

RIVER CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1146525

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2012-03-22

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

Contact

Address River Church Registered Office
1 Meadlake Place
Thorpe Lea Road
Egham
Surrey
TW20 8HE

Phone 07508812447

Email admin@riverchurch.org.uk

Website www.riverchurch.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE CHARITY'S OBJECTS ARE FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT AND ARE RESTRICTED TO THE FOLLOWING:(A)TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATEMENT OF BELIEFS IN THE SCHEDULE HERETO ATTACHED IN SUCH PARTS OF THE THAMES VALLEY, THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT AND TO FULFIL SUCH OTHER PURPOSES WHICH ARE EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE ACCORDING TO THE LAW OF ENGLAND AND WALES AND ARE CONNECTED WITH THE CHARITABLE WORK OF THE CHARITY;(B)TO RELIEVE PERSONS WHO ARE IN CONDITIONS OF NEED, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SICKNESS AND WHO MAY BE AGED AND TO RELIEVE THE DISTRESS CAUSED THEREBY IN THE SAID LOCATION AND IN SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT;(C)TO FURTHER CHRISTIAN OR SECULAR EDUCATION IN SUCH PARTS OF THE THAMES VALLEY, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT;(D)TO PROVIDE OR ASSIST IN THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY OR DISABILITY, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE.

Activities: The charitable aims of River Church are to: advance the Christian faith in the Thames valley, the United Kingdom and the wider world; bring relief to persons who are in need, financial hardship or suffering from illness or deprivation; further Christian or secular education in the Thames valley, the United Kingdom and wider world as appropriate; benefit the lives of people in local communities.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Education/training, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Overseas Aid/famine Relief, Religious Activities, Economic/community Development/employment, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, SLOUGH, SURREY, WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD, CHINA, GERMANY, NEPAL, THAILAND, TURKEY, UGANDA
- China
- Hong Kong
- Mozambique
- Nepal
- Thailand
- Buckinghamshire
- Slough
- Surrey
- West Berkshire
- Windsor And Maidenhead

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£539,734	£460,030	£1,141,105	10
2023-12-31	£1,090,531	£439,706	£1,061,401	9
2022-12-31	£438,392	£358,122	-	-
2021-12-31	£441,009	£480,715	-	-
2020-12-31	£439,829	£430,301	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Ashvinder Vickers	Chair	2026-01-07
Alistair John Handford		2017-01-01
Andrea Boultonwood		2026-03-04
Graham Leslie Burgess		2023-02-13
Mary Kathleen Porter		2019-08-01
Michael John Holt		2017-01-01
Ruth Abigail Parry		2023-04-12

RIVER CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1146525

Accounts

River Church

Report and Accounts
Year ended 31 December 2024

Stewardship 
Active generosity

1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB
www.stewardship.org.uk

RIVER CHURCH
CHARITY INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Trustees	Michael John Holt Graham Leslie Burgess Caroline Grace Read Mary Kathleen Porter Alistair John Handford Ruth Abigail Parry Ian Linton (resigned January 2024) Chris May (resigned April 2024)	
Treasurer	Nigel Rivers	
Church Leaders	Adam Chisnall Paul Wratten & Anthea Wratten Julie Ioakeim Rachael Pymm, Catherine France, Joel Clarke (until Apr '24), Luke Saunders (from Jun '24)	River Maidenhead River Marlow River Slough The Journey (Englefield Green)
Governing Document	Constitution dated 15 December 2022	
Charity Registration Number	1146525	
Principal Address & Registered Office	From 1 August 2024: 1 Meadlake Place Egham Surrey TW20 8HE	<i>Until 1 August 2024:</i> <i>Bank House</i> <i>81 St Judes Road</i> <i>Englefield Green</i> <i>Surrey</i> <i>TW20 0DF</i>
Independent Examiner	Sarah Crispin ACA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage London EC1Y 8AB	
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19 4JQ	Metro Bank 1 Southampton Row London WC1B 5HQ

Contents	Page
Charity Information	1
Trustees' Annual Report	2 - 10
Independent Examiner's Report	11
Statement of Financial Activities	12
Balance Sheet	13
Cash flow Statement	14
Notes to the Accounts	15 - 22
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities with Comparatives	23

RIVER CHURCH REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of **Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice** applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charitable aims of River Church are to:

- Advance the Christian faith in the Thames Valley, the United Kingdom and the wider world;
- Bring relief to persons who are in need, financial hardship or suffering from illness or deprivation;
- Further Christian or secular education in the Thames Valley, the United Kingdom and wider world as appropriate;
- Benefit the lives of people in the communities where River churches reside; by improving or providing local facilities and activities.

The vision of River Church is to serve our communities and to see transformation through the love and power of God.

River Church employed 10 staff on either a full-time or part-time basis as at 31 December 2024 (2023: 10), including the church leaders and other administration staff and youth workers.

In addition to the employed staff there are many teams of volunteers and helpers across our four churches who together seek to be "salt and light" within our communities to achieve the charity's aims.

Public benefit

In planning the activities of River Church, the trustees have given regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance (Reg 40 (2) (c) (ii)) and particularly the guidance for charities whose objects include the advancement of religion.

River Church provides public benefit in numerous ways across our four churches as follows:

The Journey Church - Englefield Green, Surrey

Our church in Englefield Green has a strong community focus at its heart and runs a community hub in association with Runnymede Council.

During 2024, five community lunches were hosted, serving a total of 270 hot meals. Each lunch is free to attend to help those in financial need.

RIVER CHURCH REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

We see many elderly attendees from the home next door to the Hub. Our lunch in June had an eco-focus as part of The Great Big Green Week and in partnership with Runnymede Borough Council and featured a chicken and vegetable barbeque. The Christmas community lunch also included a free raffle, quiz and Christmas presents given to all attendees.

Other activities held at the Hub include:

- An after-school children's club hosted every Thursday during school term, attended by 28 children ages 7-11 years. Each child received an Easter egg and Christmas present.
- Weekly dance club in partnership with Royal Holloway Dance Society.
- Weekly gardening club incorporating special family gardening day events during school holidays, promoting home-grown food and care for the environment. The gardening club earned the Royal Horticultural Society's "It's Your Neighbourhood" Award at Level 5 – Outstanding for the third year in a row.
- Weekly Community Cafe, providing a communal space for those in the local vicinity with coffee, tea and entertainment including quizzes, bingo and other games

We attended the Englefield Green Village Fair in June 2024 to promote the work of the Journey Church at the Hub, including:

- Prayer verses and encouragement
- Free refreshments
- Information about activities and volunteering opportunities at the Hub
- Free plant giveaway

During 2024 a party was held in celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Journey Church in the Englefield Green community. This was attended by past and current members and friends of the church.

Two food hampers were donated to the Besom charity based in Egham as part of their Christmas appeal. These were funded by the church and put together as part of our small groups.

Our Christmas carol service was attended by 40 people, many not usual attendees of the church. The event featured dance performances by children of the Hub's dance club and a musical play telling the Christmas story.

We ran a free and well-attended Summer Fair, Carol Singing at Christmas and Easter events for residents at Aldwyn Place, an elderly rented housing centre with extra care situated adjacent to the Hub.

Three free, quiz events, open to the community were held as fun events with numerous fun prizes.

RIVER CHURCH REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

River Church, Maidenhead

Our church in Maidenhead has blossomed in 2024, adding a third to our weekly gatherings and doubling our River family. These individuals came from our community outreach work, through our congregations' own personal witness, and through our social media and website efforts. We ran 2 Alpha courses in 2024 and baptised 4 individuals.

Our CAP debt centre celebrated its eighth year of operation, and we approach a major milestone with over £950,000 of debt repaid or written off in that period across 64 families by the end of 2024. We anticipate crossing the £1m line in 2025.

We ran monthly community lunches, creating a community around the meal table in a fresh expression of church.

Our Youth Work doubled in size and our youth are now inviting their friends along as they practice mission and witness.

The young people attended a Christian summer camp where we saw a new depth to their relationship with Jesus.

Our Children's Work doubled in size, and we began running regular River Kid's meetups outside of a Sunday gathering, increasing their community with each other.

We ran a packed-out Easter event for children, with 75% of those attending from the community, giving us an opportunity to reach out to the community in a different way with the gospel message.

We continued to run our toddler group every week and again have watched this double in size, and a 'River Tots' program has been formed to teach the basics of the bible in an engaging way while sharing the importance of Prayer and Worship.

Our Larchfield Ladybirds toddler group has been growing and we're delighted to begin to see fresh fruit from those family attending, also coming along to community lunches and events at church, exploring what we believe.

We meet in rented accommodation (as indeed we have in our 50 year history). However, we pursued God as he is leading us ever close to our 'Miracle Building', with an emphasis on raising awareness, deepening faith and fundraising for this big project on the horizon.

River Church, Slough

In our Slough church, we have seen a good level of growth in the size of our congregation in 2024 and an increase in our influence across the borough.

We operate a weekly toddler group.

RIVER CHURCH REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

We have recently gone into a care home on several occasions to deliver a church service and communion, we then pray privately with those that are unable to gather in the main living area.

We offer midweek small groups to support our congregation in building relationships and learning the truth of the Word of God.

We have been excited to have seen a number of physical healings in 2024 following prayer including;

- Feet painfully swollen with gout, healed
- Feet painful and red, healed
- Knees, healed
- Painful back where the person was unable to walk properly, healed
- Woman who had a stroke and family told would be brain dead, healed

In 2024 we held both a Christmas and an Easter outreach in a large temporary housing building that houses up to 800 individuals and families. We had Santa giving Christmas presents, carol singing with the occupants joining in with song sheets. There was facepainting, games, colouring, chocolates, glowsticks and balloons.

At Easter, we had the Easter Bunny giving Easter eggs and children listened to the Easter story. There was also facepainting, games, colouring, chocolates, glowsticks and balloons. Both events offered prayer to the people and many now receive lifts and join us on Sundays for Church.

At the end of 2023 we started the Giving Hope Furniture project which collects donated furniture and household items, and through referrals from different organisations such as DASH (domestic abuse), the Council, 1st for Children, NHS, Community connectors and many others, we give those items to people in crisis in the SL postcode area. This covers Slough, Langley, Colnbrook, Cippenham, Britwell, Windsor, Maidenhead, Taplow, Burnham and Dorney.

The project is run by volunteers who give up their Saturday to help collect and deliver to those in need and financial hardship resulting from many different reasons, such as escaping domestic abuse, those who have been homeless, refugees, and anyone who has found themselves in crisis, regardless of their religion, race, nationality, age, gender or disability.

This project also offers a placement midweek to a 17-year-old autistic person from BCA college who found it difficult to communicate with those around him. He is learning to clean, sand, paint and varnish, and fix furniture. He loves his placement and is communicating well with us.

The project is funded by generous donors without which we cannot continue. We have been truly blessed by several companies such as SEGRO who offer a building on six monthly contracts, Dulux paints who supply paints for the restoration of furniture, and ASDA who donate bedding.

RIVER CHURCH REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

River Church, Marlow

Our church in Marlow continued to grow and flourish during 2024.

We were active in meeting the needs of those in our community experiencing financial hardship through regular use of our hardship fund and referrals to our CAP Debt Centre.

We run a weekly lunch group to over 60's supported housing which continues to grow. Now with up to 20 attendees each week.

Our parents, carers and toddlers' group has grown with the addition of singing and craft activities, with more older, single people popping in for coffee and chat.

Church members volunteer at a busy monthly lunch for the homeless in High Wycombe.

We have partnered with World Vision and many of us are now part of their 'Chosen' program.

A mission trip partnering with Links International to Malawi is planned for September 2025.

We join with churches together in Marlow to provide joint services at Easter and a praise service as part of Marlow Regatta.

We run regular Christian teaching series on Sunday mornings at our gatherings and nearly all church members are part of small groups that meet during the week.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

General Funds

During the year total incoming resources to General Funds were £391,334 (2023: £1,026,049) and total resources used from General Funds were £359,188 (2023: £341,480), resulting in a General Fund surplus for the year of £32,146 (2023: £684,569). Included in this income is a legacy gift of £59,220 (2023: £679,750) from a church member who died in the year. Good general regularity of giving continues across the four churches, combined with the continued budgetary spending controls.

Designated Funds

Donations to Designated Funds totalled £37,100 (2023: £11,076) with designated expenditure totalling £6,870 (2023: £20,184). The surplus of £40,463 (2023: deficit of £9,108) was added to the surpluses brought forward, after some agreed specific transfers between funds.

Restricted Funds

Restricted Funds income totalled £101,067 (2023: £53,407) for the year with restricted expenditure totalling £93,972 (2023: £78,043). The surplus of £7,095 (2023: deficit £24,636) was added to Restricted Funds surpluses brought forward with some agreed transfers from other funds.

RIVER CHURCH REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

At the end of the year, 31st December 2024, the Charity held £909,492 (2023: £879,713) in General Funds, £48,091 (2023: £6,802) in Designated Funds and £183,522 (2023: £174,885) in Restricted Funds.

General Funds continue to exceed the trustees' minimum reserve policy of £75,000 (2023: £75,000) by a good margin.

Bank Balances

River Church bank balances at 31st December 2024 stood at £970,245 (2023: £862,874) which the trustees consider sufficient to meet all foreseeable and future risks now that the 2025 General Fund income and expenditure budget has been approved.

Investment policy and objectives

The trustees of River Church acknowledge they have a key responsibility for good stewardship of church funds. In decision-making in these areas the following investment principles and guidelines are considered.

River Church will:

- Invest funds in a manner that is consistent with the teachings of Jesus Christ and in line with its charitable objectives;
- Handle all funds with integrity, transparency and with good governance;
- Invest funds in a way that is both compliant with prevailing charitable law and that balance both the medium- and longer-term needs foreseen;
- Invest funds in a manner that seeks to maximise the return or to achieve other agreed aims in line with its charitable objectives;
- Formally review the investment policy annually as to its adequacy.

Reserves policy

The trustees have established a policy of maintaining reserves at a level they feel would enable them to continue the current activities of the church in the event of a short-term significant drop in income.

The largest regular operating costs of the charity are staff salaries and church building leases and meeting hall hire. Consequently, the trustees' policy is to maintain sufficient reserves to cover three months of such expenditure (£75K). Unrestricted funds exceeded this level throughout the year.

The governing body review the level of reserves annually to confirm their adequacy and the potential risk. On the 31st of December 2024 this General Fund "risk reserve" stood at £75,000 (2023: £75,000).

The current total level of reserves remains relatively high mainly due to substantial giving to River Maidenhead's 'Miracle Building Project', CAP debt management designated funds and Englefield Green Community Hub. The church also benefitted from a legacy gift in 2023 & 2024 of which £ 59,220 (2023: £679,750) was received at the balance sheet date.

RIVER CHURCH REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

FUTURE PLANS

The key strategies for the charity during 2025 are both to build and to expand on the local community focus work and initiatives where the individual churches reside, ie., to continue to build churches that develop strong healthy followers of Jesus who bless and serve the community within which they operate.

We aim to capitalise on the online opportunity that the pandemic created by continuing to build online capability and integrate this as a complement to other approaches to church outreach. For example, by using online capability to host mid-week meetings for prayer and Bible study thus avoiding the need for additional hall rental costs. We also use online capability to 'broadcast' Sunday services to those who are unable to attend in person.

Our goals for 2025 are to;

- invest in and train up a new generation of leaders;
- continue to encourage the four churches to remain financially independent so that the central cost overhead is reduced and shared among them;
- to support the development of the four independent churches within a common set of shared values;
- continue the search for a suitable property for the Maidenhead Miracle Building project and to find a suitable location for the continuation of our Giving Hope Furniture project in Slough.
- continue to build and invest in the work of the CAP Debt Centre supporting Maidenhead and Marlow
- further develop our online church capability and community: reaching, connecting and sharing in the digital space

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

In December 2022 River Church converted to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with a new written constitution duly received and accepted by the Charities Commission on 15th December 2022.

This constitution replaced the 2012 Memorandum and Articles. The limited company therefore closed in December 2022.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The powers of appointment and removal of trustees rests with the 'members' of River Church. Trustees are selected from committed attendees of the churches that make up River Church. This aims to ensure that the trustee body as a whole is involved practically in working out the church's mission and the trustees have also subscribed to a statement of faith. No trustees are remunerated for their services to River Church.

During 2024 the trustees of River Church met on seven occasions. Each meeting of the trustees during the year was led by the Chair of trustees, who is not a member of the spiritual leadership of River Church. The Chair is elected annually by the other non-leadership trustees.

RIVER CHURCH REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

Each trustee meeting had a full and balanced agenda covering the spiritual, strategic, performance, financial, legal and risk issues facing the church.

Organisational structure

Local Management

Directions relating to the charity for 2024 were made by the trustees, in consultation with the church leaders, who were responsible for governing the activities and teaching of the church. Day-to-day decisions on the use of resources remained the responsibility of the staff and volunteers in charge of the different departments within the churches.

