

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31st MARCH 2023**



(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

**REGISTERED COMPANY No: 08542544**

**CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1152813**

Independent Examiners Ltd  
The Broadbridge Business Centre  
Delling Lane  
Bosham  
West Sussex  
PO18 8NF

**RIVERTREE TRUST**  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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**RIVERTREE TRUST**  
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**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023**

**1. LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

<b>CHARITY NUMBER</b>	1152813
<b>COMPAY REGISTRATION NUMBER</b>	08542544
<b>START OF YEAR</b>	1st April 2022
<b>END OF FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	31st March 2023
<b>DIRECTORS AT 31st MARCH 2022</b>	J Dumville (Chair) K Gledhill J Goodchild T B Lloyd S McCabe (appointed 17 October 2022) M Wescott (appointed 18 July 2022)
<b>REGISTERED ADDRESS</b>	Jubilee Centre Market Street Paddock Huddersfield HD1 4SH
<b>DATE OF INCORPORATION</b>	23rd May 2013
<b>GOVERNING DOCUMENT</b>	Memorandum and Articles of Association
<b>BANKERS</b>	HSBC Bank Plc 2 Cloth Hall Street Huddersfield HD1 2ES
<b>ACCOUNTANTS</b>	G W Schulz ACMA Independent Examiners Ltd Unit 2, The Broadbridge Business Centre Delling Lane Bosham West Sussex PO18 8NF
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="http://www.rivertreetrust.co.uk">www.rivertreetrust.co.uk</a>

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## **2. Aims and Objectives**

The governing document defines the objectives of the trust as follows:

- to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the trust's statement of faith in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the directors from time to time may think fit
- to relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind including the provision of counselling and support in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the directors from time to time think fit
- to advance education in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the directors from time to time may think fit
- to promote such other purposes recognised as charitable under the laws of England and Wales in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the directors from time to time may think fit

We seek to fulfil these aims and objectives in the following main ways:

- Through the life and mission of the Community Church family in Huddersfield, in relationship with King's Church in Greater Manchester, the Pioneer Network and the Evangelical Alliance
- By the operation of the Jubilee Centre as the base for Community Church and as a public facility for the benefit of the local community
- Through numerous community-based projects and activities that operate either within the Jubilee Centre or in the community, with many of them being managed together under a community sub-organisation called The Branch. This operates under the oversight of RiverTree Trust as they help us to develop our work as a Community Hub through our current facility
- By engaging the services of two spiritual leaders to help develop the strategy for fulfilling our aims and objectives; and by the full-time employment of an operations manager, and a community projects and events co-ordinator; also, the part-time employment of a church administrator, a finance administrator, a community manager, 3 community support group workers, and a debt centre manager

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### **3. Primary Strategies and Activities**

#### **3.1 Strengthening the Faith and Wellbeing of Church Members**

Strengthening and encouraging people in their Christian life and witness and helping equip people in spiritual and emotional health.

##### **3.1.1 Weekly Gatherings**

The church meets together regularly on a Sunday morning for worship, teaching and mutual encouragement. As part of these Sunday meetings, a fully equipped crèche is offered for the care of babies and toddlers, along with a range of activities for all ages from pre-school to secondary school age children and young people.

##### **3.1.2 Children's Groups**

Children join the adults for some of the worship in our weekly gatherings but then go out to their own age-specific groups. They learn about the Bible and the Christian faith and the difference it can make to their lives. The aim is also to enable them to express themselves and to grow spiritually, emotionally and socially in a safe, accepting and encouraging environment.

##### **3.1.3 Prayer**

The church gathers regularly to pray together, either in homes or at the Jubilee Centre. Church prayer meetings are held on weekday evenings at the Jubilee Centre every month and on Sunday mornings before our main gatherings every week.

##### **3.1.4 Pastoral Care UK**

Community Church Huddersfield is an affiliate member of Pastoral Care UK, a network of pastoral leaders which provides support and training to churches and individuals.

##### **3.1.5 Family Hubs**

These are groups that are held in the homes of church members, where 10-15 people regularly meet together to support and encourage one another, pray for one another, discuss the Bible together, consider how their faith applies to their daily lives and generally build friendship and relationship together. One group meets online via video conferencing software.

##### **3.1.6 Teaching & Training**

Monthly sessions are held for teaching and training – sometimes for the whole church, sometimes for specific groups. They use a variety of learning methods and cover a wide range of topics about how faith is worked out in the community and in our everyday lives. These sessions are live streamed to widen accessibility.

