth. Our Phase 3 design continues to be developed with our consultants Martello.

Events: Our conferencing business continued to grow prior to COVID and we expect our regular clients to return whenever things return to normal.

On-Site Partners: Caldecott Fostering consolidated their operations during the pandemic and moved off site in the autumn of 2020. We really enjoyed having them onsite and wish them well for the future.

CXK use Riverside as a local hub for their staff as they provide career guidance and training programmes to help young people build the skills and confidence they need to find a job.

Canterbury Foodbank continue to operate their warehouse from Riverside and have overseen a huge amount of food distribution to the needy during this period. With their lease due to expire in September 2020, the Senior Leadership Team offered them a year extension which they gratefully accepted.

Volunteers: We actively encourage people to volunteer their time and get involved, serving in some capacity. Riverside could not operate at the level we do without their generosity and dedication particularly through this difficult period.



Connected Charities & Partner Projects



Riverside continues to be an active supporter of Churches Together in Whitstable (CTiW).



CTiW provide Street Pastors who patrol every Friday night providing a caring and reassuring presence on the streets.



Canterbury Foodbank provides crisis food parcels for those in need in the area. Riverside provide a large space on our site to house the Foodbank warehouse.



CTiW jointly support a local Christians Against Poverty (CAP) centre. CAP provides free debt counselling and additional life skills services.



Canterbury Christian Schools' Work Trust works with primary and secondary schools with the SMSC framework.



Alleviating poverty, partnering with churches, sponsoring children, changing lives.



Providing help and support for the voluntary and community sector in Kent.



Riverside provides a space for this charity to support carers across East Kent.

Haven is a joint church initiative to create a warm friendly place for the homeless in the area. Based at St John's Methodist Hall it provides hot drinks, snacks, laundry and shower facilities.



CXX is a charity which supports children, young people, adults and families and is one of our rental partners at Riverside.



Caldecott Fostering

Caldecott Fostering is committed to child centred practice and personalised packages of care and support to Foster Carers. They are a rental partner based at Riverside.



Riverside supports the work of Mission Aviation Fellowship which enables over 2,000 aid, development and mission organisations to bring medical care, emergency relief, long-term development and Christian hope to thousands of communities.



Riverside supports the work of Open Doors which is an international ministry serving persecuted Christians and churches worldwide.



FOND COFFEE served at Riverside is proud to support Rebuild Women's Hope Congo. It was established in 2013 by gender equity pioneer Marceline Budza, with the aim of empowering Congolese women.



Charity bank has helped in the financing and development of the Riverside site and continues to be a valued partner.

Strategic Report

Business Review

Riverside Church is in a stable position both financially and in terms of attendance.

Our total source of income from all sources was £535,571.

Our expenditure totalled £576,270.

Our room hiring and cafe income generated income of £122,334

Our financial statements at the rear of this report provide more information.

Risk Management

We have systems of internal control which are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss. They include: -

- an annual budget approved by the Trustees.
- regular consideration by the Trustees of financial reports.
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties.
- identification and management of risks.

We aim to review on a regular basis the main risks the church faces. The Trustees consider the key risks to a church like ours to be finances, safeguarding, health and safety and human resources. We employ staff with key skills in these areas. We also engage third party experts for advice when needed.

We believe that our internal financial controls conform to the guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.

Investment Powers and Policy

Our Articles authorise us to invest our funds. Cash balances are currently held with HSBC Bank and Charity Bank. We operate a policy of keeping available funds within interest-bearing deposit accounts. We maintain a level of free reserves to mitigate against the risk that the charity experiences an unexpected event which would put us in financial difficulty.

This might include an event which would bring Riverside Church into disrepute; the premises being forced to close for a long period of time; or a serious decline in the economic environment we operate in. We believe the appropriate level of unrestricted reserves should be based upon a proportion of our regular costs as follows:

Plans for the future

- Four months of our long-term commitments, such as mortgage and utilities payments and the cost of running our Sunday services which would be a vital activity to maintain.
- Three months of medium-term commitments such as permanent staff costs and the monthly financial support we provide to partner charities.
- One month of short-term costs, including the day to day ministry activity of the church.