Expenditure is controlled by budgets set and expense approval monitored by the trustees. The establishment of a new Restricted or Designated Fund is at the joint discretion of the trustees in consultation with the leader of each Church.

Network Structure

River Church is a member of the Evangelical Alliance and has a long-standing relationship with Pioneer; a Christian organisation that pursues similar objectives in the United Kingdom and overseas. The church works with Pioneer in assisting other churches and receives help itself where needed.

Responsibilities of trustees under charity law

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

1. select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
2. observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
3. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
4. state whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
5. prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**RIVER CHURCH REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the Year Ended 31 December 2024**

Approval

Approved by order of the board of trustees on Sep 15, 2025
behalf by:

MJHolt

MJHolt (Sep 15, 2025 15:58:13 GMT+1)

M J Holt - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
RIVER CHURCH
(‘the Charity’)**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 on pages 12 to 23 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 15 to 16.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity’s trustees of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation 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 Charity’s accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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

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

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Sarah Crispin
Sarah Crispin (Oct 2, 2025 11:37:06 GMT+1)

Sarah Crispin ACA
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Oct 2, 2025

RIVER CHURCH
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Donations and legacies	3	414,552	94,257	508,809	1,079,223
Charitable activities	4	135	5,343	5,477	5,586
Investments	5	23,981	1,468	25,449	5,722
Total income and endowments		438,667	101,067	539,734	1,090,531
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities	6	366,058	93,972	460,030	439,706
Total expenditure		366,058	93,972	460,030	439,706
Net income/(expenditure)		72,609	7,095	79,704	650,825
Transfers between funds	14	(1,542)	1,542	-	-
Net movement in funds		71,067	8,637	79,704	650,825
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		886,515	174,885	1,061,401	410,576
Total funds carried forward	14	957,583	183,522	1,141,105	1,061,401

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The notes on page 15 - 22 form part of these accounts.

RIVER CHURCH
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	8	25,190	-	25,190	-
		<u>25,190</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,190</u>	<u>-</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	15,480	-	15,480	216,727
Investments	10	151,883	-	151,883	-
Cash at bank and in hand	11	786,723	183,522	970,245	862,874
		<u>954,086</u>	<u>183,522</u>	<u>1,137,608</u>	<u>1,079,601</u>
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	12	(21,694)	-	(21,694)	(18,200)
		<u>932,393</u>	<u>183,522</u>	<u>1,115,915</u>	<u>1,061,401</u>
Net current assets / (liabilities)					
		<u>932,393</u>	<u>183,522</u>	<u>1,115,915</u>	<u>1,061,401</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>957,583</u>	<u>183,522</u>	<u>1,141,105</u>	<u>1,061,401</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>957,583</u>	<u>183,522</u>	<u>1,141,105</u>	<u>1,061,401</u>
FUND BALANCES					
Unrestricted Funds	14				
General funds		909,492	-	909,492	879,713
Designated funds		48,091	-	48,091	6,802
		<u>957,583</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>957,583</u>	<u>886,515</u>
Restricted Funds		-	183,522	183,522	174,885
		<u>957,583</u>	<u>183,522</u>	<u>1,141,105</u>	<u>1,061,401</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and were signed on its behalf by:


M J Holt (Sep 15, 2025 15:58:13 GMT+1)

M J Holt

Date: Sep 15, 2025

Charity number: 1146525

The notes on page 15 - 22 form part of these accounts.

RIVER CHURCH
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024
CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	a	<u>263,504</u>	<u>482,915</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		25,449	5,722
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(29,698)	-
Purchase of investments		(151,883)	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		<u>(156,133)</u>	<u>5,722</u>
Change in cash and equivalents in the reporting period		<u>107,371</u>	<u>488,637</u>
Cash and equivalents at the beginning of the year	b	<u>862,874</u>	<u>374,237</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	b	<u>970,245</u>	<u>862,874</u>

Analysis of changes in net debt:

	At start of year £	Cash-flows £	At end of year £
Cash	862,874	107,371	970,245
Total net funds / (debt)	<u>862,874</u>	<u>107,371</u>	<u>970,245</u>

Note a: Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	79,704	650,825
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges and provisions for impairment	4,508	-
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(25,449)	(5,722)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	201,247	(166,149)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	3,494	3,961
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>263,504</u>	<u>482,915</u>

Note b: Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash at bank with immediate access	817,796	716,203
Notice deposits	152,449	146,671
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>970,245</u>	<u>862,874</u>

RIVER CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Statutory Information

The charity is a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales. The charity's registered number and principal address can be found on the Charity Information page.

2 Accounting Policies

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the "Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) ("the Charities SORP"), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (the '2008 Regulations') requires charities to prepare their accounts in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005' but this accounting standard has since been withdrawn and has been replaced by the Charities SORP mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The charity has prepared these financial statements in accordance with the new Charities SORP; this departure from the 2008 Regulations is believed to be necessary for these financial statements to give a 'true and fair view'.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

a) Going concern

The trustees (who are the charitable company's directors for the purposes of company law) have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the trustees have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and / or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The trustees have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

b) Income

Income including investment income is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part, income is generally recognised when it is received. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income from donations and legacies includes:

- i) Recoverable gift aid. This is recognised when the related donation is received. Gift aid that has not been recovered by the balance sheet date is included as a debtor.
- ii) Legacies. Income from legacies is recognised when a distribution is received from the estate or, if earlier, when the charity has been notified that a distribution will be made and the amount receivable can be measured reliably. During the year, the charity received a single legacy which comprised cash & a property. Part of the cash legacy was received during 2024 and included as accrued income in these accounts. The property was sold and the proceeds recognised on sale. The associated costs are shown as 'Legacy costs' in expenditure.

The charity relies on volunteers to carry out many of its activities. However, in accordance with the SORP, the value of these services has not been included in these financial statements as they cannot be reliably measured.

Income from charitable activities represents income receivable from goods, services and facilities supplied in furtherance of the charity's charitable objects. It includes income from facilities hire which represents contributions to services from other community groups using the Forest Estate Community Hub.

Investment income represents income generated by the charity's assets and includes income from bank interest.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

The charity makes grants to other institutions and individuals to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.

RIVER CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2 Accounting Policies (cont.)

The cost of raising funds is not significant and has not been separately disclosed.

Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.

d) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects. Endowment funds are donations that are retained as capital in accordance with the donor's wishes. The nature of the restriction determines whether the endowments represent permanent endowments or expendable endowments.

e) Tangible fixed assets

Items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £10,000 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life. To achieve this objective the following rates of depreciation are charged:

Computers & Sound Equipment	Over 3 years
Vehicles	Over 5 years

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment in periods when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

f) Pension scheme arrangements

The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for its employees. Obligations for contributions to these schemes are recognised as an expense when the liability arises. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

g) Taxation

The charity has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's income.

h) Financial instruments

The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities all qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Except for loans, creditors and debtors are measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive). The charity recognises liabilities for the principal of those loans that remains outstanding at the year end (i.e. the liabilities exclude any interest chargeable on the loans in future years).

i) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The trustees do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

3 Donations and legacies

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations of cash and similar	339,505	321,127
Donations in kind (note 3a)	3,750	-
Other grants receivable	45,200	10,211
Legacies receivable	59,220	679,750
Income tax recoverable	61,134	68,136
	<u>508,809</u>	<u>1,079,223</u>

a Donations in kind comprise:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donated services	3,750	-
	<u>3,750</u>	<u>-</u>

Donated services comprise pro bono services of a fundraising specialist for CAP Debt Centre.

RIVER CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

4 Income from charitable activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Forest Hub - Facilities Hire	5,477	5,586
	<u>5,477</u>	<u>5,586</u>

5 Investment income

	2024 £	2023 £
Bank interest	25,449	5,722
	<u>25,449</u>	<u>5,722</u>

6 Charitable expenditure

	Church Activities	CAP Debt Centre	Forest Hub	Total Charitable Expenditure 2024
a Incurred directly on activities				
Salaries, travel & training	178,209	36,601	22,942	237,752
Church ministry costs	16,870	-	474	15,636
Outreach & events	18,258	6	5,996	24,260
CAP Debt centre running costs	-	1,708	-	1,708
Equipment	10,365	-	270	10,635
Premises expenses including venue hire	44,050	-	3,622	47,672
Building costs	4,193	-	4,751	8,944
Communications	4,094	-	654	4,748
Legacy costs	645	-	-	645
Grants payable (note 6c)	60,367	7,200	-	67,567
b Support costs				
Professional fees	14,253	3,750	500	18,503
Office costs & insurance	12,203	249	202	12,653
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	4,508	-	-	4,508
Governance	4,048	419	334	4,800
	<u>372,063</u>	<u>49,932</u>	<u>39,743</u>	<u>460,030</u>

	Church Activities	CAP Debt Centre	Forest Hub	Total Charitable Expenditure 2023
Incurred directly on activities				
Salaries, travel & training	152,325	33,512	19,348	205,185
Church ministry costs	12,936	-	-	12,936
Outreach & events	20,152	-	3,719	23,871
CAP Debt centre running costs	-	1,323	-	1,323
Equipment	17,824	538	985	19,347
Premises expenses including venue hire	46,281	278	4,923	51,483
Communications	4,185	46	135	4,366
Legacy costs	29,901	-	-	29,901
Grants payable (note 6c)	56,862	7,200	33	64,096
Support costs				
Professional fees	11,608	253	256	12,118
Office costs & insurance	10,089	12	419	10,520
Governance	4,368	95	96	4,560
	<u>366,533</u>	<u>43,258</u>	<u>29,916</u>	<u>439,706</u>

RIVER CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

6 Charitable expenditure (cont.)

As the charity's income is over £500,000 in the current year, expenditure is disclosed by charitable activity.

Professional fees and Governance costs are allocated to the CAP Debt Centre and the Forest Hub based on the proportion of total income restricted to these projects.

The fee payable to the independent examiner for preparing and examining the accounts was £4,560 (2023: £4,560); in addition the charity paid £350 (2023: £210) to Stewardship for consultancy services.

c Grants payable

	Institutions £	Individuals £	2024 £
Grants for UK and overseas mission	41,448	16,750	58,198
Grants for the relief of poverty	7,674	1,695	9,369
	<u>49,122</u>	<u>18,445</u>	<u>67,567</u>

The comparatives for the previous year are as follows:

	Institutions £	Individuals £	2023 £
Grants for UK and overseas mission	23,542	17,519	41,061
Grants for the relief of poverty	7,240	15,794	23,034
	<u>30,782</u>	<u>33,314</u>	<u>64,096</u>

The charity's principal grants to institutions comprised:

	2024 £	2023 £
Pioneer	7,748	9,292
Frontiers	8,700	3,000
Light International	10,000	7,333
Friends of Asha	-	3,000
Englefield Green Community Hub	15,000	-
Christians Against Poverty	7,674	7,200
Grants to institutions for less than £1,000 each	-	957
	<u>49,122</u>	<u>30,782</u>

7 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and trustee remuneration

	2024 £	2023 £
Gross wages and salaries	207,717	172,241
Social security	12,059	2,655
Pension costs	5,766	5,005
	<u>225,542</u>	<u>179,901</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 10 (2023: 9). Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

The charity's key management comprise the trustees and the church leaders on the Charity Information page. During the year key management received employment benefits totalling £89,801 (2023: £87,157).

Payroll costs included redundancy and termination payments totalling £nil (2023: £10,062) and comprise statutory payments and ex-gratia payments where this was considered appropriate. Redundancy and termination payments are charged when the liability or obligation arises.

No trustees received employment benefits in either the current or preceding year.

RIVER CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Vehicles	Computers & Sound Equipment £	Total 2024 £
Cost			
At 1 January 2024	-	25,656	25,656
Additions	17,500	12,198	29,698
At 31 December 2024	<u>17,500</u>	<u>37,854</u>	<u>55,354</u>
Accumulated depreciation			
At 1 January 2024	-	25,656	25,656
Charge for the year	1,458	3,050	4,508
At 31 December 2024	<u>1,458</u>	<u>28,706</u>	<u>30,164</u>
Net book value			
At 31 December 2024	<u>16,042</u>	<u>9,149</u>	<u>25,190</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

9 Debtors: falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Falling due within one year:		
Tax recoverable	6,599	11,063
Other debtors	118	503
Prepayments and accrued income	8,763	205,161
	<u>15,480</u>	<u>216,727</u>

10 Current asset investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash equivalent deposits	151,883	-
	<u>151,883</u>	<u>-</u>

11 Cash at Bank and in Hand

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash at bank with immediate access	817,796	716,203
Notice deposits	152,449	146,671
	<u>970,245</u>	<u>862,874</u>

12 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	6,229	185
Taxation and social security	3,744	3,520
Other creditors	80	3,794
Accruals	9,360	10,701
Deferred income	2,281	-
	<u>21,694</u>	<u>18,200</u>

13 Pension commitments

During the year employer's pension contributions totalling £5,766 (2023: £5,005) were payable to defined contribution personal pension schemes. Pension contributions of £nil were owing at the balance sheet date (2023: £3,364).

RIVER CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

14 Funds

During the year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2024 £	Incoming resources 2024 £	Outgoing resources 2024 £	Transfers in the year 2024 £	Gains and losses 2024 £	Closing balance 2024 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
Congregational Funds	111	-	-	(111)	-	-
Community Support Funds	6,691	625	(2,169)	-	-	5,147
Miracle Building Fund	-	46,708	(4,701)	938	-	42,945
	6,802	47,333	(6,870)	826	-	48,091
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>	879,714	391,334	(359,188)	(2,368)	-	909,492
Total Unrestricted Funds	886,517	438,667	(366,058)	(1,542)	-	957,583
<i>Restricted Funds</i>						
International Support Funds	3,626	3,225	(1,725)	-	-	5,126
CAP Debt Centre	3,463	47,066	(49,932)	-	-	597
Miracle Building	148,219	11,833	-	-	-	160,052
Forest Hub	19,692	37,536	(39,743)	-	-	17,484
Other Community Support Funds	(129)	698	(956)	650 a)	-	262
Other Congregational Support	14	710	(1,615)	892 b)	-	-
	174,885	101,067	(93,972)	1,542	-	183,522
Aggregate of funds	1,061,402	539,734	(460,030)	-	-	1,141,105

The transfers referred to above were made for the following reasons:

- a) Transfer from the Charity's Christmas offering to the Whycombe project's Christmas event.
- b) Transfer from General Unrestricted Funds to Other Congregational Support to cover excess outgoing resources.

Analysis of net assets by fund

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>2024</u>
	General funds £	Designated funds £	funds £	£
Tangible fixed assets	25,190	-	-	25,190
Debtors	15,480	-	-	15,480
Cash at bank and in hand	738,632	48,091	183,522	970,245
Creditors falling due within one year	(21,694)	-	-	(21,694)
	909,492	48,091	183,522	1,141,105

RIVER CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

14 Funds (cont.)

In the previous year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2023 £	Incoming resources 2023 £	Outgoing resources 2023 £	Transfers in the year 2023 £	Gains and losses 2023 £	Closing balance 2023 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
Congregational Funds	8,309	1,165	(4,470)	(4,893)	-	111
Community Support Funds	12,494	9,911	(15,714)	-	-	6,691
	20,803	11,076	(20,184)	(4,893)	-	6,802
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>	195,252	1,026,049	(341,480)	(107)	-	879,714
Total Unrestricted Funds	216,055	1,037,125	(361,664)	(5,000)	-	886,516
<i>Restricted Funds</i>						
International Support Funds	1,944	4,793	(3,111)	-	-	3,626
CAP Debt Centre	18,569	22,803	(42,910)	5,000	-	3,463
Miracle Building	146,982	1,238	-	-	-	148,219
Forest Hub	26,196	23,059	(29,563)	-	-	19,692
Other Community Support Funds	829	588	(1,545)	-	-	(129)
Other Congregational Support	-	927	(914)	-	-	14
	194,521	53,407	(78,043)	5,000	-	174,885
Aggregate of funds	410,576	1,090,531	(439,706)	-	-	1,061,401

Analysis of net assets by fund

In the previous year, the assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		<u>Restricted Funds</u>	<u>2023</u>
	General funds £	Designated funds £	funds £	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Debtors	216,727	-	-	216,727
Cash at bank and in hand	681,187	6,802	174,885	862,874
Creditors falling due within one year	(18,200)	-	-	(18,200)
	879,713	6,802	174,885	1,061,401

Designated funds

Community Support Funds represent funds set aside for local charitable giving.

Miracle Building Fund represent funds set aside for the purchase of a new building.

Restricted funds

International Support Funds relate to money received for various international ministries and the support of church missionaries abroad.

CAP Debt centre funds are restricted to this project.

Miracle Building fund relates to money donated for the purchase of a building.

