

MEDWAY VINEYARD CHURCH
(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st January 2024

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1135029

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LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

PREVIOUS NAMES	Bromley Vineyard Hope Vineyard Church Croydon Limited Medway Vineyard Church Limited
CHARITY NUMBER	1135029
START OF FINANCIAL YEAR	1 st February 2023
END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	31st January 2024
TRUSTEES WHO SERVED DURING THE YEAR	Aoife Obatre Derek Bluer Andrew Millar (Chair and Secretary)
REGISTERED ADDRESS	15 Thames Avenue Rainham Kent ME8 9BN
DATE OF INCORPORATION	16 th January 2010, converted to a CIO on 2 nd March 2021
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Constitution adopted on 2 nd March 2021
BANKERS	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Sarah Crispin ACA Stewardship Services [UKET] Limited 1 Lambs Passage London EC1Y 8AB

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st January 2024

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report and accounts of the charity for the year ending 31st January 2024.

Nature of the company

Medway Vineyard Church Limited was incorporated on the 16th January 2010 as a charitable company limited by guarantee as defined by the Companies Act 2006 (company registration number 7127431). Medway Vineyard Church Limited was also registered as a charity on 18th March 2010 (charity number 1135029). On 2nd March 2021, the charity converted to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the name Medway Vineyard Church. It is therefore now only accountable to the Charity Commission and is required to comply with charity legislations. The company's financial year is February to January.

Governance and Organisational Structure

Responsibility for setting policy and for making operating decisions rest with the trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the charity. The day to day running of the church is led by Andrew and Sharon Millar who are the Senior Pastors, and Andrew is also a trustee. They along with volunteers implement the objectives and execute the administration of the charity.

Connected Organisations

Medway Vineyard Church is connected to the charity Vineyard Churches UK and Ireland (VCUKI) which was formed with the purpose of joining together churches that hold common values and practices. It gives oversight to the pastors of Vineyard churches and facilitates church planting. It helps, serves and strengthens the churches by leading, training, resourcing, administrating and providing pastoral support to Senior Pastors. Medway Vineyard Church uses the name under license from VCUKI.

Appointment of Trustees

Trustees are appointed from candidates who are generally from within the Vineyard movement and considered on the basis of their skills, experience and sympathy with the aims of Medway Vineyard Church. New trustees will be appointed by the existing trustees, and trustees attend periodic training days in order to keep them up to date.

Trustee Indemnity Insurance

The charity does not have indemnity insurance to protect it from loss arising from neglect or default of its trustees or agents or to indemnify the trustees or officers against the consequences of any neglect or default on their part.

Objects of the Charity

The objectives of the charity as stated in the constitution are:

- A) To advance the Christian faith and the planting of other Vineyard churches;
- B) To further Christian education;
- C) 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 provisions of counselling and training in life skills;
- D) To provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st January 2024 (continued)

Summary of the charity's main activities and achievements

This is captured by the church's vision to 'Bring Hope, Healing and Freedom to Medway through the love of Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit'. The church has continued to grow throughout this last year and we have seen an increase in families attending. The church employs two people, a Pastor (Sharon Millar) and an administrator for Wonderfully Made (WM) via 12 month grant. The church is also about to employ a church administrator as well following the resignation of the previous administrator in September 2023. This was to pursue a job with more hours and pay than we were able to offer.

In fulfilling these objectives, the church holds Christian services, children's and youth activities, provides charity locally across Medway. The church provides hardship relief both financially and through the giving of time, service and items to the local foodbank (Trussell Trust). During this year the church has continued to support two local primary schools in a deprived area through the provision of food for breakfasts. This is aimed at children who wouldn't otherwise be provided with a breakfast at home and has served up to 50 children.

The church's school uniform ministry has continued apace and was awarded further funding this year which is essential support to enable the provision of this vital service. The church has received some very encouraging feedback from both clients and referrers (social workers, schools etc.) which has inspired the team and shows how valuable this ministry area is.

The following two sections seek to look back over the activities of the past year and then forward to what is planned and hoped for in the coming year.

Looking back:

2023 saw continued growth in the church, both numerically (with new families and individuals regularly attending), and in depth of discipleship. The Youth Group has bonded well over the last year despite some moving on as they enter the adult church, others have joined from the Kids' ministry. The annual week-long youth camp, Dreaming the Impossible (DTI) was a success once more and the Youth have also been on mini versions of this more locally. The Vineyard has also launched a new leadership development track which has various stages as explained in last year's report. We still have 18 people attending Vineyard Leadership Essentials (VLE) which we are running over 2 years, making this the last year of the course. As with last year, we now have four people attending the Vineyard Leadership College of the course of 12 months.

