

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1135733

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Previously excepted

Registered 2010-04-29

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

Contact

Address Shrewsbury United Reformed Church
Coleham Head
Shrewsbury
SY3 7BJ

Phone 01743368932

Email surcoffice@talktalk.net

Website www.shrewsburyurc.co.uk

Activities

Objects: THE PROMOTION OF RELIGION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF UNITED REFORM CHURCH AS STATED IN ITS HANDBOOK WHICH IS ISSUED PERIODICALLY TO MEMBER CONGREGATIONS.

Activities: Christian Worship in the United Reformed Church tradition and to show that people really matter to God.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNDEFINED. IN PRACTICE, LOCAL.
- Shropshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£180,079	£143,558	-	-
2023-12-31	£154,395	£148,642	-	-
2022-12-31	£146,822	£158,200	-	-
2021-12-31	£135,440	£145,031	-	-
2020-12-31	£127,187	£94,415	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Jean Fox		2024-03-31
Margaret Franks		2024-03-31
Mervyn Neil Davies		2020-02-01
Sandra Kelly		2024-03-31
Susan Bonny		2020-01-19

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1135733

Accounts

Shrewsbury URC

Charity No

1135733

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2024

Receipts

	2024		2023
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
Collection - standing orders	55,059.00		55,059.00
Envelopes	3,661.70		3,661.70
Loose	6,123.14		6,123.14
Children's buckets	0.00		0.00
Donations	6,580.10		6,580.10
Donations Church Groups	1,164.49		1,164.49
Surplus on Social Events	190.44		190.44
Gift Aid from HMRC	14,721.47	382.50	15,103.97
Fundraising	2,912.64		2,912.64
Income from Investments	8,642.85		8,642.85
Grants Current Year	12,971.10		12,971.10
Toddlers	1,923.55		1,923.55
Catering/coffee	1,284.27		1,284.27
Weddings & Funerals	1,610.00		1,610.00
Members Car Parking	2,385.00		2,385.00
Room Hire	45,297.50		45,297.50
Commercial Car parking	8,888.75		8,888.75
Church House Rent	2,944.73		2,944.73
Church Office Income	162.98		162.98
Commitment for Life		3,172.40	3,172.40
Total Income	176,523.71	3,554.90	180,078.61
			154,395

Payments

	2024		2023
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£
Ministry & Mission	60,156.00		60,156.00
Council Tax	0.00		0.00
Pulpit Supply	120.00		120.00
Ministers expenses	7,230.96		7,230.96
Local Salaries	25,847.39		25,847.39
Catering	571.54		571.54
Office Costs/Printing & Stationary	4,210.14		4,210.14
Outreach & Subscriptions	2,264.77		2,264.77
Residential Synod	0.00		0.00
Fundraising	0.00		0.00
Organ maintenance and music	0.00	655.00	655.00
Youth	743.17		743.17
Messy Church & Holiday Club	480.25		480.25
Messy Vintage	565.48		565.48
Toddlers	228.24		228.24
Training	0.00		0.00
Building repairs/maintenance	11,778.11		11,778.11
Development	0.00		0.00
Gas, Electric & Water	13,923.14		13,923.14
Insurance	12,509.42		12,509.42
Equipment	47.98		47.98
Commitment for Life	0.00		0.00
Bank charges	241.14		241.14
Sundries	1,985.20		1,985.20
Total Payments	142,902.93	655.00	143,557.93
			148,642
Surplus/(Deficit)	33,620.78	2,899.90	36,520.68
Brought Forward	30,469.00	10,387.21	40,856.21
Carried Forward	64,089.78	13,287.11	77,376.89
			40,856

Statement of Assets

	2024			2023
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Monetary assets HSBC Shrewsbury				
Current a/c	4,647.76	0.00	4,647.76	3,674
Shrewsbury – Deposit a/c –	33,793.60		33,793.60	6,454
HSBC Shrewsbury – Donation a/c			0.00	96
COIF deposit account	25,648.42	13,287.11	38,935.53	30,632
	<u>64,089.78</u>	<u>13,287.11</u>	<u>77,376.89</u>	<u>40,856</u>
Refunds due from HMRC	5,124.00		5,124.00	
Investments	241,593.70		241,593.70	233,865
Total Assets	<u>310,807.48</u>	<u>13,287.11</u>	<u>324,094.59</u>	<u>274,722</u>

Manse

The Church has an interest in the ownership of the minister's manse at 12 Woodwynd Close, Shrewsbury, the Legal title is with United Reformed Church West Midlands Trust Limited.

Details of Funds

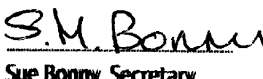
Unrestricted	General				Total
	Unrestricted	Youth	Manse	Messy Vintage	Unrestricted
	£	£	£		£
Receipts	176,523.71	-	-	-	176,523.71
Payments	- 142,159.76	- 743.17	-	-	- 142,902.93
Surplus/(Deficit)	34,363.95	- 743.17	-	-	33,620.78
Cashfund Brought Forward	5,138.23	17,475.07	5,755.70	2,100.00	30,469.00
	<u>39,502.18</u>	<u>16,731.90</u>	<u>5,755.70</u>	<u>2,100.00</u>	<u>64,089.78</u>
Refunds due from HMRC	5,124.00				5,124.00
Investments	241,593.70				241,593.70
	<u>286,219.88</u>	<u>16,731.90</u>	<u>5,755.70</u>	<u>2,100.00</u>	<u>310,807.48</u>

Restricted	Commitment for		Total Restricted
	Life	Legacy - Organ	
	£	£	£
Receipts	3,554.90		3,554.90
Payments	0.00	-655.00	-655.00
Net Receipts/(Payments)	3,554.90	-655.00	2,899.90
Brought Forward	3,998.16	6,389.05	10,387.21
Carried Forward	<u>7,553.06</u>	<u>5,734.05</u>	<u>13,287.11</u>

Approval by Trustees

These accounts were approved by a meeting of the Trustees held on 8 October 2025


Mervyn Davies, Treasurer


Sue Bonny, Secretary



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Shrewsbury United Reformed Church

On accounts for the year ended

31 December 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1135733

Set out on pages

1-2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Signed:

William B Strachan

Date:

6th October 2025

Name:

William Strachan

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

[Empty box for professional qualification(s) or body]

Address:	22 Rylands
	Shrewsbury
	SY3 9BZ

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

No Matters

Shrewsbury United Reformed Church
Trustees Annual Report
For Year ended 31 December 2024

Charity Number 1135733

Purpose

The purpose of the charity is the promotion of religion in accordance with the principles of the General Assembly of United Reformed Church and associated community and mission activities.

Governing Document

The charity was established by trust deed dated 16 September 2009.

Trustees

Elders are selected by a the church membership, from amongst the elder Trustees are nominated to serve as Trustees. The Trustees who served during the year were as follows:

Sue Bonny

Mervyn Davies

Jean Fox

Margaret Barnard

Sandra Kelly

Principal Adress

Church House, Coleham Head, Shrewsbury, SY3 7BJ

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they note the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and further confirm that they seek to undertake activities of benefit to the public and the community both local and distant.

Achievements during the year

2024 was a busy year for church members. In addition to fellowship on a Sunday there were many opportunities to share with each other during the year.