Forest Hub funds are restricted to activities at the Forest Hub.

Other Congregational Support funds are restricted to support the individual congregations.

Other Community Support Funds represent funds set aside for local charitable giving.

RIVER CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

15 Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity:

- a) received donations totalling £35,448 (2023: £66,041) from related parties (which includes trustees, any other members of key management and anyone closely connected to them).
- b) No expenses (2023: £nil) were paid to, or for, the trustees.

During the year the charity also made the following payments to, or for, related parties:

- a) Bethani Chisnall, who is closely related to Adam Chisnall, who is a member of key management, received employment benefits totalling £22,385 (2023: £17,598) for her work as Head of Childrens & Families work.
- b) Alex Ioakeim, who is closely related to Julie Ioakeim, who is a member of key management, received employment benefits totalling £19,693 (2023: £2,296) as site manager for the Giving Hope Furniture project.

16 Members

Each member of the charity commits to contribute if the charity is wound up an amount of £10.

RIVER CHURCH
DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

		<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					<u>Unrestricted funds</u>			
		General	Designated	Restricted	Total		General	Designated	Restricted	Total
		2024	2024	2024	2024		2023	2023	2023	2023
	Note	£	£	£	£		£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:										
Donations and legacies	3	377,452	37,100	94,257	508,809		1,020,264	11,076	47,883	1,079,223
Charitable activities	4	135	-	5,343	5,477		63	-	5,523	5,586
Investments	5	13,748	10,233	1,468	25,449		5,722	-	-	5,722
Total income and endowments		391,334	47,333	101,067	539,734		1,026,049	11,076	53,407	1,090,531
EXPENDITURE ON:										
Charitable activities:	6	359,188	6,870	93,972	460,030		341,480	20,184	78,043	439,706
Total Expenditure		359,188	6,870	93,972	460,030		341,480	20,184	78,043	439,706
Net income/(expenditure)		32,146	40,463	7,095	79,704		684,569	(9,108)	(24,636)	650,825
Transfers between funds	14	(2,368)	826	1,542	-		(107)	(4,893)	5,000	-
Net movement in funds		29,778	41,289	8,637	79,704		684,461	(14,000)	(19,636)	650,825
Reconciliation of funds:										
Total funds brought forward		879,713	6,802	174,885	1,061,401		195,252	20,803	194,521	410,576
Total funds carried forward	14	909,492	48,091	183,522	1,141,105		879,713	6,802	174,885	1,061,401

RIVER CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1146525

Accounts

River Church

Report and Accounts
Year ended 31 December 2023

Stewardship 
Active generosity

1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB
www.stewardship.org.uk

RIVER CHURCH
CHARITY INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Trustees	Michael John Holt Graham Leslie Burgess Caroline Grace Read Mary Kathleen Porter Alistair John Handford Ian Linton (resigned January 2024) A Vickers (resigned January 2023) Chris May (resigned April 2024) Ruth Abigail Parry (appointed April 2023)	
Treasurer	Nigel Rivers (appointed June 2023)	
Church Leaders	Ceri Davies (until Dec 23) & Adam Chisnall Paul Wratten & Anthea Wratten Julie Ioakeim Rachael Pymm, Catherine France, Joel Clarke (until Apr 24), Luke Saunders (from Jun 24)	River Maidenhead River Marlow River Slough The Journey (Englefield Green)
Governing Document	Constitution dated 15 December 2022	
Charity Registration Number	1146525	
Principal Address & Registered Office	From 1 August 2024: 1 Meadlake Place Egham Surrey TW20 8HE	<i>Until 1 August 2024:</i> <i>Bank House</i> <i>81 St Judes Road</i> <i>Englefield Green</i> <i>Surrey</i> <i>TW20 0DF</i>
Independent Examiner	Sarah Crispin ACA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage London EC1Y 8AB	
Bankers	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling ME19 4JQ	Metro Bank 1 Southampton Row London WC1B 5HQ

Contents	Page
Charity Information	1
Trustees' Annual Report	2-8
Independent Examiner's Report	9
Statement of Financial Activities	10
Balance Sheet	11
Cash flow Statement	12
Notes to the Accounts	13-20
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities with Comparatives	21

RIVER CHURCH REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charitable aims of River Church are to:

- Advance the Christian faith in the Thames Valley, the United Kingdom and the wider world;
- Bring relief to persons who are in need, financial hardship or suffering from illness or deprivation;
- Further Christian or secular education in the Thames Valley, the United Kingdom and wider world as appropriate;
- Benefit the lives of people in the communities where River churches reside; by improving or providing local facilities and activities.

The vision of River Church is to serve our communities and to see transformation through the love and power of God.

River Church employed 10 staff on either a full-time or part-time basis as at 31 December 2023 (2022: 10, including the church leaders and other administration staff and youth workers).

In addition to the employed staff there are many teams of volunteers and helpers across our four churches who together seek to be "salt and light" within our communities to achieve the charity's aims.

Public benefit

In planning the activities of River Church, the trustees have given regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance (Reg 40 (2) (c) (ii)) and particularly the guidance for charities whose objects include the advancement of religion.

River Church provides public benefit in numerous ways that can broadly be categorised as follows:

(a) Christian witness

River Church is an active charismatic evangelical church and member of the wider Pioneer network of churches. River Church seeks mutually positive engagement in all the surrounding communities at every level. An important motivation for this work includes sharing the love of God and promoting Christian values and teaching in order to benefit members and society at large. Following a couple of difficult years during the pandemic we celebrated the growth within our four churches with new people joining our church family through outreach and mission alongside welcoming back families moving back into the area. Three people were baptised by The Journey Church (Englefield Green) and four were baptised in Maidenhead as they took to the water to express their faith and trust in following Jesus.

The Slough church relocated their Sunday gathering during 2023 from a temporary base in Taplow to a new base within Slough.

As well as their regular Sunday services, Marlow church run monthly Family Gatherings which continue to grow. This has seen more young families joining us.

(b) Local communities

Finding mutually beneficial areas of engagement within local communities is fundamental to the activities of the church. River Church seeks to both address the spiritual and practical needs of the people amongst whom we live across our very diverse neighbourhoods.

River Church in Maidenhead manages a CAP Debt Centre that has supported over 85 families across Slough, Maidenhead and Marlow and Windsor. We increased the size of the Debt Centre during 2023 with the training of a second debt coach thus increasing our capacity, flexibility and efficiency. We operate in close liaison to the Job Centre and housing associations to promote the Debt support service to those in need of support.

We run a multi-agency community hub initiative in Englefield Green in association with Runnymede Council. Activities included community lunches (including a summer BBQ and Christmas roast dinner), regular worship writing workshops, Christmas community carol service. We continued to enjoy success and high attendance of Hub community clubs including gardening, kids club, and community cafe. In addition, we had stand at the Englefield Green Village Fair.

In Slough, we launched a new initiative called 'Giving Hope Furniture' at the end of 2023 which aims to provide free or low-cost furniture to people in need within Slough. This initiative has already received recognition from Slough Council.

Our Marlow church focussed on Mission, Vision, Values to help people to understand scripture and live it out. We continued to run Kintsugi Hope Mental Health Wellbeing Groups - an exciting and relevant way to serve our community with this excellent resource to support those experiencing mental health challenges.

Our parents/grandparents and toddlers group continues to run weekly during term-times supporting many people each week. We have been encouraged that several older people have become regulars who come along for coffee and support.

‘Patches Field lunch’ is an outreach group in a sheltered housing complex for older people. This has gone from strength to strength, and we have built relationships and been able to serve in other ways as well as the lunch, such as cleaning the garden, taking people to appointments, visiting people in hospital, praying with the sick and dying and attending funerals. We continue to play a key role in Marlow Churches together and once again, were involved with ‘Lighthouse’ a Churches Together in Marlow children's week initiative.

We set up a ‘Redistribution fund’ - where church members who had received winter fuel payments they did not need - gave them to the fund which we were able to redistribute to those in need.

(c) International communities

Another important focus of River Church is overseas mission work, and poverty relief. These aims embrace the support of both emerging churches, where we seek to share God's love through practical assistance, and also other relief and development agencies and initiatives.

River Church provides ongoing support to its own mission links abroad (eg. within Hong Kong, Thailand, Nepal, Mozambique and several other countries in Europe, Asia and East Africa) as well as other less regular initiatives as they arise e.g., disaster relief appeals.

The trustees and leadership team would like to thank all members of River Church for their continuing generosity.

(d) Grants

Gifts and grants to external organisations and individuals are considered on the basis of the effective fulfilment of River Church's charitable objectives and after taking account of any restrictions on the funds. There are no upper or lower limits of support but each case is considered and judged on its own merits. The trustees oversee a Hardship Fund which allows for small gifts to be made to individuals of families in urgent need. These small gifts (typically less than £500) are made at the request of church leaders.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial review

General Funds

During the year total incoming resources to General Funds were £1,026,049 (2022: £373,889) and total resources used from General Funds were £341,480 (2022: £278,524), resulting in a General Fund surplus for the year of £684,569 (2022: £95,365). Included in this income is a

legacy gift of £679,750 from a church member who died in the year. Good general regularity of giving continues across the four churches, combined with the continued budgetary spending controls.

Designated Funds

Donations to Designated Funds totalled £11,076 (2022: £9,981) with designated expenditure totalling £20,184 (2022: £3,414). The deficit of £9,108 (2022: surplus of £6,567) was added to the surpluses brought forward, after some agreed specific transfers between funds.

Restricted Funds

Restricted Funds income totalled £53,407 (2022: £54,522) for the year with restricted expenditure totalling £78,043 (2022: £76,184). The consequent deficit of £24,636 (2022: £21,662) was taken from Restricted Funds surpluses brought forward with some agreed transfers from other funds.

At the end of the year, 31st December 2023, the Charity held surpluses totalling £879,713 (2022: £195,252) in General Funds, £6,802 (2022: £20,803) surplus in Designated Funds and £174,885 (2022: £194,521) in Restricted Funds.

General Funds continue to exceed the trustees' minimum reserve policy of £75,000 (2022: £75,000) by a good margin.

Bank Balances

River Church bank balances at 31st December 2023 stood at £862,874 (2022: £374,237) which the trustees consider sufficient to meet all foreseeable and future risks now that the 2024 General Fund income and expenditure budget has been approved.

Investment policy and objectives

The trustees of River Church acknowledge they have a key responsibility for good stewardship of church funds. In decision-making in these areas the following investment principles and guidelines are considered.

River Church will:

- Invest funds in a manner that is consistent with the teachings of Jesus Christ and in line with its charitable objectives;
- Handle all funds with integrity, transparency and with good governance;
- Invest funds in a way that is both compliant with prevailing charitable law and that balance both the medium- and longer-term needs foreseen;
- Invest funds in a manner that seeks to maximise the return or to achieve other agreed aims in line with its charitable objectives;
- Formally review the investment policy annually as to its adequacy.

Reserves policy

The trustees have established a policy of maintaining reserves at a level they feel would enable them to continue the current activities of the church in the event of a short-term significant drop in income.

The largest regular operating costs of the charity are staff salaries and church building leases and meeting hall hire. Consequently, the trustees' policy is to maintain sufficient reserves to cover three months of such expenditure (£75K). Unrestricted funds exceeded this level throughout the year.

The governing body review the level of reserves annually to confirm their adequacy and the potential risk. At the 31st of December 2023 this General Fund "risk reserve" stood at £75,000 (2022: £75,000).

The current total level of reserves remains relatively high mainly due to substantial giving to River Maidenhead's 'Miracle Building Project', CAP debt management designated funds and Englefield Green Community Hub. The church also benefitted from a legacy gift in 2023, of which £649,849 was held at the balance sheet date.

FUTURE PLANS

The key strategies for the charity during 2024 are both to build and to expand on the local community focus work and initiatives where the individual churches reside, ie., to continue to build churches that develop strong healthy followers of Jesus who bless and serve the community within which they operate.

We aim to capitalise on the online opportunity that the pandemic created by continuing to build online capability and integrate this as a complement to other approaches to church outreach. For example, by using online capability to host mid-week meetings for prayer and Bible study thus avoiding the need for additional hall rental costs. We also use online capability to 'broadcast' Sunday services to those who are unable to attend in person.

Our goals for 2024 are to;

- invest in and train up a new generation of leaders;
- continue to encourage the four churches to remain financially independent so that the central cost overhead is reduced and shared among them;
- to support the development of the four independent churches within a common set of shared values;
- continue the search for a suitable property for the Maidenhead Miracle Building project and to find a suitable location for the continuation of our Giving Hope Furniture project in Slough.
- continue to build and invest in the work of the CAP Debt Centre supporting Maidenhead and Marlow

- further develop our online church capability and community: reaching, connecting and sharing in the digital space

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

In December 2022 River Church converted to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with a new written constitution duly received and accepted by the Charities Commission on 15th December 2022.

This constitution replaced the 2012 Memorandum and Articles. The limited company therefore closed in December 2022.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The powers of appointment and removal of trustees rests with the 'members' of River Church. Trustees are selected from committed attendees of the churches that make up River Church. This aims to ensure that the trustee body as a whole is involved practically in working out the church's mission and the trustees have also subscribed to a statement of faith. No trustees are remunerated for their services to River Church.

During 2023 the trustees of River Church met on five occasions. Each meeting of the trustees during the year was led by the Chair of trustees, who is not a member of the spiritual leadership of River Church. The Chair is elected annually by the other non-leadership trustees. Each trustee meeting had a full and balanced agenda covering the spiritual, strategic, performance, financial, legal and risk issues facing the church.

Local Management

Directions relating to the charity for 2023 were made by the trustees, in consultation with the church leaders, who were responsible for governing the activities and teaching of the church. Day-to-day decisions on the use of resources remained the responsibility of the staff and volunteers in charge of the different departments within the churches.

Ceri Davies stepped down as co-leader of River Maidenhead after 10 years in the role. The trustees thanked Ceri for her significant service during that time.

Expenditure is controlled by budgets set and expense approval monitored by the trustees. The establishment of a new Restricted or Designated Fund is at the joint discretion of the trustees in consultation with the leader of each Church.

Network Structure

River Church is a member of the Evangelical Alliance and has a long-standing relationship with Pioneer; a Christian organisation that pursues similar objectives in the United Kingdom and

overseas. The church works with Pioneer in assisting other churches and receives help itself where needed.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES UNDER CHARITY LAW

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

1. select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
2. observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
3. make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
4. state whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
5. prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees signed on its behalf by:


M J Holt (Nov 7, 2024 10:21 GMT)

M J Holt – Trustee

Date Nov 7, 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
RIVER CHURCH
('the Charity')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 on pages 10 to 21 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 13 to 14.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation 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 Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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. This examination was performed in the place of an audit, as authorised by the Charity Commission in a dispensation granted on 6 November 2024 under Regulation 34(3)(b) of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Sarah Crispin
Sarah Crispin (Nov 7, 2024 14:16 GMT)

Sarah Crispin ACA
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Nov 7, 2024

RIVER CHURCH
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Donations and legacies	3	1,031,340	47,883	1,079,223	428,019
Charitable activities	4	63	5,523	5,586	9,464
Investments	5	5,722	-	5,722	909
Total income and endowments		<u>1,037,125</u>	<u>53,407</u>	<u>1,090,531</u>	<u>438,392</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities	6	361,664	78,043	439,706	358,122
Total expenditure		<u>361,664</u>	<u>78,043</u>	<u>439,706</u>	<u>358,122</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		675,461	(24,636)	650,825	80,270
Transfers between funds	17	(5,000)	5,000	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>670,461</u>	<u>(19,636)</u>	<u>650,825</u>	<u>80,270</u>
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		<u>216,055</u>	<u>194,521</u>	<u>410,576</u>	<u>330,306</u>
Total funds carried forward	17	<u>886,516</u>	<u>174,885</u>	<u>1,061,401</u>	<u>410,576</u>

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The notes on page 13-20 form part of these accounts.

RIVER CHURCH
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	8	-	-	-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	216,727	-	216,727	50,578
Cash at bank and in hand	10	687,989	174,885	862,874	374,237
		<u>904,716</u>	<u>174,885</u>	<u>1,079,601</u>	<u>424,815</u>
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	11	(18,200)	-	(18,200)	(14,239)
		<u>886,516</u>	<u>174,885</u>	<u>1,061,401</u>	<u>410,576</u>
Net current assets / (liabilities)		<u>886,516</u>	<u>174,885</u>	<u>1,061,401</u>	<u>410,576</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>886,516</u>	<u>174,885</u>	<u>1,061,401</u>	<u>410,576</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>886,516</u>	<u>174,885</u>	<u>1,061,401</u>	<u>410,576</u>
FUND BALANCES					
Unrestricted Funds	17				
General funds		879,714	-	879,714	195,252
Designated funds		6,802	-	6,802	20,803
		<u>886,516</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>886,516</u>	<u>216,055</u>
Restricted Funds		<u>-</u>	<u>174,885</u>	<u>174,885</u>	<u>194,521</u>
		<u>886,516</u>	<u>174,885</u>	<u>1,061,401</u>	<u>410,576</u>

The charity has been granted an audit dispensation under Regulation 34(3)(b) of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and were signed on its behalf by:

M J Holt
MJHolt (Nov 7, 2024 10:21 GMT)

M J Holt

Date: Nov 7, 2024

Charity number: 1146525

The notes on page 13-20 form part of these accounts.