Our review has estimated this target level is £80,000. The reserves held as of 31 December 2020 are at this level.

We review, on a 6-monthly basis, the level of reserves held. During the year, the Trustees carried out a full review of the reserves policy to ensure it remained up to date and relevant.

At this point it is hard to discern what the 'new normal' will look like but we are confident in the strength of the church community and the quality of the people who continue to serve the vision of Riverside.

We will continue to build upon the solid foundations we've established and as the church continues to grow, we are looking for new and contemporary ways of engaging with and meeting the needs of those who join us.

As we emerge from COVID into the next season we want to build on our new community connections and pursue our vision of being "good for everyone".



Going Concern and COVID 19

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. While the impact of the COVID-19 virus has been assessed by the Trustees, so far as reasonably possible, due to the unprecedented impact on the wider economy, it is difficult to evaluate with certainty the potential outcomes on the charity's income, its beneficiaries and suppliers.

However, taking into consideration the UK Government's response and the charity's planning together with the charity's level of reserves, the Trustees have concluded that the reserves and future incoming resources are sufficient to enable the charity to continue its operations for the foreseeable future.



Information about Riverside Church

We believe that we comply with the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and specifically the advancement of religion.

Charity Number: 1131872

Company Number: 6983393

Registered Office:

Riverside Church
Thanet Way
Whitstable
CT5 3JQ

Website: www.riversideuk.org

Governing Document & Organisational Structure:

We are a registered charity, constituted by means of our Memorandum and Articles of Association and operating as a church. We are also a company limited by guarantee, in which the company directors form the board of Trustees. The liability of each trustee in the event of winding up is limited to £10. The spiritual vision and direction of the church is set by the Senior Leadership Team who along with the Trustees form the membership of the company.

Associated Professionals

Principal Bankers:

HSBC Bank
9 Rose Lane
Canterbury
Kent
CT1 2JP

Accountants:

Kreston Reeves LLP
Chartered Accountants
37 St. Margaret's Street
Canterbury
Kent
CT1 2TU

Solicitors:

Parry Law Sols
12-14 Oxford Street
Whitstable
CT5 1DE

Information (continued)

Trustees and Senior Staff

Trust Board (TB)

The Trustees who have served during the year are as follows: -

Kirsteen Magee	Chair
Simon Bateson	Lead Pastor
Matt Haines	Facilities
Darlene Bushell	Finance
Paul Newman	VCUKI liaison
Sean Carter	Health & Safety

The company secretary is Kim Wood.

Appointment of Trustees & SLT

New Trustees and SLT members are appointed when appropriate. Suitable candidates are generally selected from within the church and are considered based on their skills, experience and sympathy with the aims of the church. Trustees and SLT members are appointed by the combined Trustees and Senior Leadership Team. These two teams constitute the membership of the charitable company. New Trustees have the opportunity of reviewing appropriate documents, including the management accounts, as part of their induction process.

Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

The day to day running of the church is delegated to the employed pastoral staff and operational staff. The staff are led by Simon & Keely Bateson (Lead Pastors) and their Senior Leadership Team which is as follows: -

Simon Bateson	Lead Pastor
Keely Bateson	Lead Pastor
Martin Franks	Assistant Pastor
Jacob Perrins	Assistant Pastor
Debbie Franks	SLT
Emma Perrins	SLT
Alan Chalkley	SLT
Alison Chalkley	SLT
Christine Gibson	SLT
Jackie Carter	SLT
Sean Carter	SLT & TB

Information

(continued)

Trustees' / Directors' Responsibilities Statement

The Trustees (who are also directors of Riverside Church for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In preparing this report, the Trustees have taken advantage of the small companies' exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Trustees on 26.07.21 and signed on their behalf by



Simon Bateson Trustee / Director

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent examiner's report
for the period ended 31 December 2020

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Riverside Church ('the charitable company')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charitable company for the period ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the charitable company (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the charitable company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charitable company's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the charitable company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charitable company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.