In January, Mark started a course on Art and the Bible, which was appreciated and enjoyed by those who attended. This was followed later in the year by a Photography and Faith Course.

The lent talks and lunches began in February 2024. It was interesting and inspiring to hear about the faith of different members and to then be able to chat over a delicious lunch of soup and rolls. Our thanks go to all who shared with us and those who made the soup.

In March, Elders considered the responsibilities of Elders regarding Health & Safety Training under guidance of Grant Brackley. Elders were also asked to complete Level 1 URC Foundation Safeguarding Training (online) if they had not done this previously.

Also in March, we were delighted to hold a service in which one of our members, Rachel Coward was commissioned as a Lay Preacher and later in 2025 when Nathanael Paul was also commissioned. Both are a real blessing for the church and the Area Pastorate.

May saw the first joint area event. Members travelled to Oakengates URC for Songs of Praise and a cream tea. It is always interesting to hear the reasons why certain hymns are chosen and the cream tea was delicious. It was a good opportunity for members from the different churches to meet. Hopefully this is just the start of many future events together.

In June there was a wedding, and we hosted the interfaith funday which was a super occasion and a great success. Thank you to all those involved in its organisation.

In July we welcomed members of Wirksworth URC to Shrewsbury and Richard Breakell gave a short introductory talk about the town.

Church was open in September for the annual Ride and Stride event which brought a number of visitors to our church. Thank you to all those who made it possible by volunteering to man the church throughout the day.

We held our Harvest Festival in September. The Harvest Supper was well attended and once again were able to support the local food bank and The Ark with the food donated.

We had our first Fish and Chip Supper in October combined with a quiz. This proved to be a very popular and fun event, and our thanks go to Di and Phil Scoggins for organising this.

In November, we welcomed the Revd Ashley Evans to our service. Elders had been considering mission and the "Leading your Church into Growth" initiative. Ashley had been seconded to lead and advise the West Midlands Synod on the initiative and during a service and church meeting gave members an outline of the scheme. This was followed by an area event in 2025 and will be looked at in more detail throughout the coming year.

Christmas was again a busy time of year, with the advent reflections, the Gift Service for young carers, the Christingle, the Nativity service with Junior Church (always a delight to see our young people taking part), Carols by Candlelight and Christmas Day worship.

It was a pleasure to welcome eight new members to our fellowship during 2024. We also celebrated several milestone events with members such as wedding anniversaries and birthdays. Sadly, there were a number of bereavements, and we remember those families in our thoughts and prayers.

Once again, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have served our fellowship in any way during 2024, enabling us to worship, maintain fellowship and grow spiritually. There have been challenges but many joyful occasions too. I would like to thank you for all the support I receive from Elders and the congregation, it is very much appreciated.

Elders have continued to meet monthly during the year with Elders leading devotions, chairing the meeting, and providing refreshments. A variety of topics were discussed throughout the year including Church Meeting frequency, the Area Constitution, hopes and dreams for the pastorate, safeguarding, ministry with the elderly, Health and Safety and evening communion.

At various times in the year, we experienced and took part in many special services, including those at Easter, Harvest and Christmas. The Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services were well attended.

During the year we celebrated many milestone events with members of our fellowship such as Golden Weddings and birthdays and we remember in our thoughts and prayers those who have had family bereavements.

Throughout the year there have been challenges and joys and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have served our church in anyway, enabling us to worship together, maintain fellowship, and to grow spiritually. We would also like to thank you for all the support received from Elders and the congregation, especially during the period of the vacancy, it has been much appreciated.

Financial Review

Our total income increased to £180,079 thanks to an increase in congregational giving and donations, increased investment income, and grants received. We controlled our expenditure as a result of a large increase in fuel costs but we invested in improving the energy efficiency of our buildings helped by external grants. By careful control of expenditure we managed a surplus on unrestricted funds.

At the year end we had cash funds of £77,377 plus a further £241,594 of investments held in Ethical Investments with CCLA.

Reserves

Unrestricted Funds are held for General Purposes plus funds for Youth work, Maintenance of Manses and a grant to Messy Vintage to support ministry with senior members of our community. Restricted Funds are held for donations to Commitment for Life appeal and maintenance of the church organ.

Reserves Policy

Our reserves are held to support the ongoing work of the church and to have funds available should the opportunity present itself to undertake projects for Mission or in relation to our buildings. We seek to hold 26 weeks running costs, current reserves amount to approximately 32 weeks which the Trustees believe acceptable.

The trustees approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



Date 8 October 2025

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1135733

Accounts

Shrewsbury URC

Charity No

1135733

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2023

Receipts

	2023		2022	
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	
Collection - standing orders	50,086.75		50,086.75	43,141
Envelopes	6,677.05		6,677.05	9,827
Loose	5,011.42		5,011.42	3,032
Children's buckets	167.49		167.49	652
Donations	4,738.59		4,738.59	4,389
Donations Church Groups	883.10		883.10	798
Gift Aid from HMRC	12,851.41	865.00	13,716.41	12,974
Fundraising	2,869.48		2,869.48	3,272
Income from Investments	7,745.57		7,745.57	6,672
Grants Current Year	2,736.00		2,736.00	1,231
Toddlers	1,861.70		1,861.70	1,146
Messy Church	366.10		366.10	0
Catering/coffee	1,200.40		1,200.40	933
Weddings & Funerals	160.00		160.00	612
Subscriptions - Reform etc	0.00		0.00	24
Members Car Parking	2,060.00		2,060.00	2,121
Room Hire	40,980.15		40,980.15	40,013
Commercial Car parking	6,987.00		6,987.00	7,031
Church House Rent	3,472.27		3,472.27	5,101
Church Office Income	243.30		243.30	202
Commitment for Life		2,432.16	2,432.16	3,452
Total Income	151,097.78	3,297.16	154,394.94	146,623

Payments

	2023		2022	
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Ministry & Mission	58,188.00		58,188.00	71,520
Council Tax	-112.08		-112.08	2,396
Pulpit Supply	220.00		220.00	340
Ministers expenses	5,358.62		5,358.62	2,473
Local Salaries	18,471.17		18,471.17	20,879
Catering	422.62		422.62	333
Office Costs/Printing & Stationary	3,760.97		3,760.97	4,557
Outreach & Subscriptions	1,809.16		1,809.16	1,731
Residential Synod	225.00		225.00	400
Fundraising	119.82		119.82	22
Organ maintenance and music	0.00	640.00	640.00	600
Youth	572.25		572.25	2,073
Messy Church & Holiday Club	510.66		510.66	0
Toddlers	184.28		184.28	98
Messy Vintage	565.08		565.08	602
Training	700.00		700.00	1,450
Building repairs/maintenance	20,489.29		20,489.29	11,318
Development	1,800.00		1,800.00	5,292
Gas, Electric & Water	21,155.38		21,155.38	5,990
Insurance	11,137.91		11,137.91	10,031
Equipment	915.29		915.29	2,073
Commitment for Life	0.00		0.00	12,623
Bank charges	248.44		248.44	264
Sundries	1,260.49		1,260.49	1,137
Total Payments	148,002.35	640.00	148,642.35	158,200
Surplus/(Deficit)	3,095.43	2,657.16	5,752.59	-11,377
Brought Forward	27,373.57	7,730.05	35,103.62	46,671
Carried Forward	30,469.00	10,387.21	40,856.21	35,104

Statement of Assets

	2023			2022
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Monetary assets HSBC Shrewsbury				
Current a/c	3,674.43	0.00	3,674.43	4,763
Shrewsbury – Deposit a/c -	6,454.11		6,454.11	7,336
HSBC Shrewsbury – Donation a/c	95.50		95.50	0
COIF deposit account	20,244.96	10,387.21	30,632.17	23,004
	<u>30,469.00</u>	<u>10,387.21</u>	<u>40,856.21</u>	<u>35,104</u>
Investments	233,865.35		233,865.35	211,513
Total Assets	<u>264,334.35</u>	<u>10,387.21</u>	<u>274,721.56</u>	<u>246,616</u>

Manse

The Church has an interest in the ownership of the minister's manse at 12 Woodwynd Close, Shrewsbury, the Legal title is with United Reformed Church West Midlands Trust Limited.