##### **3.1.7 Emotionally Healthy Spirituality**

This course is based on Peter Scazzero's book 'Emotionally Healthy Spirituality.' It is based on the conviction that our spiritual health is directly linked to our emotional health: the course is a path of learning that gives us new tools to grow and mature in both. It introduces people to a lifelong journey of learning to live and love well. The main aims of the course are: Connecting with God, Connecting with others and Connecting with Ourselves.



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**3.1.8 Gifts Of Imperfection Course**

The course is Based on Brene Brown's book and is about wholehearted living. From a place of worthiness, we look at 10 things we need to let go and 10 things we need to embrace in order to live a journey of courage, compassion and connection.

**3.1.9 Xcel**

Xcel is a group for secondary school aged children which exists to inspire, train and teach them about spiritual and emotional matters. With food, games, social activities, studies and discussions, we support the young people with their learning and help them to mature. We use Bible studies, crafts, outings, music and videos to help provoke questions about who we are, who God is and what is our purpose in this world.

**3.1.10 Connect**

Connect is a weekly meeting open to all age groups. The purpose of the group is to connect everyone to God and to one another. There is a relaxed atmosphere with prayer and worship followed by different speakers talking on a variety of topics. There is opportunity for discussion and sharing of ideas and a time for tea, biscuits and fellowship. There is a summer garden party and a Christmas dinner at a local hostelry and money is collected for local charities.

**3.1.11 Hardship Grants and Loans**

The trust supports those struggling financially with hardship loans and grants on a case-by-case basis. The members of the trust award these grants in line with the trust's Equality and Diversity statement according to procedures in place.

**3.2 Serving the Local Community**

Actively working for the benefit of our town and local communities through a wide variety of community groups and activities.

**3.2.1 The Branch**

The Branch is the expression of love and kindness from the organisation that spearheads our work in the local community

**3.2.1.1 Jubilee Melody Makers**

A group for parents, carers and pre-school children that focuses on the well-being of both adult and child. There is an emphasis on developing the whole person, supporting families and increasing connections so that people feel they belong. Locala partner with us to provide parent support and information during sessions, including a baby self-weighing station. Melody Makers uses craft work and music as a focus. In addition, it offers support to those suffering from isolation, depression and mental health challenges. Action and dance can also combat obesity and health challenges. Melody Makers has partnered with various Kirklees services and groups as a way of encouraging vulnerable adults to get involved as volunteers and to signpost members to other services. The group sees attendance figures ranging from 60 to 95. Melody Makers has continued to financially support other charities, one of which enables 3 children to attend school in the Philippines.

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**3.2.1.2 Melody Makers Baby**

This group is for parent support to give them a space to meet and gain advice. The room, equipment and singing session allow the babies to experience a variety of toys and have quality time with parents. It encourages peer support to enable parents to emotionally support each other. Local breast feeding peer supporters also help.

**3.2.1.3 Jubilee Together**

This is a friendly group for people living with mental illness and learning disabilities. It provides a place to meet where friendships can be built in a safe, family environment. After a simple meal, there is the opportunity to take part in various activities including crafts and games. The group enjoys several trips out that include visits to local cafes and an annual trip to see a Christmas pantomime.

**3.2.1.4 Melody Dads**

A monthly session that places a high value on, and supports the role of, dads and male carers. It helps to develop their parenting skills, combats isolation within fathers, and builds friendship among those with children of a similar age. Children's ages range from 0-10, but no limit is imposed. Activities include games, music and eating together. With a strong emphasis on support and education, it has proved to be beneficial to both adults and children.

**3.2.1.5 Jubilee Keep Fit**

In our aim to look after the whole person, fitness is important, especially after childbirth. This session is targeted at women who would like to be fit but struggle getting out with children or find that exercise is really beneficial to their well-being, particularly those with postnatal depression. The hour-long session is run by a personal trainer who provides guidance in several exercises. Children are welcome to come along and participate or play with toys.

**3.2.1.6 Jubilee Get Active**

A light exercise class for mature adults with mobility issues, or other issues that can cause them to need a slower class. It is designed to promote health, fitness, strength and coordination. We hope to see a reduction in the number of falls and increased mobility and independence through this class.

**3.2.1.7 Luncheon Club**

A two-course meal with vegetarian/vegan options provided. The lunch is to encourage those who are coming to Jubilee Get Active to attend the Jubilee Centre even if they cannot exercise that day. The aim is to combat isolation, increase community inclusion and build friendship. The lunch also provides a hot meal for those that cannot make or afford one. It increases community connections.