RIVER CHURCH
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023
CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	a	<u>482,915</u>	<u>47,463</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		5,722	909
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		-	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		<u>5,722</u>	<u>909</u>
Change in cash and equivalents in the reporting period		<u>488,637</u>	<u>48,372</u>
Cash and equivalents at the beginning of the year	b	<u>374,237</u>	<u>325,865</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	b	<u>862,874</u>	<u>374,237</u>

Analysis of changes in net debt:

	At start of year £	Cash-flows £	At end of year £
Cash	374,237	488,637	862,875
Total net funds / (debt)	<u>374,237</u>	<u>488,637</u>	<u>862,875</u>

Note a: Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	650,825	80,270
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges and provisions for impairment	-	250
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(5,722)	(909)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(166,149)	(768)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	3,961	(31,379)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>482,915</u>	<u>47,463</u>

Note b: Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash at bank with immediate access	716,203	374,237
Notice deposits	146,671	-
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>862,874</u>	<u>374,237</u>

RIVER CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1 Statutory Information

The charity is a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales. The charity's registered number and principal address can be found on the Charity Information page.

2 Accounting Policies

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the "Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) ("the Charities SORP"), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (the '2008 Regulations') requires charities to prepare their accounts in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005' but this accounting standard has since been withdrawn and has been replaced by the Charities SORP mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The charity has prepared these financial statements in accordance with the new Charities SORP; this departure from the 2008 Regulations is believed to be necessary for these financial statements to give a 'true and fair view'.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

a) Going concern

The trustees (who are the charitable company's directors for the purposes of company law) have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the trustees have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and / or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The trustees have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

b) Income

Income including investment income is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part, income is generally recognised when it is received. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income from donations and legacies includes:

- i) Recoverable gift aid. This is recognised when the related donation is received. Gift aid that has not been recovered by the balance sheet date is included as a debtor.
- ii) Legacies. Income from legacies is recognised when a distribution is received from the estate or, if earlier, when the charity has been notified that a distribution will be made and the amount receivable can be measured reliably. During the year, the charity received a single legacy which comprised cash & a property. Part of the cash legacy was received during 2024 and included as accrued income in these accounts. The property was sold and the proceeds recognised on sale. The associated costs are shown as 'Legacy costs' in expenditure.

The charity relies on volunteers to carry out many of its activities. However, in accordance with the SORP, the value of these services has not been included in these financial statements as they cannot be reliably measured.

Income from charitable activities represents income receivable from goods, services and facilities supplied in furtherance of the charity's charitable objects. It includes income from facilities hire which represents contributions to services from other community groups using the Forest Estate Community Hub.

Investment income represents income generated by the charity's assets and includes income from bank interest.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured

The charity makes grants to other institutions and individuals to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.

The cost of raising funds is not significant and has not been separately disclosed.

RIVER CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

2 Accounting Policies (cont.)

Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.

d) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects. Endowment funds are donations that are retained as capital in accordance with the donor's wishes. The nature of the restriction determines whether the endowments represent permanent endowments or expendable endowments.

e) Tangible fixed assets

Items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £10,000 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life. To achieve this objective the following rates of depreciation are charged:

Computers & Sound Equipment	Over 3 years
-----------------------------	--------------

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment in periods when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

f) Pension scheme arrangements

The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for its employees. Obligations for contributions to these schemes are recognised as an expense when the liability arises. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

g) Taxation

The charity has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's income.

h) Financial instruments

The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities all qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Except for loans, creditors and debtors are measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive). The charity recognises liabilities for the principal of those loans that remains outstanding at the year end (i.e. the liabilities exclude any interest chargeable on the loans in future years).

i) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The trustees do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

3 Donations and legacies

	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations of cash and similar	321,127	353,437
Other grants receivable	10,211	5,736
Legacies receivable	679,750	-
Income tax recoverable	68,136	68,846
	<u>1,079,223</u>	<u>428,019</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Forest Hub - Facilities Hire	5,586	9,464
	<u>5,586</u>	<u>9,464</u>

RIVER CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

5 Investment income

	2023 £	2022 £
Bank interest	5,722	909
	<u>5,722</u>	<u>909</u>

6 Charitable expenditure

	Church Activities	CAP Debt Centre	Forest Hub	Total Charitable Expenditure 2023
Incurring directly on activities				
Salaries, travel & training	152,325	33,512	19,348	205,185
Church ministry costs	12,936	-	-	12,936
Outreach & events	20,152	-	3,719	23,871
CAP Debt centre running costs	-	1,323	-	1,323
Equipment	17,824	538	985	19,347
Premises expenses including venue hire	46,281	278	4,923	51,483
Communications	4,185	46	135	4,366
Legacy costs	29,901	-	-	29,901
Grants payable (note 6c)	56,862	7,200	33	64,096
Support costs				
Professional fees	11,608	253	256	12,118
Office costs & insurance	10,089	12	419	10,520
Governance	4,368	95	96	4,560
	<u>366,533</u>	<u>43,258</u>	<u>29,916</u>	<u>439,706</u>

	Church Activities	CAP Debt Centre	Forest Hub	Total Charitable Expenditure 2022
Incurring directly on activities				
Salaries, travel & training	131,960	21,401	16,794	170,154
Church ministry costs	22,791	-	-	22,791
Outreach & events	4,512	-	8,720	13,232
CAP Debt centre running costs	-	1,089	-	1,089
Equipment	5,365	-	1,833	7,198
Premises expenses including venue hire	45,673	-	4,566	50,239
Communications	7,008	-	-	7,008
Grants payable (note 6c)	57,837	7,200	-	65,037
Support costs				
Professional fees	7,474	437	362	8,273
Office costs & insurance	6,648	-	202	6,851
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	250	-	-	250
Governance	5,420	317	263	6,000
	<u>294,938</u>	<u>30,444</u>	<u>32,740</u>	<u>358,122</u>

As the charity's income is over £500,000 in the current year, expenditure is disclosed by charitable activity. The disclosure for the previous year has been restated to provide a comparative.

Professional fees and Governance costs are allocated to the CAP Debt Centre and the Forest Hub based on the proportion of total income restricted to these projects.

The fee payable to the independent examiner for preparing and examining the accounts was £4,560 (2022: £6,000); in addition the charity paid £210 to Stewardship for consultancy services.

RIVER CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

6 Charitable expenditure (cont.)

c Grants payable

	Institutions	Individuals	2023
	£	£	£
Grants for UK and overseas mission	23,542	17,519	41,061
Grants for the relief of poverty	7,240	15,794	23,034
	<u>30,782</u>	<u>33,314</u>	<u>64,096</u>

The comparatives for the previous year are as follows:

	Institutions	Individuals	2022
	£	£	£
Grants for UK and overseas mission	28,088	23,285	51,373
Grants for the relief of poverty	8,898	4,766	13,664
	<u>36,986</u>	<u>28,051</u>	<u>65,037</u>

The charity's principal grants to institutions comprised:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Pioneer	9,292	8,197
Frontiers	3,000	11,611
Light International	7,333	8,000
Friends of Asha	3,000	-
Christians Against Poverty	7,200	7,200
Grants to institutions for less than £1,000 each	957	1,978
	<u>30,782</u>	<u>36,986</u>

7 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and trustee remuneration

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gross wages and salaries	172,241	153,702
Social security	2,655	7,794
Pension costs	5,005	4,476
	<u>179,901</u>	<u>165,972</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 9 (2022: 12). Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

The charity's key management comprise the trustees and the church leaders on the Charity Information page. During the year key management received employment benefits totalling £87,157 (2022: £36,652).

Payroll costs included redundancy and termination payments totalling £10,062 (2022: £nil) and comprise statutory payments and ex-gratia payments where this was considered appropriate. Redundancy and termination payments are charged when the liability or obligation arises.

No trustees received employment benefits in either the current or preceding year.

RIVER CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Computers & Sound Equipment £	Total 2023 £
Cost		
At 1 January 2023	25,656	25,656
Additions	-	-
At 31 December 2023	<u>25,656</u>	<u>25,656</u>
Accumulated depreciation		
At 1 January 2023	25,656	25,656
Charge for the year	-	-
At 31 December 2023	<u>25,656</u>	<u>25,656</u>
Net book value		
At 31 December 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

9 Debtors: falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Tax recoverable	11,063	46,161
Other debtors	503	250
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>205,161</u>	<u>4,167</u>
	<u>216,727</u>	<u>50,578</u>

10 Cash at Bank and in Hand

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash at bank with immediate access	716,203	374,237
Notice deposits	<u>146,671</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>862,874</u>	<u>374,237</u>

11 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	185	421
Taxation and social security	3,520	2,777
Other creditors	3,794	508
Accruals	<u>10,701</u>	<u>10,533</u>
	<u>18,200</u>	<u>14,239</u>

16 Pension commitments

During the year employer's pension contributions totalling £5,005 (2022: £5,795) were payable to defined contribution personal pension schemes. Pension contributions of £3,364 were owing at the balance sheet date (2022: £147).

RIVER CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

17 Funds

During the year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2023 £	Incoming resources 2023 £	Outgoing resources 2023 £	Transfers in the year 2023 £	Gains and losses 2023 £	Closing balance 2023 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
Congregational Funds	8,309	1,165	(4,470)	(4,893)	-	111
Community Support Funds	12,494	9,911	(15,714)	-	-	6,691
	20,803	11,076	(20,184)	(4,893)	-	6,802
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>	195,252	1,026,049	(341,480)	(107)	-	879,714
Total Unrestricted Funds	216,055	1,037,125	(361,664)	(5,000)	-	886,516
<i>Restricted Funds</i>						
International Support Funds	1,944	4,793	(3,111)	-	-	3,626
CAP Debt centre	18,569	22,803	(42,910)	5,000	-	3,463
Miracle Building	146,982	1,238	-	-	-	148,219
Forest Hub	26,196	23,059	(29,563)	-	-	19,692
Other Community Support Funds	829	588	(1,545)	-	-	(129)
Other congregational support	-	927	(914)	-	-	14
	194,521	53,407	(78,043)	5,000	-	174,885
Aggregate of funds	410,576	1,090,531	(439,706)	-	-	1,061,401

The transfers referred to above were made for the following reasons:

- a) The costs of the CAP debt centre are underwritten by the Maidenhead Church, which transfers monies into the CAP fund as they are required.

Analysis of net assets by fund

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted funds	2023
	General funds	Designated funds	funds	£
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Debtors	216,727	-	-	216,727
Cash at bank and in hand	681,187	6,802	174,885	862,874
Creditors falling due within one year	(18,200)	-	-	(18,200)
	879,714	6,802	174,885	1,061,401

RIVER CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

17 Funds (cont.)

In the previous year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2022 £	Incoming resources 2022 £	Outgoing resources 2022 £	Transfers in the year 2022 £	Gains and losses 2022 £	Closing balance 2022 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>						
Congregational Funds	2,819	7,406	(1,916)	-	-	8,309
Community Support Funds	11,417	2,575	(1,498)	-	-	12,494
	<u>14,236</u>	<u>9,981</u>	<u>(3,414)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,803</u>
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>	96,038	373,889	(278,524)	3,849		195,252
	<u>96,038</u>	<u>373,889</u>	<u>(278,524)</u>	<u>3,849</u>		<u>195,252</u>
Total Unrestricted Funds	<u>110,274</u>	<u>383,870</u>	<u>(281,938)</u>	<u>3,849</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>216,055</u>
<i>Restricted Funds</i>						
International Support Funds	8,447	9,286	(11,893)	(3,896)	-	1,944
CAP Debt centre	25,091	23,168	(29,690)	-	-	18,569
Miracle Building	146,262	1,290	(570)	-	-	146,982
Forest Hub	39,132	19,180	(32,116)	-	-	26,196
Other Community Support Funds	1,099	1,599	(1,916)	47	-	829
	<u>220,032</u>	<u>54,522</u>	<u>(76,184)</u>	<u>(3,849)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>194,521</u>
Aggregate of funds	<u>330,306</u>	<u>438,392</u>	<u>(358,122)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>410,576</u>

Analysis of net assets by fund

In the previous year, the assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			2022
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Debtors	50,578	-	-	50,578
Cash at bank and in hand	158,914	20,803	194,521	374,237
Creditors falling due within one year	(14,239)	-	-	(14,239)
	<u>195,252</u>	<u>20,803</u>	<u>194,521</u>	<u>410,576</u>

Designated funds

Congregational Funds represent the accumulated surpluses in the individual churches.

Community Support Funds represent funds set aside for local charitable giving.

Restricted funds

International Support Funds relate to money received for various international ministries and the support of church missionaries abroad.

CAP Debt centre funds are restricted to this project.

Miracle Building fund relates to money donated for the purchase of a building.

Forest Hub funds are restricted to activities at the Forest Hub.

Other Community Support Funds represent funds set aside for local charitable giving.

RIVER CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

19 Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity:

- a) received donations totalling £66,041 (2022: £28,520) from related parties (which includes trustees, any other members of key management and anyone closely connected to them).
- b) No expenses (2022: £nil) were paid to, or for, the trustees.

During the year the charity also made the following payments to, or for, related parties:

- a) Bethani Chisnall, who is closely related to Adam Chisnall, who is a member of key management, received employment benefits totalling £17,598 for her work as Head of Childrens & Families work.

20 Members

Each member of the charity commits to contribute if the charity is wound up an amount of £10.

RIVER CHURCH
DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

		Unrestricted funds				Unrestricted funds				
		General	Designated	Restricted	Total	General	Designated	Restricted	Total	
		2023	2023	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022	2022	
	Note	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:										
Donations and legacies	3	1,020,264	11,076	47,883	1,079,223	372,980	9,981	45,059	428,019	
Charitable activities	4	63	-	5,523	5,586	-	-	9,464	9,464	
Investments	5	5,722	-	-	5,722	909	-	-	909	
Total income and endowments		1,026,049	11,076	53,407	1,090,531	373,889	9,981	54,522	438,392	
EXPENDITURE ON:										
Charitable activities:	6	341,480	20,184	78,043	439,706	278,524	3,414	76,184	358,122	
Total Expenditure		341,480	20,184	78,043	439,706	278,524	3,414	76,184	358,122	
Net income/(expenditure)		684,569	(9,108)	(24,636)	650,825	95,365	6,567	(21,662)	80,270	
Transfers between funds		17	(107)	(4,893)	5,000	-	3,849	-	(3,849)	-
Net movement in funds		684,462	(14,001)	(19,636)	650,825	99,214	6,567	(25,511)	80,270	
Reconciliation of funds:										
Total funds brought forward		195,252	20,803	194,521	410,576	96,038	14,236	220,032	330,306	
Total funds carried forward		17	879,714	6,802	174,885	1,061,401	195,252	20,803	194,521	410,576

RIVER CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1146525

Accounts

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022
FOR
RIVER CHURCH

Brindley Millen Ltd
167 Turners Hill
Cheshunt
Hertfordshire
EN8 9BH

RIVER CHURCH

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 5
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Balance Sheet	8
Cash Flow Statement	9
Notes to the Cash Flow Statement	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 to 18
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	19

RIVER CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charitable aims of River Church are to:

- advance the Christian faith in the Thames valley, the United Kingdom and the wider world;
- bring relief to persons who are in need, financial hardship or suffering from illness or deprivation;
- further Christian or secular education in the Thames valley, the United Kingdom and wider world as appropriate;
- benefit the lives of people in the communities where River churches reside; by improving or providing local facilities and activities.

The vision of River Church is to serve our communities and to see transformation through the love and power of God.

River Church employed 12 staff on either a full-time or part-time basis as at 31 December 2022 (2021: 12), including the church leaders and other administration staff and youth workers.

In addition to the employed staff there are many teams of volunteers and helpers across our four churches who together seek to be "salt and light" within our communities to achieve the charity's aims.

Public benefit

In planning the activities of River Church, the trustees have given regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance (Reg 40 (2) (c) (ii)) and particularly the guidance for charities whose objects include the advancement of religion.

River Church provides public benefit in numerous ways that can broadly be categorised as follows:

(a) Christian witness

River Church is an active charismatic evangelical church and member of the wider Pioneer network of churches. River Church seeks mutually positive engagement in all the surrounding communities at every level. An important motivation for this work includes sharing the love of God and promoting Christian values and teaching in order to benefit members and society at large.

