

Trustees' report

For the year ended December 2024

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2024.

Reference and administrative details of charity and its trustees.

Churches Together in Bedfordshire was registered in England and Wales as a charity (Number 1151495) on the 3rd April 2013.

The registered office of the charity is:

Willington Methodist Church
Station Road
Willington
Bedford
MK44 3QH

The trustees under charity law who served during the period and up to the date of this report were

Trustees names for this period

Jeffrey William Hugh Bulled
Alan Dansey
Steven Gary Dolby
Rev John Sean Healy
George Watt (Chair)

Structure, Governance, and management

Churches Together in Bedfordshire (CTB) is a constituent part of Churches Together in England and both bodies work in tandem to foster ecumenical links and good practice across the County of Bedfordshire. The group meets usually three times a year with an Annual General Meeting open to all in the county interested in the work of ecumenism. CTB is supported by the following denominations:

Church of England
Methodist Church
United Reformed Church
Roman Catholic Church
Baptist Union
Salvation Army
Society of Friends
Congregational Federation

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For the year ended December 2024

Bedfordshire Ecumenical Committee (BEC) is governed by a constitution that was adopted on the 23rd January 2013 and registered with the Charity Commission on 3rd April 2013 as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

The trustees meet at least 4 times per year with other members of Churches together in Bedfordshire to discuss the strategic direction of the charity and to monitor progress both financially and in terms of successful delivery of its activities.

The day-to-day management is undertaken by the trustees and members.

Objectives and Activities

As stated in the trust deed:

To Advance the Christian religion and education by

(a) participating in the life and works of Churches together in England (CTE) as an intermediate body

(b) Sponsoring Local Ecumenical Partnerships

(c) Encouraging those bodies and individuals in the churches who share a similar remit or concern to work together.

(d) Taking any further actions which may encourage the development of the Ecumenical Agenda

To relieve financial hardship anywhere in the World by making grants from funds raised directly or coordinated fundraising efforts by member churches.

Achievements and Performance

3 Trustees Meetings and 3 General Meetings were held in 2024 in addition to the AGM which was held as part of the Annual Forum.

We were able to successfully recruit an Ecumenical Facilitator (County Ecumenical Officer), Revd. Dawn Savidge, who started in the role in June 2024. She is also serving as Facilitator for Churches Together in Hertfordshire, which is helpful since a number of the member denominations structures span both counties. She has begun networking with key people, visiting local Churches Together groups and leading worship in LEP's. She plans to lead creative events ecumenically e.g. for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The Forum met in person on 17th April 2024 in Lidlington, hosted by Lidlington Church. The event was well attended with representatives from across the area and member churches. Revd. Tim Norwood, National Officer for Local Ecumenism in the Church of

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England, spoke on 'Ecumenical Spring: What's changing in Christian Unity? Where are the new signs of life and energy? What might the Spirit be saying to the Churches?

Financial Review

The trustee's records of the financial transactions undertaken by the charity from which the annual statements of accounts are prepared have been maintained as required by Part 6 of the Charities Act 1993, as amended by the Charities Act 2006.

Income during the year did not reach the threshold requiring an independent auditor.

At the time of writing the charity does not have a reserves policy.

The charity does not hold any fixed assets.

Duty of prudence - the trustees are aware that the charity should remain solvent, and assets should only be used to further the purposes and interests of the charity

This report was approved by the Trustees on 7th MAY 2025

And signed on their behalf by George Watt
George Watt - Chairman

Churches Together in Bedfordshire

Financial Activities

January - December 2024

	TOTAL
Income	
Donations	
2023 Donations	120.00
2024 Donations - Organisations	7,955.00
2024 Donations - Other	680.00
Total Donations	8,755.00
Total Income	£8,755.00
TOTAL	£8,755.00
Expenditures	
Bank charges	91.60
Contribution for CEEDO Wages	2,953.46
Dues and Subscriptions	380.45
Insurances	196.00
Printing, Postage and Stationery	20.90
Secretarial Services	1,300.00
Travel and Accommodation	12.15
Website	120.00
Total Expenditures	£5,074.56
NET OPERATING INCOME	£3,680.44
Other Income	
Interest earned	65.47
Total Other Income	£65.47
NET OTHER INCOME	£65.47
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	£3,745.91

EXAMINED AND FOUND TO BE CORRECT

[Signature]

10TH JANUARY 2025

Churches Together in Bedfordshire

Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2024

	TOTAL
Fixed Asset	
Total Fixed Asset	
Cash at bank and in hand	
CAF current 7139	6,475.97
HSBC - 538	10,745.25
HSBC - 672	0.08
HSBC - 912	0.00
Total Cash at bank and in hand	£17,221.30
Debtors	
Debtors	3,000.00
Total Debtors	£3,000.00
NET CURRENT ASSETS	£20,221.30
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	
Trade Creditors	
Creditors	0.00
Total Trade Creditors	£0.00
Current Liabilities	
Accruals	0.00
PAYE	0.00
Pension Liabilities	0.00
Total Current Liabilities	£0.00
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	£0.00
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	£20,221.30
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	£20,221.30
TOTAL NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	£20,221.30
Charity funds	
Opening Balance Equity	-8,472.89
Retained Earnings	24,948.28
Surplus/(Deficit)	3,745.91
Total Charity funds	£20,221.30

EXAMINED AND FOUND TO BE CORRECT

✓ Gules

10TH JANUARY 2025