**3.2.1.8 Tai Chi**

We enabled this group to get a grant and now support them with ongoing costs.

**3.2.1.9 MENology**

An initiative aimed at men aged 20-40 with addictions, social issues and mental health challenges. This group is a social group where members learn how to



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cook in healthy and affordable ways. They look at physical and mental health issues and build new friendships.

**3.2.1.10 Coffee@JC**

A community support programme centred around an open door and friendship. Free coffee is made available to anyone who attends this inclusive initiative. The emphasis is on providing an environment that supports lonely, elderly and vulnerable adults. Staff are always on hand to facilitate conversation and discussion.

**3.2.1.11 Twins & More**

The aim of this group is to provide peer support for those with the challenge of multiple babies in a quality space with interactive toys. The group provides refreshments, crafts and a singing session. Operating on a bi-weekly basis there is a strong social network including other activities in between these sessions.

**3.2.1.12 'Breathe' Happy Café**

A family friendly café run once a month. The focus during these sessions is positive attitude, care and wellbeing. We create a relaxed atmosphere where people can talk and try new things. There is an organized activity each week, for example, percussion, crafts, laughter, yoga and dance. There are also activities for children.

**3.2.1.13 Community Events**

Throughout the year, the following events were offered and open to all, for the benefit of the public in the local community. Easter parties, summer parties Christmas parties, and a Christmas panto.

We held holiday events for children and families including live owl sessions, large assault course, circus skills, large equipment play, Family Melody Makers, and dance session.

We hosted a big street event for the Queen's platinum jubilee party with competitions for schools, a rap project for a junior school class, craft and an international food project.

Public attendance for these events was high. These activities continue to provide us with a good reach into the community.

**3.2.1.14 Christmas Day Meal**

Every Christmas, Jubilee Centre hosts a meal for about 150 people, plus meals delivered to people in their own homes. This is for people who would otherwise be alone or without the funds to have a decent festive meal. This is staffed by a team of around 40 volunteers. Working with partners in the community, transport is provided, and this annual event has become a regular on many calendars in the local area. Referrals come from housing associations, mental health organisations, The Welcome Centre, ex-service support, and schools. Donations for presents and food come from various sources. Each attendee gets a three-course meal, and the chance to sing carols, play games and receive a present from Santa. Children receive a bag of presents donated by the community.



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A total of 1,102 hot meals were provided via the Christmas day meal and the luncheon club.

**3.2.1.15 Welfare Support**

This initiative provides a range of items including shoes, coats, school uniforms and bags for children in need of them, babies' toys and equipment for families in significant need. We provide stationery packs and books for children out of school. We help with furniture, carpets, bedding and crockery for those relocated due to domestic violence, asylum, or poverty. We source or buy white goods, including microwaves for people who have no means of cooking. We also help with energy top ups and gas and electricity re-connections. We provide walking aids, hygiene goods, toiletries and essentials to those who cannot shop or afford them. The service is provided by requesting specific donated items, financial donations or grants. Referrals have been made personally, by schools or other partners.

Support has expanded to include lifts to health services, liaison with energy firms, the DVLA, and additional telephone and email support, particularly considering mental health concerns.

In summary: 387 social actions were taken, 38 gas top-ups provided, 87 essential pieces of furniture and white goods were provided, and 179 bags of clothes were provided.

**3.2.1.16 The Loving Our Neighbours Project**

By gathering a large group of volunteers together action is taken around the community to care and look after people in their localities. This includes collecting medicines and giving lifts to medical appointments, taking animals to the vets, dog walking and cleaning. This also includes house and garden clearance, plus tip runs. Fast response is achieved due to a WhatsApp group.

**3.2.1.17 The Branch Food Project**

All food projects service people from very diverse backgrounds with different needs. We have provision for people who are vegan, vegetarian, Halal, non-pork eating and many other diets.

**3.2.1.18 Friday Food Redistribution**

Food that will otherwise go to landfill is distributed into the community. Partnering with Fareshare, we pay for and receive a van delivery of food. We also gather food from other Fareshare partners, M&S, Tesco, Asda, Sainsburys, The Welcome Centre, The Ark and others. We have also received grants and donations to keep this project topped up with fresh food. We encourage a donation of £2 per household to access the service. There is one session per week.

This is more than a food resource. As people come into the building, we show them love and respect, combating isolation. It also gives us a chance to get alongside people, find out how they are and what challenges they are facing. In this way we have met critical practical needs as well as referred people to other services.