(b) Local communities

Finding mutually beneficial areas of engagement within local communities is fundamental to the activities of the church. River Church seeks to both address the spiritual and practical needs of the people amongst whom we live. For example, River Church manages a CAP Debt Centre in Maidenhead that has supported over 85 families across Slough, Maidenhead and Marlow and a multi-agency community hub initiative in Englefield Green.

(c) International communities

Another important focus of River Church is overseas mission work, and poverty relief. These aims embrace the support of both emerging churches, where we seek to share God's love through practical assistance, and also other relief and development agencies and initiatives.

River Church provides ongoing support to its own mission links abroad (e.g. within Hong Kong, Thailand, Nepal, Mozambique and several other countries in Europe, Asia and East Africa) as well as other less regular initiatives as they arise e.g., disaster relief appeals.

The trustees and leadership team would like to thank all members of River Church for their continuing generosity.

Grants

Gifts and grants to external organisations and individuals are considered on the basis of the effective fulfilment of River Church's charitable objectives and after taking account of any restrictions on the funds. There are no upper or lower limits of support but each case is considered and judged on its own merits.

RIVER CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial review

General Funds

During the year total incoming resources to General Funds were £373,889 (2021: £351,280) and total resources used from General Funds were £278,524 (2021: £403,845), resulting in a General Fund surplus for the year of £95,365 (2021: £52,565 deficit). Good general regularity of giving continues across the four churches, combined with the continued budgetary spending controls. The trustees introduced enhanced reporting of monthly financial reports at the commencement of the pandemic to allow timely response to changes in income levels resulting from the shift from face-to-face to on-line church services. In broad terms, reductions in income were off-set by reductions in expenditure due to reduction in hall rental.

Designated Funds

Donations to Designated Funds totalled £9,981 (2021: £3,213) with designated expenditure totalling £3,414 (2021: £2,071). The surplus of £6,567 (2021: £1,142 surplus) was added to the surpluses brought forward, after some agreed specific transfers between funds.

Restricted Funds

Restricted Funds income totalled £54,522 for the year (2021: £86,516) with restricted expenditure totalling £76,184 (2021: £74,799). The consequent deficit of £21,662 (2021: £11,717 surplus) was taken from Restricted Funds surpluses brought forward with some agreed transfers from other funds.

At the end of the year, 31st December 2022 the Charity held surpluses totalling £195,252 (2021: £96,038) in General Funds, £20,803 surplus in Designated Funds (2021: £14,236) and £194,521 in Restricted Funds (2021: £220,032).

General Funds continue to exceed the trustees' minimum reserve policy of £75,000 (2021: £75,000) by a good margin.

Bank Balances

River Church bank balances stood at 31st December 2022 at £374,237 (2021: £325,875) which the trustees consider sufficient to meet all foreseeable and future risks now that the 2023 General Fund income and expenditure budget has been approved.

Investment policy and objectives

The trustees of River Church acknowledge they have a key responsibility for good stewardship of church funds. In decision making in these areas the following investment principles and guidelines are considered.

River Church will:

- invest funds in a manner that is consistent with the teachings of Jesus Christ and in line with its charitable objectives;
- handle all funds with integrity, transparency and with good governance;
- invest funds in a way that is both compliant with prevailing charitable law and that balance both the medium- and longer-term needs foreseen;
- invest funds in a manner that seeks to maximise the return or to achieve other agreed aims in line with its charitable objectives;
- formally review the investment policy annually as to its adequacy.

Reserves policy

The trustees have established a policy of maintaining reserves at a level they feel would enable them to continue the current activities of the church in the event of a short-term significant drop in income.

The largest regular operating costs of the charity are staff salaries and church building leases and meeting hall hire.

Consequently, the trustees' policy is to maintain sufficient reserves to cover three months of such expenditure (£75K). Unrestricted funds exceeded this level throughout the year despite the pandemic inevitably requiring us to draw from reserves to off-set a reduction in income.

The governing body review the level of reserves annually to confirm their adequacy and the potential risk.

At the 31st December 2022 this General Fund "risk reserve" stood at £75,500 (2021: £75,000).

The current total level of reserves remains relatively high mainly due to substantial giving to River Maidenhead's 'Miracle Building Project', CAP debt management designated funds and Englefield Green Community Hub.

In addition, given the extraordinary financial circumstances brought about by the pandemic in 2021, the Trustees recognised the need to reduce operating costs to prevent further erosion of reserves and took the opportunity to vacate their office in Maidenhead at the end of March 2022.

RIVER CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

FUTURE PLANS

The key strategies for the charity during 2022 are both to build and to expand on the local community focus work and initiatives where the individual churches reside, i.e., to continue to build churches that develop strong healthy followers of Jesus who bless and serve the community within which they operate. The COVID pandemic presented significant challenges to all aspects of church life as well as our community work, some of which have been successfully met using online platforms, but our activities were inevitably limited during 2021 especially through lock-down. We now seek to emerge from the pandemic in 2022 and rebuild our church communities.

We aim to capitalise on the on-line opportunity that the pandemic created by continuing to build on-line capability and integrate this as a complement to other approaches to church outreach. For example, by using on-line capability to host mid-week meetings for prayer and Bible study thus avoiding the need for additional hall rental costs. We also use on-line capability to 'broadcast' Sunday services to those who are unable to attend in person

Our goals for 2023 are to;

- invest in and train up a new generation of leaders;
- continue to encourage the four churches to remain financially independent so that the central cost overhead is reduced and shared among them;
- to support the development of the four independent churches within a common set of shared values.
- continue the search for a suitable property for the Maidenhead Miracle Building project and to find a new home for our Slough church.
- continue to build and invest in the work of the CAP Debt Centre supporting Maidenhead and Marlow
- further develop our on-line church capability and community: reaching, connecting and sharing in the digital space

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

River Church is constituted by memorandum and articles incorporated 27 January 2012, however, in December 2022 River Church converted to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with a new written constitution duly received and accepted by the Charities Commission on 15th December 2022. This constitution replaced the 2012 Memorandum and Articles. The limited company therefore closed in December 2022.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The powers of appointment and removal of trustees rests with the 'members' of River Church. Trustees are selected from committed members of the churches that make up River Church. This aims to ensure that the trustee body as a whole is involved practically in working out the church's mission and the trustees have also subscribed to a statement of faith. No trustees are remunerated for their services to River Church.

During 2022 the trustees of River Church met on five occasions. Each meeting of the trustees during the year was led by the Chair of trustees, who is not a member of the spiritual leadership of River Church. The Chair is elected annually by the other non-leadership trustees. Each trustee meeting had a full and balanced agenda covering the spiritual, strategic, performance, financial, legal and risk issues facing the church.

In addition, and in agreement with the Senior Leadership Team River Church re-organised into four distinct and independent churches albeit within the same charitable structure accountable to the existing trustee group. This re-organisation saw the dissolution of the Senior Leadership team with accountability for spiritual leadership moving to the leadership team each church. Principles governing this new organisation were recorded in a 'Governance Agreement' between Church leaders and trustees and a 'Relationship Agreement' between the leaders of each church. These agreements came into effect in January 2022.

As part of the continuing process to improve River Church governance and leadership, 2022 trustee meetings were streamlined for purpose with expertise being co-opted as appropriate. There were "Governance and Financial Health meetings" held with each church which included the 2023 budget approval process.

The senior leadership team (SLT) stepped down in January 2022 as part of the transition to the new structure. Senior spiritual leadership is now be provided to each independent church by leaders from within the Pioneer Network.

agreement between themselves and a Governance agreement with the trustees. These agreements define the principles, practices and values that unite the four churches and clarify the roles, relationship and responsibilities between each church and the trustee group. These agreements came into effect in January 2022.

RIVER CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

Local Management

Directions relating to the charity for 2022 were made by the trustees, in consultation with the church leaders, who were responsible for governing the activities and teaching of the church. Day-to-day decisions on the use of resources remained the responsibility of the staff and volunteers in charge of the different departments within the churches.

Expenditure is controlled by budgets set and expense approval monitored by the trustees. The establishment of a new Restricted or Designated Fund is at the joint discretion of the trustees and the leader of each Church.

Network Structure

River Church is a member of the Evangelical Alliance and has a long-standing relationship with Pioneer; a Christian organisation that pursues similar objectives in the United Kingdom and overseas. The church works with Pioneer in assisting other churches and receives help itself where needed.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number

1146525

Registered office

Bank House
81 St Judes Road
Englegield Green
Surrey
TW20 0DF

Trustees

I M Linton
S R Tempest Treasurer (resigned 16.1.22)
A J Handford
M J Holt Chairman
M K Porter
A Vickers
C G Read
R J Pymm (resigned 1.6.22)

Company Secretary

Exceed Cosec Services Limited

Independent Examiner

Brindley Millen Ltd
167 Turners Hill
Cheshunt
Hertfordshire
EN8 9BH

RIVER CHURCH
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

Senior Leadership Team

C Davies	River Church Leader (until October 2021) & River Maidenhead Co-Leader
I M Linton	Trustee
A Wratten	River Marlow Leader
SR Tempest	Trustee
A Read	Member
CJE Barnes	Theology & Evangelism Leader, River Church

Church Leaders

C Davies & A Chisnall	River Maidenhead
P Wratten & A Wratten	River Marlow
P Gadsdon	The Journey (Englefield Green) (until 31st July 2021)

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 09/28/2023..... and signed on its behalf by:


Mike Holt (Sep 28, 2023 15:55 GMT+1).....
M J Holt - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
RIVER CHURCH**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of River Church ('the Trust')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the River Church (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 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').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Maurice Brindley
[Maurice Brindley \(Oct 3, 2023 11:32 GMT+1\)](#)

Maurice Brindley FCA BSc

Brindley Millen Ltd
167 Turners Hill
Cheshunt
Hertfordshire
EN8 9BH

Date: 03/10/2023

RIVER CHURCH**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.22 Total funds £	31.12.21 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	Notes				
Donations and legacies	2	382,961	45,058	428,019	419,713
Charitable activities	4				
Charitable Church Activities		-	-	-	2,024
Investment income	3	909	-	909	7,182
Other income		<u>-</u>	<u>9,464</u>	<u>9,464</u>	<u>12,090</u>
Total		<u>383,870</u>	<u>54,522</u>	<u>438,392</u>	<u>441,009</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5				
Charitable Church Activities		<u>281,939</u>	<u>76,183</u>	<u>358,122</u>	<u>480,715</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		101,931	(21,661)	80,270	(39,706)
Transfers between funds	15	<u>3,849</u>	<u>(3,849)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		105,780	(25,510)	80,270	(39,706)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>110,274</u>	<u>220,032</u>	<u>330,306</u>	<u>370,012</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>216,054</u>	<u>194,522</u>	<u>410,576</u>	<u>330,306</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

RIVER CHURCH (REGISTERED NUMBER:)**BALANCE SHEET****31 December 2022**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.22 Total funds £	31.12.21 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	12	-	-	-	249
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	50,578	-	50,578	49,810
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>179,716</u>	<u>194,521</u>	<u>374,237</u>	<u>325,865</u>
		230,294	194,521	424,815	375,675
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(14,239)	-	(14,239)	(45,618)
		<u>216,055</u>	<u>194,521</u>	<u>410,576</u>	<u>330,057</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>216,055</u>	<u>194,521</u>	<u>410,576</u>	<u>330,057</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>216,055</u>	<u>194,521</u>	<u>410,576</u>	<u>330,306</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>216,055</u>	<u>194,521</u>	<u>410,576</u>	<u>330,306</u>
FUNDS	15				
Unrestricted funds				216,055	110,274
Restricted funds				<u>194,521</u>	<u>220,032</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>410,576</u>	<u>330,306</u>

09/28/2023

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


[Mike Holt \(Sep 28, 2023 15:55 GMT+1\)](#)

 M J Holt - Trustee


[Ian Linton \(Sep 28, 2023 17:44 GMT+1\)](#)

 I M Linton - Trustee

RIVER CHURCH**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	31.12.22 £	31.12.21 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>47,463</u>	<u>(64,287)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u>47,463</u>	<u>(64,287)</u>
 Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		<u>909</u>	<u>7,182</u>
Net cash provided by investing activities		<u>909</u>	<u>7,182</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		48,372	(57,105)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>325,865</u>	<u>382,970</u>
 Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>374,237</u>	<u>325,865</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

RIVER CHURCH**NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT**
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	80,270	(39,706)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	249	1,343
Interest received	(909)	(7,182)
Increase in debtors	(768)	(37,878)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	<u>(31,379)</u>	<u>19,136</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	<u><u>47,463</u></u>	<u><u>(64,287)</u></u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.1.22	Cash flow	At 31.12.22
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>325,865</u>	<u>48,372</u>	<u>374,237</u>
	<u>325,865</u>	<u>48,372</u>	<u>374,237</u>
Total	<u><u>325,865</u></u>	<u><u>48,372</u></u>	<u><u>374,237</u></u>

RIVER CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS **for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements and assessment of going concern

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The financial statements are presented in sterling (£).

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The following judgements and estimates are considered by the trustees to have most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

Useful economic life of tangible fixed assets:

The annual depreciation charge for tangible assets is sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are reassessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Computers and Sound equipment	- 33% on cost
-------------------------------	---------------

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities. The charity is not VAT registered and therefore all expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT where applicable.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash, current bank accounts and deposit bank accounts with no withdrawal limitations.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where then charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are recognised at their settlement amount.

RIVER CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued **for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds which have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Donations	353,437	331,732
Gift aid	68,846	61,643
Grants	<u>5,736</u>	<u>26,338</u>
	<u>428,019</u>	<u>419,713</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Acts 435	-	540
Community Foundation for Surrey	-	10,000
CNC Property	-	2,000
National Lottery Community Foundation	-	8,898
Surrey County Council	1,800	1,000
The Schroder Charity	2,200	1,900
Windsor & Mhd Christian Trust	-	2,000
Other grants	<u>1,736</u>	-
	<u>5,736</u>	<u>26,338</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>909</u>	<u>7,182</u>

RIVER CHURCH**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

		31.12.22	31.12.21
	Activity	£	£
Youth & Children	Charitable Church Activities	<u>-</u>	<u>2,024</u>

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Grant funding of activities (see note 6) £	Support costs (see note 7) £	Totals £
Charitable Church Activities	<u>339,844</u>	<u>4,005</u>	<u>14,273</u>	<u>358,122</u>

6. GRANTS PAYABLE

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Charitable Church Activities	<u>4,005</u>	<u>-</u>

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs £
Charitable Church Activities	<u>14,273</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	249	1,343
Independent Examination	<u>2,760</u>	<u>2,700</u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

No trustees received remuneration or expenses during the year in their role as trustee.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

RIVER CHURCH**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**10. STAFF COSTS**

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Wages and salaries	153,702	271,964
Social security costs	7,794	16,735
Other pension costs	<u>4,476</u>	<u>8,344</u>
	<u>165,972</u>	<u>297,043</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	12	12
All staff	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the trustees and the Leadership team (as listed in the report of the trustees). The total employee benefits of the key management of the charity were £36,652 (2021: £133,123).

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	339,516	80,197	419,713
Charitable activities			
Charitable Church Activities	2,024	-	2,024
Investment income	7,182	-	7,182
Other income	<u>5,771</u>	<u>6,319</u>	<u>12,090</u>
Total	<u>354,493</u>	<u>86,516</u>	<u>441,009</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable Church Activities	<u>405,916</u>	<u>74,799</u>	<u>480,715</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(51,423)	11,717	(39,706)
Transfers between funds	<u>(3,773)</u>	<u>3,773</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds	(55,196)	15,490	(39,706)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>165,470</u>	<u>204,542</u>	<u>370,012</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>110,274</u>	<u>220,032</u>	<u>330,306</u>

This note shows the previous years statement of financial activities for River Church as a comparative to the statement for the current year on page 6.