Details of Funds


Unrestricted	General				Total
	Unrestricted	Youth	Manse	Messy Vintage	Unrestricted
	£	£	£		£
Receipts	150830.29	167.49		100.00	151,097.78
Payments	-147430.10	-572.25			-148,002.35
Surplus/(Deficit)	3400.19	-404.76	0.00	100.00	3,095.43
Cashfund Brought Forward	1738.04	17,879.83	5,755.70	2,000.00	27,373.57
	<u>5138.23</u>	<u>17,475.07</u>	<u>5,755.70</u>	<u>2,100.00</u>	<u>30,469.00</u>
Investments	233865.35				233,865.35
	<u>239003.58</u>	<u>17,475.07</u>	<u>5,755.70</u>	<u>2,100.00</u>	<u>264,334.35</u>

Restricted	Commitment for		Total Restricted
	Life	Legacy -Organ	
	£	£	
Receipts	3,297.16		3,297.16
Payments	0.00	-640.00	-640.00
Net Receipts/(Payments)	3,297.16	-640.00	2,657.16
Brought Forward	701.00	7,029.05	7,730.05
Carried Forward	<u>3,998.16</u>	<u>6,389.05</u>	<u>10,387.21</u>

Approval by Trustees

These accounts were approved by a meeting of the Trustees held on 29 October 2024


 Mervyn Davies, Treasurer


 Sue Bonny, Secretary

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Shrewsbury United Reformed Church

I report on the accounts of the Account set on pages 1 and 2 for the year ended 31 December 2023

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

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

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

Basis of examiner's statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Name: WILLIAM BARR STRACHAN

Relevant professional qualification if any:

Address: 22 RYELANDS, RADSROOK, SHREWSBURY SY3 9BZ

Date: 30 October 2024

Shrewsbury United Reformed Church
Trustees Annual Report
For Year ended 31 December 2023

Charity Number 1135733

Purpose

The purpose of the charity is the promotion of religion in accordance with the principles of the General Assembly of United Reformed Church and associated community and mission activities.

Governing Document

The charity was established by trust deed dated 16 September 2009.

Trustees

Elders are selected by a the church membership, from amongst the elder Trustees are nominated to serve as Trustees. The Trustees who served during the year were as follows:

Sue Bonny

Mervyn Davies

Rachel Coward Resigned 15 March 2024

Graham Tharby Resigned 15 March 2024

Carole Marsden Resigned 15 March 2024

Principal Address

Church House, Coleham Head, Shrewsbury, SY3 7BJ

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they note the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and further confirm that they seek to undertake activities of benefit to the public and the community both local and distant.

Achievements during the year

The beginning of 2023 saw the start of our vacancy period and the changes that would be implemented as the plans to become an Area Pastorate were implemented. We were fortunate that we already had an applicant for one of the posts. In February we had a weekend where Mark Rodgers an ordinand from Northern College came to Preach with a View. This involved Mark visiting the various churches around Shropshire including a visit to Messy Vintage on the Friday afternoon and a social evening in Shrewsbury on the Saturday. It was a delight to have members from the area churches joining us for worship on the Sunday morning. This culminated in a call being issued and accepted by Mark.

In January and February, we trialled holding our Sunday morning worship in St Nicholas Hall to reduce heating costs. There were some initial teething problems, but overall, it was a successful undertaking and gave a different feel to our worship.

In February, Messy Church opened its door for the first time since Covid and is going from strength to strength. Our thanks go to the team who are actively involved in these sessions.

In February, we ran a First Aid Training Course. Attendees reported back that the course was enjoyable, informative and the trainer was excellent. All those who took part passed and we now have a total of eight trained first aiders.

In April, we were fortunate to be able to hold a second Preach with a View weekend. It was lovely to be able to welcome the Reverend Camilla Veitch to the area and again a programme was put together to allow Camilla to visit the different churches, with another joint service here in Shrewsbury. I was delighted that this again resulted in a call being issued and accepted.

Early in the year, the Church meeting decided to resume retiring collections for different charities each month. This was in addition to the Christmas charity collections. Charities selected by the church meeting included: The Samaritans, Street Pastors, Operation Sabre, The Ark, Leprosy Mission, Christian Aid and Food Share tables.

During 2023 we continued to welcome new visitors into our church services, and it was a delight to be able to welcome seven new members. This included four young men from the Lion Hotel. Although some of them have now moved on to other places, it was a privilege for us to be able to spend time with them and to learn of their stories.

In August the Ordination and Induction service for Mark took place in Shrewsbury. It was a wonderful occasion and a privilege to share in and to welcome Mark into Ministry. Following on a few weeks later it was a pleasure to travel to Christ Church, Oswestry to be part of in the Camilla's Induction service. Again, this was another joyous occasion, and we are very blessed to have two ministers in place so quickly.

Messy Vintage has continued to thrive during the year. For many of our senior members it is one of their highlights of the month. It is a joy to see the participants engaging in and enjoying the many activities on offer. Our thanks go to all involved for their dedication and hard work in producing such a varied programme.

Elders have continued to meet monthly during the year with Elders leading devotions, chairing the meeting, and providing refreshments. A variety of topics were discussed throughout the year including Church Meeting frequency, the Area Constitution, hopes and dreams for the pastorate, safeguarding, ministry with the elderly, Health and Safety and evening communion.

In November it was a privilege for us to host an area visit by Bishop Sameer Khimla and Raja Moses from the Diocese of Durgapur in the Church of North India. This provided an opportunity for members to hear firsthand about the work in the Diocese.

At various times in the year, we experienced and took part in many special services, including those at Easter, Harvest and Christmas. The Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services were well attended with our Christmas collections being taken for Embrace the Middle East and the Shropshire Staffordshire Cheshire Blood Bikes.

During the year we celebrated many milestone events with members of our fellowship such as Golden Weddings and birthdays and we remember in our thoughts and prayers those who have had family bereavements.

Throughout the year there have been challenges and joys and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have served our church in anyway, enabling us to worship together, maintain fellowship, and to grow spiritually. We would also like to thank you for all the support received from Elders and the congregation, especially during the period of the vacancy, it has been much appreciated.

