

FARNHAM UNITED REFORMED CHURCH CHARITY (Number 1138055)
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

This report is submitted in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, and the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting by Charities (2005), applicable to charities preparing accounts on a receipts and payments basis.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Farnham United Reformed Church (FURC) is a local church within the United Reformed Church in Great Britain and is part of the Wessex Synod of the United Reformed Church. The church is located at South Street, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 7QU.

Since 1 September 2018, FURC has operated jointly with Farnham Methodist Church (FMC) as a Single Congregation Local Ecumenical Partnership, known as The Spire Church Farnham (SFC). Under this arrangement, FURC is a connected charity with FMC and SFC, with all three sharing an identical board of trustees.

Trustees (1 January 2024 – 31 December 2024):

- The Revd Philip Simpkins
- The Revd Dr Michael Hopkins (to 28 February 2024)
- The Revd Wayne Hawkins (from 01 March 2024)
- Deacon Joy Everingham (from 01 September 2024)
- Mr Roy Beard
- Mr Roy Davenport
- Mrs Sue Dawson
- Mr Stephen Dobbs
- Mrs Caroline Gaines (from 20 October 2024)
- Mrs Valerie Jarvis
- Mrs Margaret Johnson
- Mrs Alison Noakes
- Mrs Dawn Pilkington (from 01 September 2024)
- Miss Ann Pook
- Mrs Heather Richards
- Mr Ian Sargeant
- Mr Nick Savill (to 31 August 2024)
- Mrs Janet Stone
- Mr David Tropman
- Mr Roger Verster

The church building at South Street, Farnham, and the manse at 23 Hillary Road are vested in the United Reformed Church (Wessex) Trust Ltd. and held for the benefit of FURC under the trust provisions applicable to United Reformed Church properties. The charity's trustees are responsible for managing these two properties.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE, AND MANAGEMENT

Since 1 September 2018, Farnham United Reformed Church has operated as part of The Spire Church Farnham, a Single Congregation Local Ecumenical Partnership with Farnham Methodist Church (a charity excepted from registration). All worship and daily activities are jointly conducted by the two

churches through The Spire Church Farnham. While FURC and FMC remain separate legal entities, they share a common membership roll and have formally delegated all governance responsibilities to The Spire Church Farnham. The trustees of The Spire Church Farnham are also the trustees of the funds of FURC.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Farnham United Reformed Church, through The Spire Church Farnham, has the following objectives: To help people experience the love of God through Jesus Christ.

The trustees are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit and have adhered to it in the administration of the church. The trustees believe the church benefits the public by providing opportunities and resources for public worship, pastoral care, and spiritual, moral, and intellectual development. These services are extended both to the congregation and to the wider community, promoting Christian values and service, which in turn benefits individuals and society as a whole.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Throughout 2024, the church continued to provide public worship, preach the Gospel, and administer sacraments. Key activities included:

- Regular study groups.
- Pastoral care provided by ministers and others.
- Active participation of church members in community service, both within and outside the church.
- The Spire Coffee Bar and various groups for toddlers, children, young people, and adults, open to all members of the community.
- Rooms made available for community use when not required for church activities, with users contributing towards church running costs. Charges in the coffee bar were kept low to encourage community engagement, Christian fellowship, and fundraising for charitable causes.
- Creation of a welcoming hub for visitors, enhancement of premises, and engagement with the cultural life of the community to promote spiritual values.
- Continued collaboration with other local churches, especially those in Farnham, as well as regional Methodist and United Reformed Churches.

Significant progress was made on the Pilgrim Project, aimed at refurbishing and developing the church building. Fundraising activities are ongoing, and donations and grants are being sought to support the project. Due to rising costs and the timescale the project has been subdivided into nine phases with the aim of phases 1-3 being completed by the end of 2026.


FINANCIAL REVIEW

The church's accounts for the year show a surplus of £263 compared to a surplus of £18,640 in the previous year.

This report was approved by the trustees at their meeting on 16 July 2025. Two trustees were authorised to sign the accounts and report on behalf of the board.



Philip Simpkins (Minister)



Alison Noakes (Church Secretary)



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Farnham United Reformed Church Charity

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1138055

Set out on pages

3 & 4

(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 DD / MM / YYYY.

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:

M L Williamson

Date:

8/4/25

Name:

Michael Williamson

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

Address:

8 Glynswood, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 4TN

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.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Farnham United Reformed Church

1138055

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01-Jan-24	To	31-Dec-24
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Giving to General Funds	4,686	5,870	-	10,556	13,174
Sales of Refreshments & Sundry Goods	74,485	-	-	74,485	75,578
Grants from Spire Church & Others	-	-	-	-	14,169
Fundraising Events (net)	4,010	6,735	-	10,745	10,440
Interest	4,553	2,760	-	7,313	5,841
Use of Premises	36,758	-	-	36,758	37,507
Ins Compensation Business Interruptn	-	-	-	-	-
Donations and Tax Refunds	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	124,491	15,365	-	139,856	156,709
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	124,491	15,365	-	139,856	156,709
A3 Payments					
Purchase of Cafeteria Supplies etc	27,727	-	-	27,727	25,155
Grants to Spire Church Farnham	63,050	-	-	63,050	90,000
Charitable Donations	1,233	-	-	1,233	1,250
Office & Admin Expenses	911	86	-	997	1,770
Maint. Church Prpoerty inc Insurance	44,066	-	-	44,066	17,901
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-
Project Costs	-	2,520	-	2,520	1,993
Fundraising Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	136,987	2,606	-	139,593	138,069
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	136,987	2,606	-	139,593	138,069
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 12,495.78	12,758.44	-	263	18,640
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	- 12,496	12,758	-	263	18,640

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		£ 101,835	156,036	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	101,835	156,036	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	Agreement Error	OK



	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	IAN C. SARGEANT	8/4/25
	ALISON L NOAKES	8/4/25



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			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

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			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

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