RIVER CHURCH**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Computers and Sound equipment £
COST	
At 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022	<u>25,656</u>
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 January 2022	25,407
Charge for year	<u>249</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>25,656</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2022	<u>-</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>249</u>

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Other debtors	250	500
Tax reclaimable	46,161	45,588
Prepayments	<u>4,167</u>	<u>3,722</u>
	<u>50,578</u>	<u>49,810</u>

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Trade creditors	421	58
Social security and other taxes	2,777	4,943
Other creditors	508	1,909
Accrued expenses	<u>10,533</u>	<u>38,708</u>
	<u>14,239</u>	<u>45,618</u>

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.22	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At
	£	£	£	31.12.22
				£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	96,038	95,365	3,849	195,252
Congregational Fund	2,819	5,490	-	8,309
Community Support	<u>11,417</u>	<u>1,077</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,494</u>
	110,274	101,932	3,849	216,055
Restricted funds				
Community Support	211,584	(19,055)	47	192,576
International Support	7,764	(2,229)	(3,596)	1,939
Missions Fund	<u>684</u>	<u>(378)</u>	<u>(300)</u>	<u>6</u>
	<u>220,032</u>	<u>(21,662)</u>	<u>(3,849)</u>	<u>194,521</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>330,306</u>	<u>80,270</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>410,576</u>

RIVER CHURCH**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	373,889	(278,524)	95,365
Congregational Fund	7,406	(1,916)	5,490
Community Support	<u>2,575</u>	<u>(1,498)</u>	<u>1,077</u>
	383,870	(281,938)	101,932
Restricted funds			
Community Support	45,236	(64,291)	(19,055)
International Support	7,635	(9,864)	(2,229)
Missions Fund	<u>1,651</u>	<u>(2,029)</u>	<u>(378)</u>
	<u>54,522</u>	<u>(76,184)</u>	<u>(21,662)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>438,392</u></u>	<u><u>(358,122)</u></u>	<u><u>80,270</u></u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	163,026	(52,565)	(14,423)	96,038
Congregational Fund	-	(275)	3,094	2,819
Community Support	<u>2,444</u>	<u>1,417</u>	<u>7,556</u>	<u>11,417</u>
	165,470	(51,423)	(3,773)	110,274
Restricted funds				
Community Support	193,543	14,268	3,773	211,584
International Support	10,360	(2,596)	-	7,764
Missions Fund	<u>639</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>684</u>
	<u>204,542</u>	<u>11,717</u>	<u>3,773</u>	<u>220,032</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>370,012</u></u>	<u><u>(39,706)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>330,306</u></u>

RIVER CHURCH**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	351,280	(403,845)	(52,565)
Congregational Fund	700	(975)	(275)
Community Support	<u>2,513</u>	<u>(1,096)</u>	<u>1,417</u>
	354,493	(405,916)	(51,423)
Restricted funds			
Community Support	66,130	(51,862)	14,268
International Support	17,416	(20,012)	(2,596)
Missions Fund	<u>2,970</u>	<u>(2,925)</u>	<u>45</u>
	<u>86,516</u>	<u>(74,799)</u>	<u>11,717</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>441,009</u>	<u>(480,715)</u>	<u>(39,706)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	163,026	42,800	(10,574)	195,252
Congregational Fund	-	5,215	3,094	8,309
Community Support	<u>2,444</u>	<u>2,494</u>	<u>7,556</u>	<u>12,494</u>
	165,470	50,509	76	216,055
Restricted funds				
Community Support	193,543	(4,787)	3,820	192,576
International Support	10,360	(4,825)	(3,596)	1,939
Missions Fund	<u>639</u>	<u>(333)</u>	<u>(300)</u>	<u>6</u>
	<u>204,542</u>	<u>(9,945)</u>	<u>(76)</u>	<u>194,521</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>370,012</u>	<u>40,564</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>410,576</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	725,169	(682,369)	42,800
Congregational Fund	8,106	(2,891)	5,215
Community Support	<u>5,088</u>	<u>(2,594)</u>	<u>2,494</u>
	738,363	(687,854)	50,509
Restricted funds			
Community Support	111,366	(116,153)	(4,787)
International Support	25,051	(29,876)	(4,825)
Missions Fund	<u>4,621</u>	<u>(4,954)</u>	<u>(333)</u>
	<u>141,038</u>	<u>(150,983)</u>	<u>(9,945)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>879,401</u>	<u>(838,837)</u>	<u>40,564</u>

RIVER CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued **for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

15. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Designated funds

Congregational Fund	Represents monies given for the purposes of building up our church members in faith and wellbeing.
Social Action	These funds are designated for the purposes of building and growing community support and outreach ministries.
Other shared funds	These other purposes include building project and funding for youth activities.

Restricted Funds

Community Support	These funds are given specifically for the purposes of building and growing community support and other community outreach ministries.
International Support	This represents monies given specifically for a number of overseas Christian ministries and churches that the charity supports.
Missions Fund	These funds are used solely for the support of the charity's missionaries.

16. CONTINGENT ASSETS

The charity has been notified at the beginning of 2023, that it will be the sole beneficiary of Mary Drew's (a former River Church attendee) substantial estate.

17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2022.

18. DONATED GOODS AND SERVICES

Total donations gifted by trustees and related parties in the year was £28,520.00 (ie. trustees and their spouses)

RIVER CHURCH**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	31.12.22 £	31.12.21 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	353,437	331,732
Gift aid	68,846	61,643
Grants	<u>5,736</u>	<u>26,338</u>
	428,019	419,713
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	909	7,182
Charitable activities		
Youth & Children	-	2,024
Other income		
Contribution to Services	9,464	6,319
Job Retention Scheme	<u>-</u>	<u>5,771</u>
	<u>9,464</u>	<u>12,090</u>
Total incoming resources	438,392	441,009
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Wages	153,702	271,964
Social security	7,794	16,735
Pensions	4,476	8,344
Rates and water	7,250	17,125
Insurance	1,795	2,229
Sundries	86	329
Direct Costs of Activities	97,625	70,664
Communication	7,519	4,439
Office Equipment	6,731	15,629
Missionary Support	52,617	53,242
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	249	1,343
Grants to institutions	<u>4,005</u>	<u>-</u>
	343,849	462,043
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	<u>14,273</u>	<u>18,672</u>
Total resources expended	<u>358,122</u>	<u>480,715</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u><u>80,270</u></u>	<u><u>(39,706)</u></u>

RIVER CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1146525

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07926500 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1146525

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021
FOR
RIVER CHURCH

Brindley Millen Ltd
167 Turners Hill
Cheshunt
Hertfordshire
EN8 9BH

RIVER CHURCH

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS **for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 5
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Balance Sheet	8 to 9
Cash Flow Statement	10
Notes to the Cash Flow Statement	11
Notes to the Financial Statements	12 to 19
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	20

RIVER CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charitable aims of River Church are to:

- advance the Christian faith in the Thames valley, the United Kingdom and the wider world;
- bring relief to persons who are in need, financial hardship or suffering from illness or deprivation;
- further Christian or secular education in the Thames valley, the United Kingdom and wider world as appropriate;
- benefit the lives of people in the communities where River churches reside; by improving or providing local facilities and activities.

The vision of River Church is to serve our communities and to see transformation through the love and power of God.

River Church employed 12 staff on either a full-time or part-time basis as at 31 December 2021 (2020: 13), including the church leaders and other administration staff and youth workers.

In addition to the employed staff there are many teams of volunteers and helpers across our four churches who together seek to be "salt and light" within our communities to achieve the charity's aims.

Public benefit

In planning the activities of River Church, the trustees have given regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance (Reg 40 (2) (c) (ii)) and particularly the guidance for charities whose objects include the advancement of religion.

River Church provides public benefit in numerous ways that can broadly be categorised as follows:

(a) Christian witness

River Church is an active charismatic evangelical church and member of the wider Pioneer network of churches. River Church seeks mutually positive engagement in all the surrounding communities at every level. An important motivation for this work includes sharing the love of God and promoting Christian values and teaching in order to benefit members and society at large.

(b) Local communities

Finding mutually beneficial areas of engagement within local communities is fundamental to the activities of the church. River Church seeks to both address the spiritual and practical needs of the people amongst whom we live. For example, River Church manages a CAP Debt Centre in Maidenhead that has supported over 85 families and a multi-agency community hub initiative in Englefield Green. In addition, we ran a youth club in Marlow for part of 2021

(c) International communities

Another important focus of River Church is overseas mission work, and poverty relief. These aims embrace the support of both emerging churches, where we seek to share God's love through practical assistance, and also other relief and development agencies and initiatives.

River Church provides ongoing support to its own mission links abroad (e.g., within Hong Kong, Thailand, Nepal, Mozambique, Russia and other countries in Europe, Asia and East Africa) as well as other less regular initiatives as they arise e.g., disaster relief appeals.

The trustees and leadership team would like to thank all members of River Church for their continuing generosity.

Grants

Gifts and grants to external organisations and individuals are considered on the basis of the effective fulfilment of River Church's charitable objectives and after taking account of any restrictions on the funds. There are no upper or lower limits of support but each case is considered and judged on its own merits.

RIVER CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial review

General Funds

During the year total incoming resources to General Funds were £351,280 (2020: £374,790) and total resources used from General Funds were £403,845 (2020: £333,759), resulting in a General Fund deficit for the year of £52,565 after agreed transfers to/from designated and restricted funds (2020: £39,229 surplus). Good general regularity of giving continues across the four churches, combined with the continued budgetary spending controls. The trustees introduced enhanced reporting of monthly financial reports at the commencement of the pandemic to allow timely response to changes in income levels resulting from the shift from face-to-face to on-line church services. In broad terms, reductions in income were off-set by reductions in expenditure due to reduction in hall rental.

Designated Funds

Donations to Designated Funds totalled £3,213 (2020: £13,661) with designated expenditure totalling £2,071 (2020: £70,218). The surplus of £1,142 (2020: £56,557 deficit) was added to the surpluses brought forward, after some agreed specific transfers between funds.

Restricted Funds

Restricted Funds income totalled £86,516 for the year (2020: £51,378) with restricted expenditure totalling £74,799 (2020: £26,324). The consequent surplus of £11,717 (2020: £25,054 deficit) was taken to Restricted Funds surpluses brought forward with some agreed transfers from other funds.

At the end of the year, 31st December 2021 the Charity held surpluses totalling £96,038 (2020: £163,026) in General Funds, £14,236 surplus in Designated Funds (2020: £2,444) and £220,032 in Restricted Funds (2020: £204,542).

General Funds continue to exceed the trustees' minimum reserve policy of £75,000 (2020: £75,000) by a good margin.

Bank Balances

River Church bank balances stood at 31st December 2021 at £325,675 (2020: £382,970) which the trustees consider sufficient to meet all foreseeable and future risks now that the 2022 General Fund income and expenditure budget has been approved.

Investment policy and objectives

The trustees of River Church acknowledge they have a key responsibility for good stewardship of church funds. In decision making in these areas the following investment principles and guidelines are considered.

River Church will:

- invest funds in a manner that is consistent with the teachings of Jesus Christ and in line with its charitable objectives;
- handle all funds with integrity, transparency and with good governance;
- invest funds in a way that is both compliant with prevailing charitable law and that balance both the medium and longer term needs foreseen;
- invest funds in a manner that seeks to maximise the return or to achieve other agreed aims in line with its charitable objectives;
- formally review the investment policy annually as to its adequacy.

Reserves policy

The trustees have established a policy of maintaining reserves at a level they feel would enable them to continue the current activities of the church in the event of a short-term significant drop in income.

The largest regular operating costs of the charity are staff salaries and church building leases and meeting hall hire.

Consequently, the trustees' policy is to maintain sufficient reserves to cover three months of such expenditure (£75K). Unrestricted funds exceeded this level throughout the year despite the pandemic inevitably requiring us to draw from reserves to off-set a reduction in income.

The governing body review the level of reserves annually to confirm their adequacy and the potential risk.

At the 31st December 2020 this General Fund "risk reserve" stood at £75,000 (2019: £75,000). The trustees have reviewed this in the light of the ongoing COVID pandemic and consider it adequate in the present and foreseeable circumstances.

The current total level of reserves is relatively high mainly due to substantial giving to River Maidenhead's 'Miracle Building Project', CAP debt management designated funds and Englefield Green Community Hub. However, other designated and restricted funds are being released and used to grow current ministries as well as to start up new community initiatives, in a controlled way. It is anticipated that this process will continue over the next year.

In addition, given the extraordinary financial circumstances brought about by the pandemic, the Trustees recognised the need to reduce operating costs to prevent further erosion of reserves and took the opportunity to serve notice of intent to vacate their office in Maidenhead at the end of March 2022. In addition, one staff position was made redundant at the end of December 2021.

RIVER CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

FUTURE PLANS

The key strategies for the charity during 2022 are both to build and to expand on the local community focus work and initiatives where the individual churches reside, i.e., to continue to build churches that develop strong healthy followers of Jesus who bless and serve the community within which they operate. The COVID pandemic presented significant challenges to all aspects of church life as well as our community work, some of which have been successfully met using online platforms, but our activities were inevitably limited during 2021 especially through lock-down. We now seek to emerge from the pandemic in 2022 and rebuild our church communities.

We aim to capitalise on the on-line opportunity that the pandemic created by continuing to build on-line capability and integrate this as a complement to other approaches to church outreach. For example, by using on-line capability to host mid-week meetings for prayer and Bible study thus avoiding the need for additional hall rental costs. We also use on-line capability to 'broadcast' Sunday services to those who are unable to attend in person.

Our goals for 2022 are to;

- bring teaching, training and investment into all areas of the River Vision;
- invest in and train up a new generation of leaders;
- continue to encourage the four churches to remain financially independent so that the central cost overhead is reduced and shared among them;
- to support the development of the four independent churches within a common set of shared values.
- continue the search for a suitable property for the Maidenhead Miracle Building project
- continue to build and invest in the work of the CAP Debt Centre supporting Maidenhead and Marlow
- further develop our on-line church capability and community: reaching, connecting and sharing in the digital space

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

River Church is constituted by memorandum and articles incorporated 27 January 2012.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The powers of appointment and removal of trustees rests with the members of River Church. Trustees are selected from committed members of the churches that make up River Church. This aims to ensure that the trustee body as a whole is involved practically in working out the church's mission and the trustees have also subscribed to a statement of faith. No trustees are remunerated for their services to River Church.

During 2021 the trustees of River Church met on five occasions. Each meeting of the trustees during the year was led by the Chair of trustees, who is not a member of the spiritual leadership of River Church. The Chair is elected annually by the other non-leadership trustees. Each trustee meeting had a full and balanced agenda covering the spiritual, strategic, performance, financial, legal and risk issues facing the church.

In addition, meetings were held with members of the Senior Leadership Team during the year to consider proposals for the re-organisation of River Church into four distinct and independent churches albeit within the same charitable structure accountable to the existing trustee group. This proposal would see the dissolution of the Senior Leadership team with accountability for spiritual leadership moving to the leadership team each church. As part of this process, Ceri Davies stepped down as Senior Leader of River Church in October although Ceri will continue to lead our Maidenhead church. The trustees thank Ceri for her work as Senior Leader over the past three years.

As part of the continuing process to improve River Church governance and leadership, 2022 trustee meetings will continue to be streamlined for purpose with expertise being co-opted as appropriate. There will be "Governance and Financial Health meetings" (including 2023 budget approval) and other meetings to discuss the "Health & Development of our independent churches".

The senior leadership team (SLT) continued to meet regularly each fortnight as a group and at other times with the church leaders throughout 2021 but stepped-down in January 2022 as part of the transition to the new structure. Apostolic oversight will now be provided to each independent church by leaders in the Pioneer Network.

The four churches have now signed up to a Relationship agreement between themselves and a Governance agreement with the trustees. These agreements define the principles, practices and values that unite the four churches and clarify the roles, relationship and responsibilities between each church and the trustee group. These agreements came into effect in January 2022.

RIVER CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

Local Management

Directions relating to the charity for 2021 were made by the trustees, in consultation with the senior leadership team and church leaders, who were responsible for governing the activities and teaching of the church. Day to day decisions on the use of resources remained the responsibility of the staff and volunteers in charge of the different departments within the churches.

Expenditure is controlled by budgets set and expense approval monitored by the trustees. The establishment of a new Restricted or Designated Fund is at the joint discretion of the trustees and the SLT of River Church.