Financial Review

Our total income increased to £154,394 thanks to an increase in congregational giving and increased investment income. We controlled our expenditure as a result of a large increase in fuel costs but we invested in improving the energy efficiency of our buildings helped by external grants. By careful control of expenditure we managed a small surplus on unrestricted funds.

At the year end we had cash funds of £40,856 plus a further £233,865 of investments held in Ethical Investments with CCLA.

Reserves

Unrestricted Funds are held for General Purposes plus funds for Youth work, Maintenance of Manses and a grant to Messy Vintage to support ministry with senior members of our community. Restricted Funds are held for donations to Commitment for Life appeal and maintenance of the church organ.

Reserves Policy

Our reserves are held to support the ongoing work of the church and to have funds available should the opportunity present itself to undertake projects for Mission or in relation to our buildings. We seek to hold 26 weeks running costs, current reserves amount to approximately 32 weeks which the Trustees believe acceptable.

The trustees approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

S. M. Bonny

Date *29 October 2024*

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1135733

Accounts

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

CHARITY INFORMATION

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Trustees: Revd Carole Marsden
Mervyn Davies (Treasurer)
Sue Bonny (Church Secretary)
Graham Tharby
Rachel Coward

Charity Number: 1135733

Address: Coleham Head
Shrewsbury
SY3 7BJ

Independent examiner: William Strachan

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Trustees

Trustees serving during the year were as stated on page 1.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

Shrewsbury United Reformed Church is a constituent of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom that was formed by Act of Parliament in 1972. During 2009, the church applied to the Charity Commission for registration as a charity and this was granted on 29 April 2010 – Number 1135733 – in the name of Shrewsbury United Reformed Church.

The church itself is subject to the general procedures of the United Reformed Church as set out in the Scheme of Union and any subsequent amendments and additions. Members shall be those who subscribe to the Declaration of Faith as stated in the Scheme of Union and covenant fully to share in the life of the Church.

Organisation

The Church is governed and managed by a number of councils. The Councils of the Church comprise: -

- The Church Meeting
- The Elders Meeting
- The Finance Committee, appointed by the Church Meeting, and
- The Property Management Committee, also appointed by the Church Meeting.
- Other committees may be appointed for a specific purpose, such as for fundraising or the organisation of social events etc.

All committees report to the Church Meeting and have a 'linked' Elder who represents them at the Elders' Meeting.

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Election of Elders

Rules governing the election of Elders are as follows: -

1. The number of Serving Elders shall be determined by the Church Meeting on the recommendation of the Elders Meeting.
2. Elders are to serve for a period of three years and at the expiry of that time will retire but will not be eligible for re-election for a further term of three years until a period of one year has elapsed, other than the Church Secretaries who have a continuous appointment.
3. Notice of the pending election of Elders will be announced annually by a nomination form which will be issued to each Church member who may nominate up to the number of Elders required.
4. All Church Members are eligible to be nominated other than:
 - a) Retiring Elders
 - b) Those with less than one year's membership of Shrewsbury United Reformed Church at the time of the nomination.
5. Should a vacancy arise in the Eldership then, at the discretion of the Elders, a non-serving Elder may be invited to complete a year in which the vacancy occurs and at the subsequent election one additional Elder shall be elected to complete the term of office. (The Elder to serve for the shorter period will be decided between the Minister and the newly elected Elders).
6. The vacancy caused by the election of a new Church Secretary shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 5. Upon giving up the post, a Church Secretary shall not be eligible for election as a Serving Elder for one year.
7. The Ordination and Induction of Elders will take place on the first Sunday in January and be conducted by the Minister, the Interim Moderator or Presiding Elder.

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Objectives and Activities

The objective of the Church is encompassed in its mission statement **“to show people they really matter to God”**.

To achieve this, the Church aims to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrines, principles and practices of the reformed tradition as upheld by the United Reformed Church in the Shropshire area and through the West Midlands Synod of the Church. The operations of the Church are broadly classified as Ministry and Mission (including children and youth work), training, property and administrative support.

A small number of members and support staff are paid for specific services, but all other assistance relating to administration of the church and supply of support to members and adherents is by volunteers. That includes assistance with services, outreach work, publicity, leading activity groups, maintenance and finance.

We are an inclusive Church that does not discriminate against people of differing creeds, gender, race or sexuality.

Public Benefit

In planning the charity's activities for the year, the Trustees and Elders kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

The beginning of 2022 was once again influenced by the restrictions of the Covid pandemic, with masks, social distancing etc. It was wonderful that as the year progressed, we were able to dispense with the masks, stand to sing, use all the pews and to have refreshments after the service once again. As our confidence grew it was good to see various groups meeting and for members to be able to socialise and to share fellowship with each other once again. However, it was decided that for the foreseeable future evening communion service would continue to be via zoom.

Several notable things took place during 2022. Firstly, the church decided to become part of the Area Pastorate and the area group spent a lot of time producing the profile for a second minister, discussing finances and how the system would work. Towards the end of the year the profile was issued, and an application received from Mark Rodgers an ordinand from Northern College. Mark was invited to Preach with a View early in 2023.

It was a pleasure for the Church to host the Area World Day of Prayer in March. Good feedback was received from the participating members.

In May our minister the Revd Carole Marsden went on sabbatical for three months. Upon her return she informed us that she had been called to serve at Cliff College in Derbyshire. Carole

left mid-December, a sad occasion for us all and she is greatly missed. However, we wish her every blessing in her new role and thank her for all her work during the time she was with us.

It was also a pleasure during the year for the Church Meeting to approve and support a member's application for Lay Preacher training and another member's application for Non-Stipendiary Ministry. We send our blessings to both as they work towards this.

In the office there was a change of staffing as our Administrator retired and a new employee appointed. Our thanks go to the retiring Administrator for the many years of service to our church.

During the year we held our first same sex marriage which was a delightful occasion.

During 2022 many consultation meetings were held to consider proposals for the development of our premises. This culminated in a steering group being appointed to discuss the ideas in detail, taking into consideration points raised by members, and to produce an architect's brief. Work on this is still ongoing and will continue into 2023.

Due to the relaxation of Covid restrictions it was good to be able to embark upon training of members for various roles in the latter half of 2022. Pastoral links were invited to training from the Samaritans and ten members undertook the intermediate level safeguarding training. Elders attended a comprehensive Health and Safety briefing update, presented by our Health and Safety Officer. The Church Secretary attended an online DBS training session.

Junior Church staff were involved in a review of children's work together with Richard Knott, the Children's and Youth Development officer from Synod. This culminated in the church being designated a URC Children and Youth friendly church.

Thank you to all who have served our church in anyway over the year to enable us to worship together, maintain fellowship, and to grow spiritually. Thank you for all the support you have given me, I greatly appreciate it.