This report is made solely to the charitable company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charitable company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed:



Dated: 26 July 2021

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account)
for the period ended 31 December 2020

	Unrestricted funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £	Restricted funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £	Total funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £	Total funds 12 months ended 30 September 2019 £
Income from:				
Donations and legacies: 3				
Weekly offering	79,059	7,369	86,428	30,045
Donations eligible for gift aid	167,886	8,080	175,966	123,369
Gift aid	52,075	-	52,075	34,295
Gifts & miscellaneous income	13,309	11,871	25,180	33,273
Deemed notion interest on loans	2,429	-	2,429	2,567
Other donations and legacies	20,763	46,274	67,037	-
Other trading activities	72,314	-	72,314	108,689
Investments 4	54,142	-	54,142	69,250
Total income	461,977	73,594	535,571	401,488
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	22,527	-	22,527	33,893
Charitable activities	515,574	38,169	553,743	418,912
Total expenditure	538,101	38,169	576,270	452,805
Net (expenditure)/income				
Transfers between funds 15	(76,124) 26,317	35,425 (26,317)	(40,699) -	(51,317) -
Net movement in funds	(49,807)	9,108	(40,699)	(51,317)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	1,290,960	2,496	1,293,456	1,344,773
Net movement in funds	(49,807)	9,108	(40,699)	(51,317)
Total funds carried forward	1,241,153	11,604	1,252,757	1,293,456

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the period.

The notes on pages 19 to 35 form part of these financial statements.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)
Registered number: 06983393

Balance sheet
as at 31 December 2020

	Note	31 December 2020 £	30 September 2019 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	1,514,995	1,573,710
		<u>1,514,995</u>	<u>1,573,710</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	12	6,043	12,145
Cash at bank and in hand		374,817	408,963
		<u>380,860</u>	<u>421,108</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(35,797)	(37,455)
Net current assets		<u>345,063</u>	<u>383,653</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,860,058</u>	<u>1,957,363</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	14	(607,300)	(663,907)
Total net assets		<u>1,252,758</u>	<u>1,293,456</u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	15	11,604	2,496
Unrestricted funds	15	1,241,154	1,290,960
Total funds		<u>1,252,758</u>	<u>1,293,456</u>

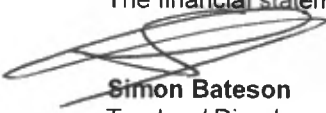
The charitable company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the period in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:


Simon Bateson
 Trustee / Director

Date: 26.07.21

The notes on pages 19 to 35 form part of these financial statements.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
for the period ended 31 December 2020

1. General information

Riverside Church is a charity (company number: 6983393), limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales.

The Charity's registered office is Riverside Church, Thanet Way, Whitstable, CT5 3JQ.

The financial year end of the Charity was changed from 30 September to 31 December. Accordingly, the comparative figures in the Statement of financial activities and the related notes are for 12 months from 1 October 2018 to 30 September 2019.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Riverside Church meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The charitable company's financial statements are presented to the nearest Pound.

2.2 Company status

The charitable company is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees and the senior leadership team named on page 12. In the event of the charitable company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charitable company.

2.3 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. While the impact if the COVID-19 virus has been assessed by the Trustees, so far as reasonably possible, due to the unprecedented impact on the wider economy, it is difficult to evaluate with certainty the potential outcomes on the charity's income, its beneficiaries and suppliers.

However, taking into consideration the UK Government's response and the charity's planning together with the charity's level of reserves, the Trustees have concluded that the reserves and future incoming resources are sufficient to enable the charity to continue its operations for the foreseeable future.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
for the period ended 31 December 2020

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Income

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

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

2.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Costs of generating funds are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities are costs incurred on the charitable company's operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charitable company apportioned to charitable activities.