Network Structure

River Church is a member of the Evangelical Alliance and has a long-standing relationship with Pioneer; a Christian organisation that pursues similar objectives in the United Kingdom and overseas. The church works with Pioneer in assisting other churches and receives help itself where needed.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07926500 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1146525

Registered office

Bank House
81 St Judes Road
Englegield Green
Surrey
TW20 0DF

Trustees

I M Linton
S R Tempest Treasurer (resigned 16.1.22)
A J Handford
M J Holt Chairman
M K Porter
A Vickers
C G Read
R J Pymm

Company Secretary

Exceed Cosec Services Limited

Independent Examiner

Brindley Millen Ltd
167 Turners Hill
Cheshunt
Hertfordshire
EN8 9BH

RIVER CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Senior Leadership Team

C Davies	River Church Leader (until October 2021) & River Maidenhead Co-Leader
I M Linton	Trustee
A Wratten	River Marlow Leader
SR Tempest	Trustee
A Read	Member
CJE Barnes	Theology & Evangelism Leader, River Church

Church Leaders

C Davies & A Chisnall	River Maidenhead
P Wratten & A Wratten	River Marlow
P Gadsdon	The Journey (Englefield Green) (until 31st July 2021)

Approved by order of the board of trustees on **May 6, 2022** and signed on its behalf by:



MJHolt (May 6, 2022 11:58 GMT+1)

.....
M J Holt - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
RIVER CHURCH**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of River Church ('the Company')

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

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


mwbrindley (May 10, 2022 10:22 GMT+1)

Maurice Brindley FCA BSc
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Brindley Millen Ltd
167 Turners Hill
Cheshunt
Hertfordshire
EN8 9BH

Date: **May 10, 2022**
Date:

RIVER CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.21 Total funds £	31.12.20 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	339,516	80,197	419,713	430,432
Charitable activities	4				
Charitable Church Activities		2,024	-	2,024	1,265
Investment income	3	7,182	-	7,182	723
Other income		5,771	6,319	12,090	7,409
Total		<u>354,493</u>	<u>86,516</u>	<u>441,009</u>	<u>439,829</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5				
Charitable Church Activities		405,916	74,799	480,715	430,301
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		<u>(51,423)</u>	<u>11,717</u>	<u>(39,706)</u>	<u>9,528</u>
Transfers between funds	14	<u>(3,773)</u>	<u>3,773</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		<u>(55,196)</u>	<u>15,490</u>	<u>(39,706)</u>	<u>9,528</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		165,470	204,542	370,012	360,484
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>110,274</u></u>	<u><u>220,032</u></u>	<u><u>330,306</u></u>	<u><u>370,012</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET**31 December 2021**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.21 Total funds £	31.12.20 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	11	249	-	249	1,592
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	49,810	-	49,810	11,932
Cash at bank and in hand		102,833	223,032	325,865	382,970
		<u>152,643</u>	<u>223,032</u>	<u>375,675</u>	<u>394,902</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(42,618)	(3,000)	(45,618)	(26,482)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>110,025</u>	<u>220,032</u>	<u>330,057</u>	<u>368,420</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>110,274</u>	<u>220,032</u>	<u>330,306</u>	<u>370,012</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>110,274</u>	<u>220,032</u>	<u>330,306</u>	<u>370,012</u>
FUNDS	14				
Unrestricted funds				110,274	165,470
Restricted funds				<u>220,032</u>	<u>204,542</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>330,306</u>	<u>370,012</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2021.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

BALANCE SHEET - continued
31 December 2021

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

May 6, 2022

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



MJHolt (May 6, 2022 11:58 GMT+1)

M J Holt - Trustee



I M Linton - Trustee (May 6, 2022 13:46 GMT+1)

I M Linton - Trustee

RIVER CHURCH**CASH FLOW STATEMENT****for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

	Notes	31.12.21 £	31.12.20 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	(64,287)	23,552
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		(64,287)	23,552
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest received		7,182	723
Net cash provided by investing activities		7,182	723
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(57,105)	24,275
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		382,970	358,695
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		325,865	382,970

The notes form part of these financial statements

RIVER CHURCH

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	31.12.21	31.12.20
	£	£
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(39,706)	9,528
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	1,343	1,411
Interest received	(7,182)	(723)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(37,878)	10,058
Increase in creditors	19,136	3,278
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	(64,287)	23,552

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.1.21	Cash flow	At 31.12.21
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	382,970	(57,105)	325,865
	382,970	(57,105)	325,865
Total	382,970	(57,105)	325,865

The notes form part of these financial statements

RIVER CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS **for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements and assessment of going concern

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The financial statements are presented in sterling (£).

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The following judgements and estimates are considered by the trustees to have most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

Useful economic life of tangible fixed assets:

The annual depreciation charge for tangible assets is sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are reassessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Computers and Sound equipment - 33% on cost

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities. The charity is not VAT registered and therefore all expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT where applicable.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash, current bank accounts and deposit bank accounts with no withdrawal limitations.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where then charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are recognised at their settlement amount.

Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

RIVER CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued **for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds which have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.12.21	31.12.20
	£	£
Donations	331,732	343,611
Gift aid	61,643	78,021
Grants	26,338	8,800
	<u>419,713</u>	<u>430,432</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	31.12.21	31.12.20
	£	£
Acts 435	540	-
Community Foundation for Surrey	10,000	-
CNC Property	2,000	-
National Lottery Community Foundation	8,898	-
Runnymede Borough Council	-	2,500
Surrey County Council	1,000	-
St Faith's Trust	-	2,800
The Schroder Charity	1,900	2,000
Windsor & Mhd Christian Trust	2,000	1,500
	<u>26,338</u>	<u>8,800</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.12.21	31.12.20
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>7,182</u>	<u>723</u>

RIVER CHURCH**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021****4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

		31.12.21	31.12.20
	Activity	£	£
Youth & Children	Charitable Church Activities	2,024	1,265
		<u>2,024</u>	<u>1,265</u>

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 6)	Totals
	£	£	£
Charitable Church Activities	462,043	18,672	480,715
	<u>462,043</u>	<u>18,672</u>	<u>480,715</u>

6. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs
	£
Charitable Church Activities	18,672
	<u>18,672</u>

7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.12.21	31.12.20
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	1,343	1,411
Independent Examination	2,700	2,700
	<u>2,700</u>	<u>2,700</u>

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2021 nor for the year ended 31 December 2020.

No trustees received remuneration or expenses during the year in their role as trustee.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2021 nor for the year ended 31 December 2020.

9. STAFF COSTS

	31.12.21	31.12.20
	£	£
Wages and salaries	271,964	244,894
Social security costs	16,735	14,722
Other pension costs	8,344	7,242
	<u>297,043</u>	<u>266,858</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.12.21	31.12.20
All staff	12	14
	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

RIVER CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued **for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

9. STAFF COSTS - continued

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the trustees and the Leadership team (as listed in the report of the trustees). The total employee benefits of the key management of the charity were £133,123 (2020: £121,234) which included a redundancy settlement of £18,236 (2020: £nil)

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	384,922	45,510	430,432
Charitable activities			
Charitable Church Activities	1,265	-	1,265
Investment income	723	-	723
Other income	1,541	5,868	7,409
Total	388,451	51,378	439,829
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable Church Activities	403,976	26,325	430,301
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(15,525)	25,053	9,528
Transfers between funds	(1,461)	1,461	-
Net movement in funds	(16,986)	26,514	9,528
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	182,457	178,027	360,484
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	165,471	204,541	370,012

This note shows the previous years statement of financial activities for River Church as a comparative to the statement for the current year on page 6.

RIVER CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued **for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Computers and Sound equipment £
COST	
At 1 January 2021 and 31 December 2021	25,656
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 January 2021	24,064
Charge for year	1,343
At 31 December 2021	25,407
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2021	249
At 31 December 2020	1,592

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.21 £	31.12.20 £
Other debtors	500	-
Tax reclaimable	45,588	10,456
Prepayments	3,722	1,476
	<u>49,810</u>	<u>11,932</u>

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.21 £	31.12.20 £
Trade creditors	58	58
Social security and other taxes	4,943	5,176
Other creditors	1,909	2,429
Accrued expenses	38,708	18,819
	<u>45,618</u>	<u>26,482</u>

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	163,026	(52,565)	(14,423)	96,038
Congregational Fund	-	(275)	3,094	2,819
Community Support	2,444	1,417	7,556	11,417
	<u>165,470</u>	<u>(51,423)</u>	<u>(3,773)</u>	<u>110,274</u>
Restricted funds				
Community Support	193,543	14,268	3,773	211,584
International Support	10,360	(2,596)	-	7,764
Missions Fund	639	45	-	684
	<u>204,542</u>	<u>11,717</u>	<u>3,773</u>	<u>220,032</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>370,012</u>	<u>(39,706)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>330,306</u>

RIVER CHURCH**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021****14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	351,280	(403,845)	(52,565)
Congregational Fund	700	(975)	(275)
Community Support	2,513	(1,096)	1,417
	354,493	(405,916)	(51,423)
Restricted funds			
Community Support	66,130	(51,862)	14,268
International Support	17,416	(20,012)	(2,596)
Missions Fund	2,970	(2,925)	45
	86,516	(74,799)	11,717
TOTAL FUNDS			
	441,009	(480,715)	(39,706)

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	123,797	41,031	(1,802)	163,026
Congregational Fund	31,877	(31,877)	-	-
Social Action	1,098	(1,439)	341	-
Other Shared Fund	241	(241)	-	-
Community Support	25,444	(23,000)	-	2,444
	182,457	(15,526)	(1,461)	165,470
Restricted funds				
Community Support	170,400	23,143	-	193,543
International Support	7,033	3,327	-	10,360
Missions Fund	594	(1,416)	1,461	639
	178,027	25,054	1,461	204,542
TOTAL FUNDS				
	360,484	9,528	-	370,012

RIVER CHURCH**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	374,790	(333,759)	41,031
Congregational Fund	10,115	(41,992)	(31,877)
Social Action	-	(1,439)	(1,439)
Other Shared Fund	3,546	(3,787)	(241)
Community Support	-	(23,000)	(23,000)
	<u>388,451</u>	<u>(403,977)</u>	<u>(15,526)</u>
Restricted funds			
Community Support	45,013	(21,870)	23,143
International Support	3,395	(68)	3,327
Missions Fund	2,970	(4,386)	(1,416)
	<u>51,378</u>	<u>(26,324)</u>	<u>25,054</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>439,829</u></u>	<u><u>(430,301)</u></u>	<u><u>9,528</u></u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.21 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	123,797	(11,534)	(16,225)	96,038
Congregational Fund	31,877	(32,152)	3,094	2,819
Social Action	1,098	(1,439)	341	-
Other Shared Fund	241	(241)	-	-
Community Support	25,444	(21,583)	7,556	11,417
	<u>182,457</u>	<u>(66,949)</u>	<u>(5,234)</u>	<u>110,274</u>
Restricted funds				
Community Support	170,400	37,411	3,773	211,584
International Support	7,033	731	-	7,764
Missions Fund	594	(1,371)	1,461	684
	<u>178,027</u>	<u>36,771</u>	<u>5,234</u>	<u>220,032</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>360,484</u></u>	<u><u>(30,178)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>330,306</u></u>

RIVER CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued **for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	726,070	(737,604)	(11,534)
Congregational Fund	10,815	(42,967)	(32,152)
Social Action	-	(1,439)	(1,439)
Other Shared Fund	3,546	(3,787)	(241)
Community Support	2,513	(24,096)	(21,583)
	<u>742,944</u>	<u>(809,893)</u>	<u>(66,949)</u>
Restricted funds			
Community Support	111,143	(73,732)	37,411
International Support	20,811	(20,080)	731
Missions Fund	5,940	(7,311)	(1,371)
	<u>137,894</u>	<u>(101,123)</u>	<u>36,771</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>880,838</u></u>	<u><u>(911,016)</u></u>	<u><u>(30,178)</u></u>

Designated funds

Congregational Fund	Represents monies given for the purposes of building up our church members in faith and wellbeing.
Social Action	These funds are designated for the purposes of building and growing community support and outreach ministries.
Other shared funds	These other purposes include building project and funding for youth activities.

Restricted Funds

Community Support	These funds are given specifically for the purposes of building and growing community support and other community outreach ministries.
International Support	This represents monies given specifically for a number of overseas Christian ministries and churches that the charity supports.
Missions Fund	These funds are used solely for the support of the charity's missionaries.

15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2021.

16. DONATED GOODS AND SERVICES

The financial resources of the church, to a very large extent, are given by the members and their personal assets and equipment are regularly used in the work of the Church. Much of this work is carried out privately without recognition and the hours and value of that time cannot be quantified. Likewise much giving of time and resources to other Christian organisations is carried out independently by members of the church and is wholly acknowledged but cannot be quantified.

RIVER CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1146525

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07926500 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1146525

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020
FOR
RIVER CHURCH

Brindley Millen Ltd
167 Turners Hill
Cheshunt
Hertfordshire
EN8 9BH

RIVER CHURCH

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS **for the Year Ended 31 December 2020**

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 5
Independent Examiner's Report	6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Balance Sheet	8 to 9
Cash Flow Statement	10
Notes to the Cash Flow Statement	11
Notes to the Financial Statements	12 to 20
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	21

RIVER CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **for the Year Ended 31 December 2020**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charitable aims of River Church are to:

- advance the Christian faith in the Thames valley, the United Kingdom and the wider world;
- bring relief to persons who are in need, financial hardship or suffering from illness or deprivation;
- further Christian or secular education in the Thames valley, the United Kingdom and wider world as appropriate;
- benefit the lives of people in the communities where River churches reside; by improving or providing local facilities and activities.

The vision of River Church is to serve our communities and to see transformation through the love and power of God.

River Church employed 13 staff on either a full-time or part-time basis as at 31 December 2020 (2019: 15), including the church leaders and other administration staff and youth workers.

In addition to the employed staff there are many teams of volunteers and helpers who together seek to be "salt and light" within our communities to achieve the charity's aims.

Public benefit

In planning the activities of River Church, the trustees have given regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance (Reg 40 (2) (c) (ii)) and particularly the guidance for charities whose objects include the advancement of religion.

River Church provides public benefit in numerous ways that can broadly be categorised as follows:

(a) Christian witness

River Church is an active charismatic evangelical church and member of the wider Pioneer network of churches. River Church seeks mutually positive engagement in all the surrounding communities at every level. An important motivation for this work includes sharing the love of God and promoting Christian values and teaching in order to benefit members and society at large.

(b) Local communities

Finding mutually beneficial areas of engagement within local communities is fundamental to the activities of the church. River Church seeks to both address the spiritual and practical needs of the people amongst whom we live. For example, River Church manages a CAP Debt Centre in Maidenhead that has supported over 85 families, a youth centre project in Marlow, and a multi-agency community hub initiative in Englefield Green.

(c) International communities

Another important focus of River Church is overseas mission work, and poverty relief. These aims embrace the support of both emerging churches, where we seek to share God's love through practical assistance, and also other relief and development agencies and initiatives.

River Church provides ongoing support to its own mission links abroad (e.g., within Hong Kong, Thailand, Nepal, Mozambique, Russia and other countries in Europe, Asia and East Africa) as well as other less regular initiatives as they arise e.g., disaster relief appeals.

The trustees and leadership team would like to thank all members of River Church for their continuing generosity.

Grants

Gifts and grants to external organisations and individuals are considered on the basis of the effective fulfilment of River Church's charitable objectives and after taking account of any restrictions on the funds. There are no upper or lower limits of support but each case is considered and judged on its own merits.

RIVER CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **for the Year Ended 31 December 2020**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial review

General Funds

During the year total incoming resources to General Funds were £374,790 (2019: £410,207) and total resources used from General Funds were £333,759 (2019: £438,761), resulting in a General Fund surplus for the year of £39,229 after agreed transfers to/from designated and restricted funds (2019: £3,567 deficit). Good general regularity of giving continues across the four churches, combined with the continued budgetary spending controls. The trustees introduced enhanced reporting of monthly financial reports at the commencement of the pandemic to allow timely response to changes in income levels resulting from the shift from face-to-face to on-line church services. In broad terms, reductions in income were more than off-set by reductions in expenditure due to reduction in hall rental.

Designated Funds

Donations to Designated Funds totalled £13,661 (2019: £49,776) with designated expenditure totalling £70,218 (2019: £34,379). The deficit of £56,557 (2019: £15,397 surplus) was deducted from the surpluses brought forward, after some agreed specific transfers between funds.

Restricted Funds

Restricted Funds income totalled £51,378 for the year (2019: £70,542) with restricted expenditure totalling £26,324 (2019: £76,141). The consequent surplus of £25,054 (2019: £5,599 deficit) was taken to Restricted Funds surpluses brought forward with some agreed transfers from other funds.

At the end of the year, 31st December 2020 the Charity held surpluses totalling £163,026 (2019: £123,797) in General Funds, £2,444 surplus in Designated Funds (2019: £33,216) and £204,542 in Restricted Funds (2019: £203,471).

General Funds continue to exceed the trustees' minimum reserve policy of £75,000 (2019: £75,000) by a good margin.

Bank Balances

River Church bank balances stood at 31st December 2020 at £382,970 (2019: £358,695) which the trustees consider sufficient to meet all foreseeable and future risks now that the 2021 General Fund income and expenditure budget has been approved.

Investment policy and objectives

The trustees of River Church acknowledge they have a key responsibility for good stewardship of church funds. In decision making in these areas the following investment principles and guidelines are considered.

River Church will:

- invest funds in a manner that is consistent with the teachings of Jesus Christ and in line with its charitable objectives;
- handle all funds with integrity, transparency and with good governance;
- invest funds in a way that is both compliant with prevailing charitable law and that balance both the medium and longer term needs foreseen;
- invest funds in a manner that seeks to maximise the return or to achieve other agreed aims in line with its charitable objectives;
- formally review the investment policy annually as to its adequacy.

Reserves policy

The trustees have established a policy of maintaining reserves at a level they feel would enable them to continue the current activities of the church in the event of a short-term significant drop in income.

The largest regular operating costs of the charity are staff salaries and church building leases and meeting hall hire.

Consequently, the trustees' policy is to maintain sufficient reserves to cover three months of such expenditure. Unrestricted funds exceeded this level throughout the year.

The governing body review the level of reserves annually to confirm their adequacy and the potential risk.