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2022

Receipts

	2022			2021
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Collection - standing orders	43,140.96		43,140.96	45,091
Envelopes	9,827.00		9,827.00	9,803
Loose	3,032.41		3,032.41	805
Children's buckets	651.80		651.80	328
Legacy	-		-	4,500
Donations	4,389.30		4,389.30	3,072
Donations Church Groups	797.61		797.61	623
Gift Aid from HMRC	12,416.49	557.50	12,973.99	13,133
Fundraising	3,272.33		3,272.33	2,373
Income from Investments	6,682.07		6,682.07	6,387
Grants Current Year	1,230.81		1,230.81	7,483
Toddlers	1,145.55		1,145.55	124
Catering/coffee	933.24		933.24	113
Weddings & Funerals	611.50		611.50	4,443
Subscriptions - Reform etc	23.97		23.97	354
Members Car Parking	2,121.00		2,121.00	1,785
Room Hire	40,012.90		40,012.90	23,059
Commercial Car parking	7,031.25		7,031.25	6,900
Church House Rent	5,101.20		5,101.20	3,977
Commitment for Life		3,452.00	3,452.00	2,567
Total Income	142,623.39	4,009.50	146,632.89	136,920

Payments

	2022			2021
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Ministry & Mission	71,520.00		71,520.00	68,112
Council Tax	2,395.70		2,395.70	2,308
Pulpit Supply	340.00		340.00	40
Ministers expenses	2,472.59		2,472.59	1,906
Local Salaries	20,878.52		20,878.52	13,429
Catering	332.69		332.69	0
Office Costs/Printing & Stationary	4,556.75		4,556.75	4,240
Outreach & Subs/ reform	1,730.98		1,730.98	2,181
Fundraising	22.14		22.14	127
Organ maintenance and music	-	600.00	600.00	290
Youth	2,073.00		2,073.00	1,582
Toddlers	97.77		97.77	60
Messy Vintage	602.32		602.32	314
Training	1,450.00		1,450.00	
Building repairs/maintenance	11,318.14		11,318.14	30,307
Development	5,291.58		5,291.58	0
Gas, Electric & Water	5,990.42		5,990.42	9,744
Insurance	10,030.79		10,030.79	10,504
Equipment	2,073.14		2,073.14	1,088
Commitment for Life	-	12,623.00	12,623.00	0
Bank charges	264.32		264.32	
Sundries	1,136.50		1,136.50	1,597
Total Payments	144,977.35	13,223.00	158,200.35	147,829
Surplus/(Deficit)	- 2,353.96	- 9,213.50	- 11,567.46	-10,909
Brought Forward	29,727.53	16,943.55	46,671.08	57,580
Carried Forward	27,373.57	7,730.05	35,103.62	46,671

Statement of Assets

	2022			2021
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	
	£	£	£	
Monetary assets HSBC Shrewsbury				
Current a/c	4,369.07	393.83	4,762.90	7,512.44
Shrewsbury -- Deposit a/c -	-	7,336.22	7,336.22	22,806.28
COIF deposit account	23,004.49		23,004.49	16,352.36
	<u>27,373.56</u>	<u>7,730.05</u>	<u>35,103.61</u>	<u>46,671.08</u>
Investments	211,512.88		211,512.88	242,455.74
Total Assets	<u>238,886.44</u>	<u>7,730.05</u>	<u>246,616.49</u>	<u>289,126.82</u>

Manse

The Church has an interest in the ownership of the minister's manse at 12 Woodwynd Close, Shrewsbury, the Legal title is with United Reformed Church West Midlands Trust Limited.

Details of Funds

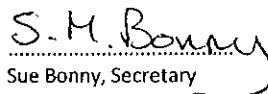
	General				Total
	Unrestricted	Youth	Manse	Messy Vintage	Unrestricted
	£	£	£		£
Receipts	141,971.59	651.80			142,623.39
Payments	-142,904.35	-2,073.00	0.00		-144,977.35
Surplus/(Deficit)	-932.76	-1,421.20	0.00	0.00	-2,353.96
					0.00
Cashfund Brought Forward	2,670.80	19,301.03	5,755.70	2,000.00	29,727.53
	<u>1,738.04</u>	<u>17,879.83</u>	<u>5,755.70</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>27,373.57</u>
Investments	211,512.88				211,512.88
	<u>213,250.92</u>	<u>17,879.83</u>	<u>5,755.70</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>238,886.45</u>

	Commitment for		
	Life	Legacy -Organ	Total Restricted
	£	£	£
Receipts	4,009.50		4,009.50
Payments	-12,623.00	-600.00	-600.00
Net Receipts/(Payments)	-8,613.50	-600.00	-9,213.50
Brought Forward	9,314.50	7,629.05	16,943.55
Carried Forward	<u>701.00</u>	<u>7,029.05</u>	<u>7,730.05</u>

Approval by Trustees

These accounts were approved by a meeting of the Trustees held on 14 March 2024


 Mervyn Davies, Treasurer


 Sue Bonny, Secretary



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

On accounts for the year ended

31ST DECEMBER 2022 Charity no (if any) 1135733

Set out on pages

One and Two (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
• 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 order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed: Will B Strachan

Date: 13 March 2024

Name: WILLIAM BARR STRACHAN

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

RETIRED ACCOUNTANT

Address:

22 RYELANDS
RADBROOK
SHREWSBURY SY3 9BZ

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

No matters of concern

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2022

Receipts

	2022			2021
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
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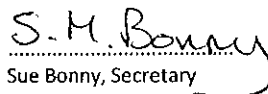
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 Mervyn Davies, Treasurer


 Sue Bonny, Secretary



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

On accounts for the year ended

31ST DECEMBER 2022 Charity no (if any) 1135733

Set out on pages

One and Two (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

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Signed: Will B Strachan

Date: 13 March 2024

Name: WILLIAM BARR STRACHAN

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

RETIRED ACCOUNTANT

Address:

22 RYELANDS
RADBROOK
SHREWSBURY SY3 9BZ

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No matters of concern

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1135733

Accounts

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

CHARITY INFORMATION

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Trustees: Revd Carole Marsden
Mervyn Davies (Treasurer)
Sue Bonny (Church Secretary)
Graham Tharby
Rachel Coward

Charity Number: 1135733

Address: Coleham Head
Shrewsbury
SY3 7BJ

Independent examiner: William Strachan

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Trustees

Trustees serving during the year were as stated on page 1.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

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The Church is governed and managed by a number of councils. The Councils of the Church comprise: -

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SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Election of Elders

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 - b) Those with less than one year's membership of Shrewsbury United Reformed Church at the time of the nomination.
5. Should a vacancy arise in the Eldership then, at the discretion of the Elders, a non-serving Elder may be invited to complete a year in which the vacancy occurs and at the subsequent election one additional Elder shall be elected to complete the term of office. (The Elder to serve for the shorter period will be decided between the Minister and the newly elected Elders).
6. The vacancy caused by the election of a new Church Secretary shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 5. Upon giving up the post, a Church Secretary shall not be eligible for election as a Serving Elder for one year.
7. The Ordination and induction of Elders will take place on the first Sunday in January and be conducted by the Minister, the Interim Moderator or Presiding Elder.

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Objectives and Activities

The objective of the Church is encompassed in its mission statement **“to show people they really matter to God”**.

To achieve this, the Church aims to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrines, principles and practices of the reformed tradition as upheld by the United Reformed Church in the Shropshire area and through the West Midlands Synod of the Church. The operations of the Church are broadly classified as Ministry and Mission (including children and youth work), training, property and administrative support.

A small number of members and support staff are paid for specific services, but all other assistance relating to administration of the church and supply of support to members and adherents is by volunteers. That includes assistance with services, outreach work, publicity, leading activity groups, maintenance and finance.