Grants payable are charged in the period when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the period end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.6 Government grants

Government grants relating to tangible fixed assets are treated as deferred income and released to the Statement of financial activities over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned. Other grants are credited to the Statement of financial activities as the related expenditure is incurred.

2.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of any fixed asset may not be recoverable. Shortfalls between the carrying value of fixed assets and their recoverable amounts are recognised as impairments. Impairment losses are recognised the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
for the period ended 31 December 2020

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation (continued)

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Depreciation is not charged on freehold land. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold property	- Land - not depreciated. Building - over 20 years
Fixtures and fittings	- 5 years straight line
Equipment	- 3 years straight line
Assets under construction	- Not depreciated

2.8 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charitable company; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.9 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.10 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.11 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charitable company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.12 Financial instruments

The charitable company 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 with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
for the period ended 31 December 2020

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.13 Taxation

The charitable company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK Corporation Tax purposes. Accordingly, the charitable company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within the categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

2.14 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charitable company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charitable company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

2.15 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Tangible fixed assets

The charity has recognised tangible fixed assets with a carrying value of £1,512,746 at the reporting date (see note 11). These assets are stated at their cost less provision for depreciation and impairment. The charity's accounting policy sets out the approach to calculating depreciation for immaterial assets acquired. For material assets such as land and buildings the company determines at acquisition reliable estimates for the useful life of the asset, its residual value and decommissioning costs. These estimates are based upon such factors as the expected use of the acquired asset and market conditions. At subsequent reporting dates the directors consider whether there are any factors such as technological advancements or changes in market conditions that indicate a need to reconsider the estimates used.

Where there are indicators that the carrying value of tangible assets may be impaired the charity undertakes tests to determine the recoverable amount of assets. These tests require estimates of the fair value of assets less cost to sell and of their value in use. Wherever possible the estimate of the fair value of assets is based upon observable market prices less incremental cost for disposing of the asset. The value in use calculation is based upon a discounted cash flow model, based upon the charity's forecasts for the foreseeable future which do not include any restructuring activities that the charity is not yet committed to or significant future investments that will enhance the asset's performance. The recoverable amount is most sensitive to the discount rate used for the discounted cash flow model as well expected future cash flows and the growth rate used for extrapolation purposes.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
for the period ended 31 December 2020

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.16 Finance costs

Borrowing costs associated with direct expenditure on properties undergoing major refurbishment are capitalised.

Interest is capitalised as from the commencement of the development work until the practical date of completion.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £	Restricted funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £	Total funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £	Total funds 12 months ended 30 September 2019 £
Donations				
Weekly Offering	76,060	7,639	83,699	30,045
Donations eligible for gift aid	167,886	8,080	175,966	123,369
Gift aid	50,055	2,020	52,075	34,295
Gifts & Miscellaneous Income	5,670	19,421	25,091	33,273
Deemed notional interest on loans	2,429	-	2,429	2,567
Total donations	302,100	37,160	339,260	223,549
Grants	-	36,434	36,434	-
Government grants	33,421	-	33,421	-
Subtotal	33,421	36,434	69,855	-
	335,521	73,594	409,115	223,549
Total 2019	223,549	-	223,549	

Government grants are income received from the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme during the year.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
for the period ended 31 December 2020

4. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £	Total funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £	Total funds 12 months ended 30 September 2019 £
Use of building	50,747	50,747	68,087
Investment income	3,395	3,395	1,163
	<u>54,142</u>	<u>54,142</u>	<u>69,250</u>
Total 2019	<u>69,250</u>	<u>69,250</u>	

5. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Institutions 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £	Grants to Individuals 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £	Total funds 15 months ended 31 December 2020 £	Total funds 12 months ended 30 September 2019 £
Missionary support	24,610	2,554	27,164	35,177
	<u>34,576</u>	<u>601</u>	<u>35,177</u>	
Total 2019	<u>34,576</u>	<u>601</u>	<u>35,177</u>	

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
for the period ended 31 December 2020

6. Direct costs

	15 months ended 31 December 2020	Year ended 30 September 2019
	£	£
Youth activities	2,607	3,340
Equipment & maintenance	20,238	13,868
Insurance (church)	3,912	3,796
Outreach activities	4,151	8,909
Utilities (church)	32,652	30,875
Care costs	2,947	1,170
Creative ministries	18,404	2,541
Staff training and other costs	2,009	5,593
Wages and salaries	280,139	184,366
	367,059	254,458

7. Support costs

	15 months ended 31 December 2020	12 months ended 30 September 2019
	£	£
Photocopying/Stationery/Postage	1,308	3,254
Professional fees	6,039	2,976
Catering	1,113	1,635
Music/Copyright fees/Equipment	1,528	2,193
Subscriptions	-	210
Miscellaneous costs	17,677	1,724
Independent examiner's fees	1,400	1,400
Interest	34,342	28,763
Depreciation	96,113	87,122
	159,520	129,277

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
for the period ended 31 December 2020

8. Net income/(expenditure)

This is stated after charging:

	15 months ended 31 December 2020 £	12 months ended 30 September 2019 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets: - owned by the charity	96,113	87,122

During the 15 month period, no Trustees received any remuneration (2019 - £Nil).

During the 15 month period, no Trustees received any benefits in kind (2019 - £Nil).

During the 15 month period, no Trustees received any reimbursement of expenses (2019 - £Nil).

9. Staff costs

	15 months ended 31 December 2020 £	12 months ended 30 September 2019 £
Wages and salaries	280,139	184,366
	280,139	184,366

The average number of persons employed by the charitable company during the period was as follows:

	15 months ended 31 December 2020 No.	12 months ended 30 September 2019 No.
	13	13

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

The Church leadership team are considered to be key management personnel. The total compensation paid in respect of key management personnel amount to £119,802 (2019: £77,792).

10. Trustees' remuneration

Simon Bateson received remuneration in his capacity of Lead Pastor and not as a Trustee. This remuneration amount to £58,809 (2019: £37,256).

No remuneration was paid to any other Trustee during the year.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
for the period ended 31 December 2020

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Assets under construction £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 October 2019	1,705,002	79,067	123,405	19,211	1,926,685
Additions	-	13,485	18,870	5,044	37,399
At 31 December 2020	<u>1,705,002</u>	<u>92,552</u>	<u>142,275</u>	<u>24,255</u>	<u>1,964,084</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 October 2019	199,518	37,169	116,288	-	352,975
Charge for the period	67,750	18,511	9,852	-	96,113
At 31 December 2020	<u>267,268</u>	<u>55,680</u>	<u>126,140</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>449,088</u>
Net book value					
At 31 December 2020	<u>1,437,734</u>	<u>36,872</u>	<u>16,135</u>	<u>24,255</u>	<u>1,514,996</u>
At 30 September 2019	<u>1,505,484</u>	<u>41,898</u>	<u>7,117</u>	<u>19,211</u>	<u>1,573,710</u>

Freehold land of £350,000 in relation to the Riverside Campus has not been depreciated as its residual value is likely to exceed its valuation and therefore its economic useful life is likely to be infinite.

