

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

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 2021

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 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		7,483.0	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	
	£	£	£	£
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	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	
	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
	29,727.53	16,943.55	46,671.08	57,580
Investments	242,455.74		242,455.74	209,159
Total Assets	272,183.26	16,943.55	289,126.81	266,739

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.

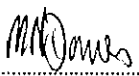
Details of Funds

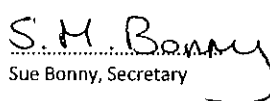
	General	Youth	Manse	Messy Vintage	Total
	Unrestricted				Unrestricted
	£	£	£		£
Receipts	131,323.72	327.92		2000	133,651.64
Payments	-145,957.33	-1,581.57	0.00		-147,538.90
Surplus/(Deficit)	-14,633.61	-1,253.65	0.00	2,000.00	-13,887.26
					0.00
Cashfund Brought Forward	17,304.41	20,554.68	5,755.70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

	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	9,314.50	7,629.05	16,943.55

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 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

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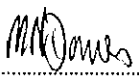
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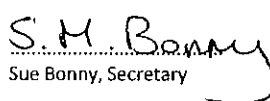
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Will B Strachan

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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