We are an inclusive Church that does not discriminate against people of differing creeds, gender, race or sexuality.

Public Benefit

In planning the charity's activities for the year, the Trustees and Elders kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

Once again 2021 was an unusual year with the Covid -19 pandemic impacting hugely on the life of our church. Sunday worship and meetings were conducted via zoom for a large portion of the year, although during the summer months we were able to hold outside services, weather permitting.

It was an absolute joy to be able to commence in person worship on the 19th September. To see members' face to face (well behind the obligatory masks!) and not on a computer screen was wonderful and a boost to our spirits, however it did take time to adjust to singing hymns with a mask on and sitting down.

Pastoral care continued through 2021 via phone calls or emails as personal visits were still considered inadvisable and pastoral news passed on to Elders as appropriate. Pastoral links continued to meet on zoom.

A new safeguarding officer and deputy were appointed by the Church Meeting early in the year and appropriate training was organised. Office staff were also being trained by our Health and Safety Officer, to carry out weekly tests. E.g. Legionella testing.

Elders reviewed and recommended to Church Meeting a new staffing structure. This was approved and implemented in the summer with the roles of a Premises Coordinator and Cleaner being created.

External bookings started to return to our premises in September 2021 as allowed by COVID restrictions. Village Water continued to work from their office in room C and were joined by Shropshire Supports Refugees in room A. Various recovery support groups were meeting on the premises six days a week.

We were delighted when Messy Vintage was nominated for and gained a URC Community Project Award and a £3000 grant. Thank you to the Messy Vintage team for all their hard work.

Our newsletter continued to play an important part in our fellowship, keeping us up to date and connected. Thank you to our newsletter editors for their hard work collating, duplicating, and distributing the newsletter.

In November we held our first nativity festival. The variety of nativity scenes on display was amazing, with sets coming from all over the world, in varying sizes and even including a large inflatable scene! It opened with a social event in the church and thank you to all who helped organise, serve refreshments, and provide entertainment for the evening.

Running alongside the nativity festival was our Christmas fair, albeit in a different format to usual. This was a very successful event, and thanks go to the fair coordinator and to all those who helped.

During 2021 work was done to install an upstairs shower room and toilet. This was beneficial especially as towards the end of 2021 our premises were made available to the council for cold weather provision for rough sleepers. They were used several times for this purpose over the winter months.

Our thanks go to Carole once again for all the hard work that she put in during another difficult year to enable us to worship together, to grow spiritually and maintain fellowship. We also thank all those who help in a voluntary capacity to maintain the fellowship.

Shrewsbury URC

Charity No 1135733

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2021

Receipts	2021			2020
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Collection - standing orders	45,090.96		45,090.96	44,432
Envelopes	9,803.00		9,803.00	9,340
Loose	804.50		804.50	2,151
Children's buckets	327.92		327.92	810
Legacy	4,500.00		4,500.00	3,000
Donations	3,072.25		3,072.25	554
Donations Church Groups	623.00		623.00	966
Gift Aid from HMRC	12,432.26	701.00	13,133.26	14,376
Fundraising	2,373.15		2,373.15	5,605
Income from Investments	6,387.44		6,387.44	6,247
Grants Current Year	7,483.00		7,483.00	0
Toddlers Messy Church	123.89		123.89	624
Catering/coffee	113.00		113.00	237
Weddings & Funerals	4,442.89		4,442.89	1,498
Subscriptions - Reform etc	354.00		354.00	458
Members Car Parking	1,785.00		1,785.00	1,977
Room Hire	23,058.60		23,058.60	18,954
Commercial Car parking	6,900.00		6,900.00	8,890
Church House Rent	3,976.78		3,976.78	4,908
Church Office Income	-		0.00	194
Commitment for Life		2,567.00	2,567.00	2,222
Total Income	133,651.64	3,268.00	136,919.64	127,443

Payments

	2021			2020
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Ministry & Mission	68,112.00		68,112.00	66,533
Synod Support				-16,530
Council Tax	2,308.40		2,308.40	2,214
Pulpit Supply	40.00		40.00	40
Ministers expenses	1,906.33		1,906.33	3,991
Local Salaries	13,428.51		13,428.51	13,178
Catering	0.00		0.00	220
Office Costs/Printing & Stationary	4,240.10		4,240.10	3,693
Legal Fees/Licencing				1,526
Outreach & Subs/ reform	2,181.37		2,181.37	978
Fundraising	126.62		126.62	0
Organ maintenance and music	0.00	290.00	290.00	195
Youth	1,581.57		1,581.57	574
Messy Church & Holiday Club	0.00		0.00	222
Toddlers	60.29		60.29	23
Patchwork Choir	0.00		-	70
Messy Vintage	314.26		314.26	263
Building repairs/maintenance	30,306.62		30,306.62	5,939
Development	0.00		0.00	52
Gas	6,878.60		6,878.60	2,553
Electricity	2,277.68		2,277.68	879
Water	587.86		587.86	507
Insurance	10,503.88		10,503.88	6,486
Equipment	1,088.00		1,088.00	310
Sundries	1,596.81		1,596.81	498
Total Payments	147,538.90	290.00	147,828.90	94,415
Surplus/(Deficit)	-13,887.26	2,978.00	-10,909.26	33,028
Brought Forward	43,614.79	13,965.55	57,580.34	24,552
Carried Forward	29,727.53	16,943.55	46,671.08	57,580

Statement of Assets

	2021			2020
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	
	£	£	£	
Monetary assets HSBC Shrewsbury				
Current a/c	7,512.44	-	7,512.44	10,408
Shrewsbury – Deposit a/c -	5,862.73	16,943.55	22,806.28	37,203
HSBC Shrewsbury – Donation a/c		0.00	0.00	1
COIF deposit account	16,352.36		16,352.36	9,968
	<u>29,727.53</u>	<u>16,943.55</u>	<u>46,671.08</u>	<u>57,580</u>
Investments	242,455.74		242,455.74	209,159
Total Assets	<u>272,183.26</u>	<u>16,943.55</u>	<u>289,126.81</u>	<u>266,739</u>

Manse

The Church has an interest in the ownership of the minister's manse at 12 Woodwynd Close, Shrewsbury, the Legal title is with United Reformed Church West Midlands Trust Limited.