We have made exciting inroads into HMP Rochester and have helped run two Alpha courses there now, as well as providing worship for the Easter Sunday Service. We are also hopeful that lady who attends our church and works in the prison will soon transition to become one of the first Vineyard Chaplains in Prison, she is currently on the Leadership College as well as studying theology at WTC.

As the church continues to grow, so do does the need to provide small groups. We continue to provide a variety of small groups on different days and at different times:

- Five location-based traditional Vineyard Small Groups
- Strategic Prayer Meeting
- Intercessory Prayer Group
- Blokes' Breakfast Group
- Women's Group (Love a Latte)

The church continues to run the Wonderfully Made uniform ministry, which continue apace. We received further funding once again, and have been able to provide a continual supply of uniforms to Medway's most vulnerable children throughout the year with the peak being late summer/early autumn. In June the church was offered free space at the local shopping centre to store uniforms and this has helped immensely. This was originally for 12 months and then a review, but it is hoped it will be extended.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st January 2024 (continued)

Following on from last year's initiative, the church used our contacts within social services to run a love Christmas project, buying food vouchers and gifts for some of the most needy families we have connected with through Wonderfully Made. The whole church was involved in the purchase of gifts once more. In addition to this, links through WM have enabled the church to provide for some extremely deprived families, some of whom had zero furniture, clothing, appliances etc. We were able to link in via social services to provide of this and more for two families.

Looking Forward:

Church numbers are likely around 140-150 with regular Sunday attendance at around 90-100. This means the use of the school remains viable, but we are always alert to the need to move to something more flexible with more frequent access in the near future.

We have two or three people still considering church planting and they are on a development track working towards this.

We anticipate further Prison Alphas, church growth discipleship and opportunities to serve the poor in the coming year.

The church remains committed to serving Jesus in the Medway Towns and will look to His guidance and direction in the coming year.

Financial Review

The charity had a surplus during the year of £2,181 (2022/23: deficit of £3,785). Giving to the charity has increased during the year, both in the general unrestricted funds of £60,330 (2022/23: £52,220) and the level of income received into the Wonderfully Made initiative totalling £22,850 (2022/23: £16,535). Expenditure also increased during the year, particularly in areas such as the school uniforms, gifts and hardship relief providing for those in need.

At the end of the year the charity had unrestricted reserves of £32,220 (31st January 2023: £36,058), of which £4,200 was in a designated fund for future property requirements and restricted reserves of £8,836 (31st January 2023: £2,817) relating to Wonderfully Made.

Reserves Policy

The trustees have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs. This is based on the charity's size and the level of financial commitments held. The trustees aim to ensure the charity will be able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income or unexpected expenditure. The trustees will endeavour not to set aside funds unnecessarily.

As such, the trustees have set a minimum level of unrestricted reserves of £9,000, which will ensure that at least three months of the charity's core activities could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty.

This policy is reviewed regularly, at least annually, by the trustees.

Risk Management

The charity is exposed to various risks - be they operational, financial or reputational. The trustees review the charity's activities regularly to identify significant risks and, where possible, they take appropriate measures to mitigate those risks.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st January 2024 (continued)

Public Benefit

The charity acknowledges its requirements to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the public benefit.

In planning the activities of Medway Vineyard Church the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. The trustees believe that this report provides suitable evidence of the public benefit being provided.

Responsibilities of trustees

Charity law requires us as trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.

We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

Approval

This report was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Andrew Millar *Andrew Millar*
Andrew Millar (Oct 17, 2024 19:30 GMT+1)

Date: Oct 17, 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF MEDWAY VINEYARD CHURCH

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Medway Vineyard Church ("the charity") for the year ended 31 January 2024 on pages 8 to 11 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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


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

Independent examiner's statement

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 that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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