At the 31st December 2020 this General Fund "risk reserve" stood at £75,000 (2019: £75,000). The trustees have reviewed this in the light of the ongoing COVID pandemic and consider it adequate in the present and foreseeable circumstances.

The current total level of reserves is relatively high mainly due to substantial giving to River Maidenhead's 'Miracle Building Project' and CAP debt management designated funds. However, other designated and restricted funds are being released and used to grow current ministries as well as to start up new community initiatives, in a controlled way. It is anticipated that this process will continue over the next year.

RIVER CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **for the Year Ended 31 December 2020**

FUTURE PLANS

The key strategies for the charity during 2021 are both to build and to expand on the local community focus work and initiatives where the individual churches reside, i.e., to continue to build a church that develops strong healthy followers of Jesus who bless and serve our local communities. However, the continuing pandemic has presented significant challenges to all aspects of church life as well as our community work, some of which have been successfully met by the use of online platforms, but our activities have been limited in this season.

Specifically to:

- bring teaching, training and investment into all areas of the River Vision;
- invest in and train up a new generation of leaders;
- continue to encourage the four churches to remain financially independent so that the central cost overhead is reduced and shared among them;
- continue to build the sense of being one River Church family by increasing the level of partnership across the four churches and holding additional joint gatherings, ministry/leadership training, and other initiatives;
- continue the search for a suitable location and building for the Maidenhead Miracle Building project;
- continue to build and invest in the work of the CAP Debt Centre, bringing it "front and centre" as a whole River Church venture rather than one supported by River Maidenhead alone;
- review and reimagine the River strategy for mission work overseas. (this has been put on hold owing to the pandemic)
- develop on-line church: reaching, connecting and sharing in the digital space

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

River Church is constituted by memorandum and articles incorporated 27 January 2012.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The powers of appointment and removal of trustees rests with the spiritual leadership of River Church. Trustees are selected from committed members of the churches that make up River Church. This aims to ensure that the trustee body as a whole is involved practically in working out the church's mission and the trustees have also subscribed to a statement of faith. No trustees are remunerated for their services to the River Church.

During 2020 the trustees of River Church met on six occasions, two meetings being added to specifically focus on issues arising as a result of the COVID pandemic. A sub-group of the trustees also met separately to consider the pay and terms and conditions of employees and made recommendations to the main trustee group for their approval.

Each meeting of the trustees during the year was led by the Chair of trustees, who is not a member of the spiritual leadership of River Church. The Chair is elected annually by the other non-leadership trustees. Each trustee meeting had a full and balanced agenda covering the spiritual, strategic, performance, financial, legal and risk issues facing the church.

As part of the continuing process to improve River Church governance and leadership, 2021 trustee meetings will continue to be streamlined for purpose with expertise being co-opted as appropriate. There will be "Governance and Financial Health meetings" (including 2021 budget approval) and other meetings to discuss the "Health & Development of our interdependent churches".

The senior leadership team ("SLT") meet regularly each fortnight as a group and at other times with the church leaders as well. The SLT also have co-opted members attend as needs arise. The SLT and trustees together help determine where the longer-term direction and strategy of River Church. It is also a forum where spiritual pathways of River Church can be discussed and prayerfully determined.

RIVER CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **for the Year Ended 31 December 2020**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

Local Management

Directions relating to the charity are made by the trustees, in consultation with the senior leadership team and church leaders, who are responsible for governing the activities and teaching of the church. Day to day decisions on the use of resources is the responsibility of the staff and volunteers in charge of the different departments within the churches.

Expenditure is controlled by budgets set and expense approval monitored by the trustees. The establishment of a new Restricted or Designated Fund is at the joint discretion of the trustees and the SLT of River Church.

Network Structure

River Church is a member of the Evangelical Alliance and has a long-standing relationship with Pioneer; a Christian organisation that pursues similar objectives in the United Kingdom and overseas. The church works with Pioneer in assisting other churches and receives help itself where needed.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07926500 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1146525

Registered office

The Summit
2 Castle Hill Terrace
Maidenhead
Berkshire
SL6 4JP

Trustees

I M Linton
S R Tempest Treasurer (resigned 9.4.20)
S R Tempest Treasurer (appointed 23.4.20)
A J Handford
M J Holt Chairman
M K Porter
A Sanger
C G Read (appointed 1.1.20)
R J Pymm (appointed 1.1.20)

Company Secretary

Exceed Cosec Services Limited

Independent Examiner

Brindley Millen Ltd
167 Turners Hill
Cheshunt
Hertfordshire
EN8 9BH

RIVER CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES **for the Year Ended 31 December 2020**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Senior Leadership Team

C Davies	River Church Leader & River Maidenhead Leader
I M Linton	Trustee
A Wratten	River Marlow leader
SR Tempest	Trustee
A Read	Member
CJE Barnes	Theology & evangelism leader, River Church

Church Leaders

C Davies	River Maidenhead
P Wratten & A Wratten	River Marlow
P Gadsdon	The Journey (Englefield Green)

Jun 21, 2021

Approved by order of the board of trustees on and signed on its behalf by:



Mike Holt (Jun 21, 2021 13:22 GMT+1)

.....
M J Holt - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF RIVER CHURCH

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of River Church ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

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

mwbrindley

[mwbrindley \(Jun 24, 2021 12:02 GMT+1\)](#)

Maurice Brindley FCA BSc
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Brindley Millen Ltd
167 Turners Hill
Cheshunt
Hertfordshire
EN8 9BH

Jun 24, 2021

Date:

RIVER CHURCH**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.20 Total funds £	31.12.19 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	384,922	45,510	430,432	517,753
Charitable activities					
Charitable Church Activities	4	1,265	-	1,265	6,398
Investment income	3	723	-	723	977
Other income		<u>1,541</u>	<u>5,868</u>	<u>7,409</u>	<u>5,397</u>
Total		388,451	51,378	439,829	530,525
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities	5				
Charitable Church Activities		403,976	26,325	430,301	549,281
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(15,525)	25,053	9,528	(18,756)
Transfers between funds	14	<u>(1,461)</u>	<u>1,461</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		(16,986)	26,514	9,528	(18,756)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		182,457	178,027	360,484	379,240
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>165,471</u></u>	<u><u>204,541</u></u>	<u><u>370,012</u></u>	<u><u>360,484</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET
31 December 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.12.20 Total funds £	31.12.19 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	11	1,592	-	1,592	3,003
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	11,932	-	11,932	21,990
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>178,428</u>	<u>204,542</u>	<u>382,970</u>	<u>358,695</u>
		190,360	204,542	394,902	380,685
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(26,482)</u>	-	<u>(26,482)</u>	<u>(23,204)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>163,878</u>	<u>204,542</u>	<u>368,420</u>	<u>357,481</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>165,470</u>	<u>204,542</u>	<u>370,012</u>	<u>360,484</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>165,470</u>	<u>204,542</u>	<u>370,012</u>	<u>360,484</u>
FUNDS	14				
Unrestricted funds				165,470	182,457
Restricted funds				<u>204,542</u>	<u>178,027</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>370,012</u>	<u>360,484</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2020.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

BALANCE SHEET - continued
31 December 2020

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on Jun 21, 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:



.....
S R Tempest - Trustee



.....
Mike Holt (Jun 21, 2021 13:22 GMT+1)

M J Holt - Trustee

RIVER CHURCH**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	31.12.20 £	31.12.19 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>23,552</u>	<u>(8,196)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u>23,552</u>	<u>(8,196)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(1,800)
Interest received		<u>723</u>	<u>977</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		<u>723</u>	<u>(823)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		24,275	(9,019)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>358,695</u>	<u>367,714</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>382,970</u></u>	<u><u>358,695</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

RIVER CHURCH

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	31.12.20	31.12.19
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	9,528	(18,756)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	1,411	1,161
Interest received	(723)	(977)
Decrease in debtors	10,058	10,268
Increase in creditors	<u>3,278</u>	<u>108</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	<u><u>23,552</u></u>	<u><u>(8,196)</u></u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.1.20	Cash flow	At 31.12.20
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>358,695</u>	<u>24,275</u>	<u>382,970</u>
	<u>358,695</u>	<u>24,275</u>	<u>382,970</u>
Total	<u><u>358,695</u></u>	<u><u>24,275</u></u>	<u><u>382,970</u></u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements and assessment of going concern

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The financial statements are presented in sterling (£).

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In preparing financial statements it is necessary to make certain judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. The following judgements and estimates are considered by the trustees to have most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

Useful economic life of tangible fixed assets:

The annual depreciation charge for tangible assets is sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are reassessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Computers and Sound equipment - 33% on cost

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities. The charity is not VAT registered and therefore all expenditure is shown inclusive of VAT where applicable.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash, current bank accounts and deposit bank accounts with no withdrawal limitations.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where then charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are recognised at their settlement amount.

Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

RIVER CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued **for the Year Ended 31 December 2020**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds which have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.12.20	31.12.19
	£	£
Donations	343,611	424,869
Gift aid	78,021	77,147
Grants	<u>8,800</u>	<u>15,737</u>
	<u>430,432</u>	<u>517,753</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	31.12.20	31.12.19
	£	£
Runnymede Borough Council	2,500	1,676
The Schroder Charity	2,000	1,940
Forest Hub Basket	-	1,000
A2 Dominion Group	-	2,000
Community Foundation for Surrey	-	5,806
EGVRA	-	500
Shanley Foundation	-	1,815
Enterprise	-	1,000
St Faith's Trust	2,800	-
Windsor & Mhd Christian Trust	<u>1,500</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>8,800</u>	<u>15,737</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.12.20	31.12.19
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>723</u>	<u>977</u>

RIVER CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Activity	31.12.20 £	31.12.19 £
Community Support	Charitable Church Activities	-	74
Youth & Children	Charitable Church Activities	<u>1,265</u>	<u>6,324</u>
		<u>1,265</u>	<u>6,398</u>

5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 6) £	Totals £
Charitable Church Activities	<u>413,538</u>	<u>16,763</u>	<u>430,301</u>

6. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance costs £
Charitable Church Activities	<u>16,763</u>

7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.12.20 £	31.12.19 £
Depreciation - owned assets	1,411	1,161
Independent Examination	<u>2,700</u>	<u>2,900</u>

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2020 nor for the year ended 31 December 2019.

No trustees received remuneration or expenses during the year in their role as trustee.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2020 nor for the year ended 31 December 2019.

9. STAFF COSTS

	31.12.20 £	31.12.19 £
Wages and salaries	244,894	277,803
Social security costs	14,722	17,738
Other pension costs	<u>7,242</u>	<u>7,825</u>
	<u>266,858</u>	<u>303,366</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.12.20	31.12.19
All staff	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>

RIVER CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued **for the Year Ended 31 December 2020**

9. STAFF COSTS - continued

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

The key management personnel of the charity, comprise the trustees and the Leadership team (as listed in the report of the trustees). The total employee benefits of the key management of the charity were £121,234 (2019: £152,192)

10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	451,638	66,115	517,753
Charitable activities			
Charitable Church Activities	6,398	-	6,398
Investment income	977	-	977
Other income	<u>970</u>	<u>4,427</u>	<u>5,397</u>
Total	459,983	70,542	530,525
 EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charitable Church Activities	473,139	76,142	549,281
 NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(13,156)	(5,600)	(18,756)
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>195,614</u>	<u>183,626</u>	<u>379,240</u>
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>182,458</u></u>	<u><u>178,026</u></u>	<u><u>360,484</u></u>

This note shows the previous years statement of financial activities for River Church as a comparative to the statement for the current year on page 6.

RIVER CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Computers
and Sound
equipment
£

COST

At 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2020

25,656

DEPRECIATION

At 1 January 2020

22,653

Charge for year

1,411

At 31 December 2020

24,064

NET BOOK VALUE

At 31 December 2020

1,592

At 31 December 2019

3,003

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

31.12.20

31.12.19

£

£

Other debtors

-

2,020

Tax reclaimable

10,456

18,606

Prepayments

1,476

1,364

11,932

21,990

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

31.12.20

31.12.19

£

£

Trade creditors

58

57

Social security and other taxes

5,176

6,942

Other creditors

2,429

2,179

Accrued expenses

18,819

14,026

26,482

23,204

RIVER CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	123,797	41,031	(1,802)	163,026
Congregational Fund	31,877	(31,877)	-	-
Social Action	1,098	(1,439)	341	-
Other Shared Fund	241	(241)	-	-
Community Support	<u>25,444</u>	<u>(23,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,444</u>
	182,457	(15,526)	(1,461)	165,470
Restricted funds				
Community Support	170,400	23,143	-	193,543
International Support	7,033	3,327	-	10,360
Missions Fund	<u>594</u>	<u>(1,416)</u>	<u>1,461</u>	<u>639</u>
	<u>178,027</u>	<u>25,054</u>	<u>1,461</u>	<u>204,542</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>360,484</u></u>	<u><u>9,528</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>370,012</u></u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	374,790	(333,759)	41,031
Congregational Fund	10,115	(41,992)	(31,877)
Social Action	-	(1,439)	(1,439)
Other Shared Fund	3,546	(3,787)	(241)
Community Support	<u>-</u>	<u>(23,000)</u>	<u>(23,000)</u>
	388,451	(403,977)	(15,526)
Restricted funds			
Community Support	45,013	(21,870)	23,143
International Support	3,395	(68)	3,327
Missions Fund	<u>2,970</u>	<u>(4,386)</u>	<u>(1,416)</u>
	<u>51,378</u>	<u>(26,324)</u>	<u>25,054</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>439,829</u></u>	<u><u>(430,301)</u></u>	<u><u>9,528</u></u>

RIVER CHURCH**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020**14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued****Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.1.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.19 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	127,364	(28,554)	24,987	123,797
Congregational Fund	40,356	11,672	(20,151)	31,877
Social Action	25,805	3,490	(28,197)	1,098
Other Shared Fund	2,089	235	(2,083)	241
Community Support	-	-	25,444	25,444
	195,614	(13,157)	-	182,457
Restricted funds				
Community Support	172,792	(2,392)	-	170,400
International Support	10,187	(3,154)	-	7,033
Missions Fund	647	(53)	-	594
	183,626	(5,599)	-	178,027
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>379,240</u>	<u>(18,756)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>360,484</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	410,207	(438,761)	(28,554)
Congregational Fund	26,060	(14,388)	11,672
Social Action	7,825	(4,335)	3,490
Other Shared Fund	<u>15,891</u>	<u>(15,656)</u>	<u>235</u>
	459,983	(473,140)	(13,157)
Restricted funds			
Community Support	58,188	(60,580)	(2,392)
International Support	6,884	(10,038)	(3,154)
Missions Fund	<u>5,470</u>	<u>(5,523)</u>	<u>(53)</u>
	70,542	(76,141)	(5,599)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>530,525</u>	<u>(549,281)</u>	<u>(18,756)</u>

RIVER CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.12.20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	127,364	12,477	23,185	163,026
Congregational Fund	40,356	(20,205)	(20,151)	-
Social Action	25,805	2,051	(27,856)	-
Other Shared Fund	2,089	(6)	(2,083)	-
Community Support	-	(23,000)	25,444	2,444
	195,614	(28,683)	(1,461)	165,470
Restricted funds				
Community Support	172,792	20,751	-	193,543
International Support	10,187	173	-	10,360
Missions Fund	647	(1,469)	1,461	639
	183,626	19,455	1,461	204,542
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>379,240</u>	<u>(9,228)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>370,012</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	784,997	(772,520)	12,477
Congregational Fund	36,175	(56,380)	(20,205)
Social Action	7,825	(5,774)	2,051
Other Shared Fund	19,437	(19,443)	(6)
Community Support	-	(23,000)	(23,000)
	848,434	(877,117)	(28,683)
Restricted funds			
Community Support	103,201	(82,450)	20,751
International Support	10,279	(10,106)	173
Missions Fund	8,440	(9,909)	(1,469)
	121,920	(102,465)	19,455
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>970,354</u>	<u>(979,582)</u>	<u>(9,228)</u>

RIVER CHURCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued **for the Year Ended 31 December 2020**

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Designated funds

Congregational Fund	Represents monies given for the purposes of building up our church members in faith and wellbeing.
Social Action	These funds are designated for the purposes of building and growing community support and outreach ministries.
Other shared funds	These other purposes include building project and funding for youth activities.

Restricted Funds

Community Support	These funds are given specifically for the purposes of building and growing community support and other community outreach ministries.
International Support	This represents monies given specifically for a number of overseas Christian ministries and churches that the charity supports.
Missions Fund	These funds are used solely for the support of the charity's missionaries.

15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2020.

16. DONATED GOODS AND SERVICES

The financial resources of the church, to a very large extent, are given by the members and their personal assets and equipment are regularly used in the work of the Church. Much of this work is carried out privately without recognition and the hours and value of that time cannot be quantified. Likewise much giving of time and resources to other Christian organisations is carried out independently by members of the church and is wholly acknowledged but cannot be quantified.