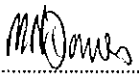
Details of Funds

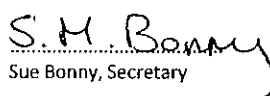
	General				Total
	Unrestricted	Youth	Manse	Messy Vintage	Unrestricted
	£	£	£		£
Receipts	131,323.72	327.92		2000	133,651.64
Payments	-145,957.33	-1,581.57	0.00		-147,538.90
Surplus/(Deficit)	-14,633.61	-1,253.65	0.00	2,000.00	-13,887.26
					0.00
Cashfund Brought Forward	17,304.41	20,554.68	5,755.70	0.00	43,614.79
	<u>2,670.80</u>	<u>19,301.03</u>	<u>5,755.70</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>29,727.53</u>
Investments	242,455.74				242,455.74
	<u>245,126.54</u>	<u>19,301.03</u>	<u>5,755.70</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>272,183.27</u>

	Commitment for		Total Restricted
	Life	Legacy -Organ	
	£	£	
Receipts	3,268.00		3,268.00
Payments	0.00	-290.00	-290.00
Net Receipts/(Payments)	3,268.00	-290.00	2,978.00
Brought Forward	6,046.50	7,919.05	13,965.55
Carried Forward	<u>9,314.50</u>	<u>7,629.05</u>	<u>16,943.55</u>

Approval by Trustees

These accounts were approved by a meeting of the Trustees held on 14 March 2024


 Mervyn Davles, Treasurer


 Sue Bonny, Secretary



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

On accounts for the year ended

31ST DECEMBER 2021

Charity no (if any)

1135733

Set out on pages

One and Two

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- 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 order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Will B Strachan

Date:

13 March 2024

Name:

WILLIAM BARR STRACHAN

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

RETIRED ACCOUNTANT

Address:

22 RYELANDS

RADBROOK

SHREWSBURY SY3 9BZ

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

No matters of concern

Shrewsbury URC

Charity No 1135733

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2021

Receipts	2021			2020
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
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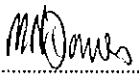
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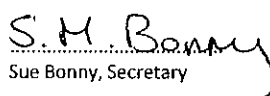
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	Commitment for		Total Restricted
	Life	Legacy -Organ	
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Payments	0.00	-290.00	-290.00
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Brought Forward	6,046.50	7,919.05	13,965.55
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Approval by Trustees

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 Mervyn Davles, Treasurer


 Sue Bonny, Secretary



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

On accounts for the year ended

31ST DECEMBER 2021

Charity no (if any)

1135733

Set out on pages

One and Two

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- 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 order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Will B Strachan

Date:

13 March 2024

Name:

WILLIAM BARR STRACHAN

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

RETIRED ACCOUNTANT

Address:

22 RYELANDS

RADBROOK

SHREWSBURY SY3 9BZ

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

No matters of concern

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1135733

Accounts

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
CHARITY INFORMATION
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Trustees:	Revd Carole Marsden Mervyn Davies (Treasurer) Sue Bonny (Church Secretary) Graham Tharby Rachel Coward
Charity Number:	1135733
Address:	Coleham Head Shrewsbury SY3 7BJ
Independent examiner:	William Strachan

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Trustees

Trustees serving during the year were as stated on page 1.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

Shrewsbury United Reformed Church is a constituent of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom that was formed by Act of Parliament in 1972. During 2009, the church applied to the Charity Commission for registration as a charity and this was granted on 29 April 2010 – Number 1135733 – in the name of Shrewsbury United Reformed Church.

The church itself is subject to the general procedures of the United Reformed Church as set out in the Scheme of Union and any subsequent amendments and additions. Members shall be those who subscribe to the Declaration of Faith as stated in the Scheme of Union and covenant fully to share in the life of the Church.

Organisation

The Church is governed and managed by a number of councils. The Councils of the Church comprise:-

- The Church Meeting
- The Elders Meeting
- The Finance Committee, appointed by the Church Meeting, and
- The Property Management Committee, also appointed by the Church Meeting.
- Other committees may be appointed for a specific purpose, such as for fundraising or the organisation of social events etc.

All committees report to the Church Meeting and have a 'linked' Elder who represents them at the Elders' Meeting.

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Election of Elders

Rules governing the election of Elders are as follows: -

1. The number of Serving Elders shall be determined by the Church Meeting on the recommendation of the Elders Meeting.
2. Elders are to serve for a period of three years and at the expiry of that time will retire but will not be eligible for re-election for a further term of three years until a period of one year has elapsed, other than the Church Secretaries who have a continuous appointment.
3. Notice of the pending election of Elders will be announced annually by a nomination form which will be issued to each Church member who may nominate up to the number of Elders required.
4. All Church Members are eligible to be nominated other than:
 - a) Retiring Elders
 - b) Those with less than one year's membership of Shrewsbury United Reformed Church at the time of the nomination.
5. Should a vacancy arise in the Eldership then, at the discretion of the Elders, a non-serving Elder may be invited to complete a year in which the vacancy occurs and at the subsequent election one additional Elder shall be elected to complete the term of office. (The Elder to serve for the shorter period will be decided between the Minister and the newly elected Elders).
6. The vacancy caused by the election of a new Church Secretary shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 5. Upon giving up the post, a Church Secretary shall not be eligible for election as a Serving Elder for one year.
7. The Ordination and Induction of Elders will take place on the first Sunday in January and be conducted by the Minister, the Interim Moderator or Presiding Elder.

SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

TRUSTEES' REPORT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Objectives and Activities

The objective of the Church is encompassed in its mission statement **“to show people they really matter to God”**.

To achieve this, the Church aims to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the doctrines, principles and practices of the reformed tradition as upheld by the United Reformed Church in the Shropshire area and through the West Midlands Synod of the Church. The operations of the Church are broadly classified as Ministry and Mission (including children and youth work), training, property and administrative support.

A small number of members and support staff are paid for specific services, but all other assistance relating to administration of the church and supply of support to members and adherents is by volunteers. That includes assistance with services, outreach work, publicity, leading activity groups, maintenance and finance.

We are an inclusive Church that does not discriminate against people of differing creeds, gender, race or sexuality.

Public Benefit

In planning the charity's activities for the year, the Trustees and Elders kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

Early in 2020 new Trustees were appointed to join Revd Carole Marsden and Graham Tharby. These were Mervyn Davies (Church Treasurer), Sue Bonny (Church Secretary), and Rachel Coward.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic saw changes in the life of our church that could never have been envisaged. We could not have imagined that we would be unable to meet on our premises for Sunday worship for more than a year!

However, it was a blessing to be able to make use of technology to continue worshipping in an alternative way. Many had not heard of zoom, but it was a joy to be able to use this as a platform to worship together, to see the faces of members of our fellowship and to continue to interact through online quiz nights, coffee mornings and entertainment evenings.

When restrictions eased for a time, it was possible to meet in person for Tuesday reflections. This was a great opportunity to see members and to share in worship. When restrictions returned these sessions continued again via zoom.

During the year, our church staff were frequently furloughed although this depended on which external users were allowed to meet on the premises. After the first lockdown support groups were able to meet regularly with restricted numbers. For a time, educational businesses involving children were allowed to meet but no other commercial bookings were possible.

Early in 2020 the office for the charity Village Water relocated to one of our upstairs rooms. The room was refurbished together with the upstairs kitchen in preparation for this. Other work on the property has been ongoing when permitted. Health and Safety risk assessments and checks have been carried out to ensure that best practice in all we do.

We missed seeing our young people during this time. Various mailings were sent out with activities for the young people to do. These were well received, together with opportunities for them to meet via zoom for things such as a pancake party.

House Groups were unable to meet but, in their place, a monthly fellowship evolved via zoom. At each meeting a member gave a short talk about an aspect of their life such as their occupation or a particular interest. Members enjoyed this time together and the glimpse it gave into lives of some of our members.

Messy Vintage had become an integral part of our church life when lockdown started. Many of those who attended being amongst the most vulnerable to COVID. Our Messy Vintage coordinator and her family worked tirelessly to maintain the links made and to provide material for use at home by producing Messy Vintage packs. These were very appreciated and a rarely a month went by without a letter of thanks being received in the church office.