Sarah Crispin (Oct 21, 2024 10:04 GMT+1)
Sarah Crispin ACA

Date: Oct 21, 2024

Stewardship
1 Lambs Passage
London EC1Y 8AB

MEDWAY VINEYARD CHURCH
(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st January 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023/24 £	TOTAL 2022/23 £
INCOME RECEIPTS					
Donations		52,426	13,857	66,283	44,838
Gift aid receipts		7,820	750	8,570	7,344
Other grants		-	8,243	8,243	16,515
Investments		84	-	84	38
TOTAL RECEIPTS		60,330	22,850	83,180	68,735
PAYMENTS					
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	54,547	16,831	71,378	71,609
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others		5,360	-	5,360	360
Purchase of fixed assets		4,261	-	4,261	551
TOTAL PAYMENTS		64,168	16,831	80,999	72,520
Net of receipts /(payments) before transfers		(3,838)	6,019	2,181	(3,785)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(3,838)	6,019	2,181	(3,785)
Cash funds as at last year end (restated)		36,058	2,817	38,875	42,660
CASH FUNDS AT THIS YEAR END	3	32,220	8,836	41,056	38,875

The notes on pages 10 to 11 form part of these accounts.

MEDWAY VINEYARD CHURCH
(A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31st January 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31 Jan 2024 £	Total 31 Jan 2023 £
A Cash funds				
Cash at bank with immediate access	32,220	8,836	41,056	38,875
B Other monetary assets				
Gift aid due to the charity	760	-	760	860
C Liabilities				
Falling due within one year				
Fees for Independent Examination	780	-	780	750
Accrued expenses	1,630	-	1,630	1,295
	2,410	-	2,410	2,045
D Assets retained for charity's own use		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost £	Current value £
Land and buildings – church office		General	7,541	3,832
Music and PA equipment		General	6,132	3,899
Computers and IT		General	1,212	511
Furniture		General	776	98
			15,661	8,340

Current values have been estimated by the trustees by depreciating the assets on a reducing balance method.

E Guarantees and secured debts

The charity has not given any guarantees and has not provided its assets as security for any liabilities

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf

By: Andrew Millar Andrew Millar
Andrew Millar (Oct 17, 2024 15:30 GMT+1)

Date: Oct 17, 2024

The notes on pages 10 to 11 form part of these accounts.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st January 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

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. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

2. PAYMENTS IN RELATION TO CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023/24 £	TOTAL 2022/23 £
Advertising and promotion	806	154	960	448
Bank charges	301	-	301	295
31:8 (CCPAS)	237	-	237	271
Fees and Subscriptions	3,709	-	3,709	3,646
Gifts	2,205	-	2,205	3,204
Small groups and outreach	856	-	856	182
Hardship relief	2,506	-	2,506	1,774
Independent Examination fees	750	-	750	720
Insurance	282	-	282	543
Miscellaneous	535	-	535	711
Pastoral items	1,184	-	1,184	1,173
Refreshments	1,803	-	1,803	2,395
Rent	4,110	480	4,590	3,918
Rochester Prison Project	-	-	-	-
Staff Costs	26,571	-	26,571	28,251
School breakfasts	370	-	370	1,113
School Uniform Ministry	-	15,945	15,945	12,718
Stationery and postage	155	-	155	384
Telephone	450	-	450	630
Training and conferences	3,009	-	3,009	3,668
Travel	1,694	252	1,946	3,088
Young people's work	3,014	-	3,014	2,477
	54,547	16,831	71,378	71,609

MEDWAY VINEYARD CHURCH
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st January 2024 (continued)

3. MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS

	Balance at 31 Jan 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 Jan 2024 £
General Fund	32,458	60,330	(64,168)	(600)	28,020
Designated Fund	3,600	-	-	600	4,200
	36,058	60,330	(64,168)	-	32,220
Restricted Fund – School Uniforms	2,817	22,850	(16,831)	-	8,836
	38,875	83,180	(80,999)	-	41,056

There was one restricted fund this year. The School Uniforms Project, known as Wonderfully Made, is designed to provide school uniforms to those that might struggle to afford one otherwise. Any shortfall in this fund during the year is made up from general funds.

The designated fund is amounts set aside by the trustees for possible future building requirements, and are held as cash balances at the balance sheet date.

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

Mrs S Millar is a related party to Mr A Millar, and received remuneration of £21,600 (2022/23: £20,659) in respect of her work in the running of the church, as permitted by the governing document. She is also considered to be Key Management for the Charity.

Mr A Millar and Mrs S Millar received travel expenses between them of £1,786 (2022/23: £2,944) during the year, as permitted by the governing document. All other expenses paid to them were reimbursement of specific costs incurred.