12. Debtors

	31 December 2020 £	30 September 2019 £
	-	-
Due within one year		
Other debtors	2,885	9,225
Prepayments and accrued income	201	-
Tax recoverable	2,957	2,920
	<u>6,043</u>	<u>12,145</u>

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
for the period ended 31 December 2020

13. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	31 December 2020 £	30 September 2019 £
Bank loans	15,781	15,124
Other loans	5,000	8,000
Trade creditors	5,009	4,120
Other taxation and social security	4,808	5,350
Accruals and deferred income	5,199	4,861
	<u>35,797</u>	<u>37,455</u>

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	31 December 2020 £	30 September 2019 £
Bank loans	572,300	591,907
Other loans	35,000	72,000
	<u>607,300</u>	<u>663,907</u>

Included within the above are amounts falling due as follows:

	31 December 2020 £	30 September 2019 £
Between one and two years		
Bank loans	16,467	15,781
Between two and five years		
Bank loans	35,111	51,578
Other loans	35,000	72,000
Over five years		
Bank loans	520,722	524,548

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
for the period ended 31 December 2020

The aggregate amount of liabilities payable or repayable wholly or in part more than five years after the reporting date is:

	31	30
	December	September
	2020	2019
	£	£
Payable or repayable by instalments	520,722	524,548
	520,722	524,548

The amounts in other loans relates to loans given to the charity by members of the church. These loans are unsecured and interest free.

The amount in bank loans relates to a re-mortgage from HSBC UK Bank PLC, and was previously used to purchase the site for the new church. There is a guarantee in favour of HSBC UK Bank PLC over the property at Riverside Works in relation to this loan.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
for the period ended 31 December 2020

15. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current period

	Balance at 1 October 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2020 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
General fixed reserve	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
Designated fixed asset fund	883,847	-	-	818	884,665
	<u>963,847</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>818</u>	<u>964,665</u>
General funds					
General Funds	327,113	461,977	(538,100)	25,499	276,489
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>1,290,960</u>	<u>461,977</u>	<u>(538,100)</u>	<u>26,317</u>	<u>1,241,154</u>
Restricted funds					
Phase 3 Fund	2,496	17,650	(20,146)	-	-
Pantry Project	-	35,523	(18,018)	(8,237)	9,268
Herne Bay Hub Project	-	2,850	-	(545)	2,305
Defibrillator grant	-	1,500	(5)	(1,464)	31
Grant for media	-	16,071	-	(16,071)	-
	<u>2,496</u>	<u>73,594</u>	<u>(38,169)</u>	<u>(26,317)</u>	<u>11,604</u>
Total of funds	<u>1,293,456</u>	<u>535,571</u>	<u>(576,269)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,252,758</u>

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
for the period ended 31 December 2020

15. Statement of funds (continued)

Transfers between funds

Designated fixed asset fund - the transfer of £818 from unrestricted funds represents the decision by the Trustees to show separate the funds allocated to fixed assets less any associated liabilities.

Pantry Project - the transfer of £8,237 represents funds which had been given for the purpose of the Pantry Project. Now these funds have been utilised for this purpose, the restriction has been satisfied and therefore transferred to unrestricted funds.

Herne Bay Hub Project - the transfer of £545 represents funds which had been given for the purpose of the Herne Bay Hub Project. Now these funds have been utilised for this purpose, the restriction has been satisfied and therefore transferred to unrestricted funds.

Defibrillator grant - the transfer of £1,464 represents funds which had been given for the purpose of purchasing a defibrillator. Now these funds have been utilised for this purpose, the restriction has been satisfied and therefore transferred to unrestricted funds.

Grant for media - the transfer of £16,071 represents funds which had been given for the purpose of purchasing media equipment. Now these funds have been utilised for this purpose, the restriction has been satisfied and therefore transferred to unrestricted funds.

Purposes of designated funds

General Fixed Reserve - This represents funds set aside in accordance with the charity's reserves policy.

Designated fixed asset fund - This represents the book value of fixed assets less any associated liabilities and are deemed by the Trustees not to be freely available funds.

Purposes of restricted funds

Phase 3 fund - This represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the expansion of the Riverside Church site in regards to Phase 3.

Pantry Project - This represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the Pantry Project set up during the year.

Herne Bay Hub Project - This represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the Herne Bay Hub Project set up during the year.