Our choir and musicians, under the guiding hand of our choir master, provided many contributions for our online worship. Members would record pieces at home, send them to the choir master who collated them with great patience, expertise, and creativity before playing them in services.

Our newsletter also played a vital part in keeping our fellowship together. The editorial team worked hard to bring us a fresh and interesting issue each month. Stories, reminisces of times gone by, photographs, favourite hymns and word searches kept us all going.

As we were not able to run the election of Elders as normal, it was decided and approved that the term of office for each of the Elders who were in position would be extended temporarily to four years. The next election will be held in the autumn of 2021.

It is important to acknowledge and to thank the Revd Carole Marsden for all the hard work she put in to ensure that we were able to meet as a church to worship, to grow spiritually and to maintain our fellowship with each other during a difficult year.

We also need to thank all the people who helped throughout the year. The pastoral links, those who helped deliver newsletters or Messy Vintage packs, the gardening team who kept our grounds looking good, our flower arrangers who responded to pastoral needs and delivered flowers, our Junior Church team for keeping in touch with our young people, our maintenance team, finance team and our staff.

Shrewsbury URC

Charity No 1135733

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2020

Receipts	2020		2019	
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Collection - standing orders	44,431.96		44,431.96	43,063
Envelopes	9,340.05		9,340.05	10,389
Loose	2,151.40		2,151.40	7,005
Children's buckets	810.12		810.12	4,030
Legacy	3,000.00		3,000.00	10,777
Donations	554.00		554.00	393
Donations Church Groups	965.70		965.70	1,134
Gift Aid from HMRC	13,675.20	701.00	14,376.20	14,507
Fundraising	5,605.46		5,605.46	6,124
Income from Investments	6,246.70		6,246.70	5,916
Interest	-		0.00	91
Grants Current Year	-		0.00	9,033
Grants Prior Year	-		0.00	2,929
Toddlers	416.85		416.85	1,476
Messy Church & Holiday Club	207.05		207.05	1,034
Catering/coffee	237.30		237.30	1,244
Weddings & Funerals	1,498.10		1,498.10	1,372
Subscriptions - Reform etc	457.90		457.90	414
Members Car Parking	1,977.00		1,977.00	1,895
Room Hire	18,953.73		18,953.73	33,092
Commercial Car parking	8,890.00		8,890.00	7,238
Church House Rent	4,908.00		4,908.00	4,857
Church Office Income	194.30		194.30	362
Commitment for Life		2,222.00	2,222.00	3,124
Total Income	124,520.82	2,923.00	127,443.82	171,498

Payments

Payments	2020		2019	
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Ministry & Mission formula	66,533.05		66,533.05	64,440
Synod Support	-16,530.00		-16,530.00	
Council Tax	2,214.27		2,214.27	2,121
Pulpit Supply	40.00		40.00	452
Ministers expenses	3,990.79		3,990.79	3,804
Local Salaries	13,177.55		13,177.55	21,088
Catering	220.20		220.20	658
Office Costs/Printing & Stationary	3,693.34		3,693.34	3,532
Legal Fees/Licencing	1,526.00		1,526.00	972
Outreach & Subs/ reform	977.64		977.64	2,035
Residential Synod	0.00		0.00	300
Fundraising	0.00		0.00	342
Organ maintenance and music	0.00	195.00	195.00	195
Youth	574.19		574.19	1,918
Messy Church & Holiday Club	222.43		222.43	818
Toddlers	23.36		23.36	385
Patchwork Choir	70.20		70.20	49
Messy Vintage	263.30		263.30	352
Building repairs/maintenance	5,939.03		5,939.03	33,465
Manse repair	0.00			
Development	52.38		52.38	0
Gas	2,553.29		2,553.29	2,711
Electricity	879.00		879.00	1,225
Water	506.62		506.62	497
Insurance	6,485.57		6,485.57	8,682
Equipment	309.92		309.92	723
Commitment for Life	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,109
Sundries	498.00		498.00	1,617
Total Payments	94,220.13	195.00	94,415.13	161,492
Surplus/(Deficit)	30,300.69	2,728.00	33,028.69	10,006
Purchase of Investments	0.00		0.00	-7,000
Total Movement on Funds	30,300.69	2,728.00	33,028.69	3,006
Brought Forward	13,314.10	11,237.55	24,551.65	21,546
Carried Forward	43,614.79	13,965.55	57,580.34	24,552

Statement of Assets

	2020			2019
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	
	Funds	Funds	Funds	
	£	£	£	£
Monetary assets HSBC Shrewsbury				
Current a/c	10,408.18	-	10,408.18	5,627
Shrewsbury – Deposit a/c -	23,238.41	13,964.59	37,203.00	15,185
HSBC Shrewsbury – Donation a/c		0.96	0.96	0
COIF deposit account	9,968.20		9,968.20	3,739
CCLA – COIF deposit account				
	43,614.79	13,965.55	57,580.34	24,552
Investments	212,849.59		209,158.92	196,173
Total Assets	256,464.38	13,965.55	266,739.26	220,725

Manse

The Church has an interest in the ownership of the minister's manse at 12 Woodwynd Close, Shrewsbury, the legal title is with United Reformed Church West Midlands Trust Limited.

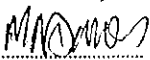
Details of Funds


	General	Youth	Manse	Total
	Unrestricted			Unrestricted
	£	£	£	£
Receipts	123,710.70	810.12		124,520.82
Payments	-93,575.74	-644.39	0.00	-94,220.13
Surplus/(Deficit)	30,134.96	165.73	0.00	30,300.69
Cashfund Brought Forward	-12,830.55	20,388.95	5,755.70	13,314.10
	17,304.41	20,554.68	5,755.70	43,614.79
Investments	212,849.59			212,849.59
	230,154.00	20,554.68	5,755.70	256,464.38

	Commitment		Total Restricted
	for Life	Legacy -Organ	
	£	£	£
Receipts	2,923.00		2,923.00
Payments	0.00	-195.00	-195.00
Net Receipts/(Payments)	2,923.00	-195.00	2,728.00
Brought Forward	3,123.50	8,114.05	11,237.55
Carried Forward	6,046.50	7,919.05	13,965.55

Approval by Trustees

These accounts were approved by a meeting of the Trustees held on 14 March 2024


Mervyn Davies, Treasurer


Sue Bonny, Secretary



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name SHREWSBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

On accounts for the year ended

31st DECEMBER 2020

Charity no (if any)

1135733

Set out on pages

One and Two

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
• 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 order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Will B Strachan

Date:

13 March 2024

Name:

WILLIAM BARR STRACHAN

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

RETIRED ACCOUNTANT

Address:

22 RYELANDS

RADBROOK

SHREWSBURY SY3 9BZ

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

No matters of concern

Shrewsbury URC

Charity No 1135733

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Receipts	2020		2019	
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
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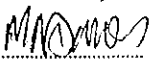
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Mervyn Davies, Treasurer


Sue Bonny, Secretary



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

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On accounts for the year ended

31st DECEMBER 2020

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Signed:

Will B Strachan

Date:

13 March 2024

Name:

WILLIAM BARR STRACHAN

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

RETIRED ACCOUNTANT

Address:

22 RYELANDS

RADBROOK

SHREWSBURY SY3 9BZ

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No matters of concern