Defibrillator grant – This represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the purchase of a defibrillator.

Grant for media – This represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the purchase of a media equipment.

Riverside Church
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements
for the period ended 31 December 2020

15. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior period

	Balance at 1 October 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 30 September 2019 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Designated fixed asset fund	840,196	-	-	43,651	883,847
General Fixed Reserve	80,000	-	-	-	80,000
	<u>920,196</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>43,651</u>	<u>963,847</u>
General funds					
General Funds	376,674	401,488	(426,609)	(24,440)	327,113
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>1,296,870</u>	<u>401,488</u>	<u>(426,609)</u>	<u>19,211</u>	<u>1,290,960</u>
Restricted funds					
Phase 3 Fund	47,903	-	(26,196)	(19,211)	2,496
Total of funds	<u><u>1,344,773</u></u>	<u><u>401,488</u></u>	<u><u>(452,805)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,293,456</u></u>

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16. Statement of funds (continued)

Transfers between funds

Designated fixed asset fund - the transfer of £43,651 from unrestricted funds represents the decision by the Trustees to show separate the funds allocated to fixed assets less any associated liabilities.

Phase 3 fund - the transfer of £19,211 represents funds which had been given for the purpose of building phase 3 of the project. Now these funds have been utilised for this purpose, the restriction has been satisfied and therefore transferred to unrestricted funds.

Purposes of designated funds

General Fixed Reserve - This represents funds set aside in accordance with the charity's reserves policy.

Designated fixed asset fund - This represents the book value of fixed assets less any associated liabilities and are deemed by the Trustees not to be freely available funds.

Purposes of restricted funds

Phase 3 fund - This represents amounts donated to the church in relation to the expansion of the Riverside Church site in regards to Phase 3.

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16. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current period

	Balance at 1 October 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 December 2020 £
Designated funds	963,847	-	-	818	964,665
General funds	327,113	461,977	(538,100)	25,499	276,489
Restricted funds	2,496	73,594	(38,169)	(26,317)	11,604
	<u>1,293,456</u>	<u>535,571</u>	<u>(576,269)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,252,758</u>

Summary of funds - prior period

	Balance at 1 October 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 30 September 2019 £
Designated funds	920,196	-	-	43,651	963,847
General funds	376,674	401,488	(426,609)	(24,440)	327,113
Restricted funds	47,903	-	(26,196)	(19,211)	2,496
	<u>1,344,773</u>	<u>401,488</u>	<u>(452,805)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,293,456</u>

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Unrestricted funds 31 December 2020 £	Restricted funds 31 December 2020 £	Total funds 31 December 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,514,995	-	1,514,995
Current assets	369,256	11,604	380,860
Creditors due within one year	(35,797)	-	(35,797)
Creditors due in more than one year	(607,300)	-	(607,300)
Total	<u>1,241,154</u>	<u>11,604</u>	<u>1,252,758</u>

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17. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Unrestricted funds 30 September 2019 £	Restricted funds 30 September 2019 £	Total funds 30 September 2019 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,573,710	-	1,573,710
Current assets	418,612	2,496	421,108
Creditors due within one year	(37,455)	-	(37,455)
Creditors due in more than one year	(663,907)	-	(663,907)
Total	1,290,960	2,496	1,293,456

18. Related party transactions

On 1 March 2016, G Magee, the husband of K Magee, a Trustee of the Charity, gave the Charity and interest free loan amounting to £50,000 of which £40,000 is still outstanding at 31 December 2020.

During the year, 7 (2019: 7) charity trustees of gave donations to the Charity totalling £40,691 (2019: £31,964).

L Bushell, the daughter of D Bushell, a Trustee of the Charity, was employed during the year. The total compensation she received was £21,993 (2019: £15,862) commensurate to the role.

K Haines, the wife of M Haines, a Trustee of the Charity, was employed by the Charity during the year. The total compensation she received was £2,712 (2019: £4,480) commensurate to the role.