Food provided via Foodshare was equivalent to 46,356 meals.

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Partnering with Fareshare, we receive a van load of frozen food which is then given out to families in our food redistribution and other areas of known need.

As a result of these initiatives, 17,616.8kg of food has been saved from going into landfill, with 28,190.04kg CO<sub>2</sub> being saved.

**3.2.1.19 Emergency Food Provision and Shopping Support**

People contact us themselves or are referred to us as needing help for food. We refer most people to the Welcome Centre and arrange for food packs to be delivered. We have a stock of emergency food packs if it is a weekend and everywhere is closed. We also have volunteers who will do food shopping on a short-term basis for those unable to go out.

In total, the equivalent of 3,979 meals were provided.

During the year, 185 people were referred to us by other service providers and we referred 290 people to other service providers.

**3.2.1.20 Courses**

We ran courses on modern day slavery, mindfulness, healthy eating, cooking, self-esteem, budgeting, and yoga.

**3.2.1.21 Health Projects**

We partner with Kirklees council to deliver menopause help and support in the community.

We have a team of community champions who pass out information at grassroots level about various health-related projects.

We partner with the Kirklees Wellness Service to hold weekly clinics to support people to stop smoking.

We work in partnership with Kirklees Wellness Service. They ran weekly sessions at the Jubilee Centre for members of the public to access health and wellbeing assessment services. This initiative has been particularly good at reaching so-called hard-to-reach people.

We partnered with Locala peer supporters who visited to give advice to new parents on breast feeding, weaning, and potty training. They also provided a baby-weighing service.

We linked up with Healthy Start to distribute vitamins for pre-school children and pregnant women and to signpost people to where they can get access to healthy food and milk.

We ran mindfulness sessions in partnership with Blackbird Mindfulness and The Richmond Fellowship.

**3.2.1.22 The Wider Community**

The Branch is a Local Community Anchor. Anchors are established local organisations who share their experience, contacts, knowledge, resources and expertise with other local organisations.

Community Anchors listen to those working in communities and share information. They bring people together and help create plans. They help



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organisations develop, collaborate and influence the decisions that affect their communities.

Anchors work in enabling and co-productive ways with those in communities who are organising groups and activities, building on strengths and alliances.

**3.2.1.23 Schools Work**

This year our community team has hosted placement students from Kirklees College, Greenhead College, and local schools. We work with many other schools in the area receiving referrals from families, taking assemblies and working in partnership at special events or in other areas.

**3.2.2 The Bereavement Journey**

The Bereavement Journey is a series of films and discussion groups that gently guide people bereaved at any time through the most common aspects of grief and bereavement, enabling them to process the implications for themselves and discern next steps.

This 6-week course is open to anyone who has been bereaved at any time and in any way. The course uniquely offers a final session on faith questions in bereavement, provided from a Christian perspective. This follows the main sessions and is optional, making The Bereavement Journey suitable for people of any faith or none.

**3.2.3 Jubilee Centre**

Owned and operated by RiverTree Trust – this is a community hub and facility for the benefit of the Community Church family and the local community. Many of the activities listed in this Annual Return take place at the Jubilee Centre. RiverTree Trust also makes the facility available at cost for local public and community groups including the University of the Third Age (U3A), a local Tai Chi group and Kirklees Metropolitan Council. The centre has also been hired for occasional use by several private businesses and individuals. All these lettings serve to increase the community use of the centre and help contribute towards the financial upkeep.

**3.2.4 New Community Hub**

RiverTree Trust acquired new, larger premises, the former Britvic / Ben Shaw's site on Willow Lane in Huddersfield in the financial year ending March 2016. The Trust planned to grow and increase community activity into these premises, developing the 3.5-acre site as a Community Hub for the Huddersfield area, but we are now also exploring other options.

Included on the site were 4 derelict houses which we refurbished. They are now rented to an organization, Happy Days UK, who work to rehabilitate people who are homeless and/or have addictions.

In December 2022 a decision was made to investigate ways to dispose of the site (excluding the 4 houses). This is as a result of changing circumstances caused, in a large part, by the after-effects of the COVID pandemic.

In the meantime, various tenants ensure that the site looks after itself financially.

**3.2.5 Supporting Local Projects**

We have given financial support to a number of local projects including:



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Talkthru – Services include pregnancy choices, miscarriage, baby loss and termination counselling support in the Huddersfield and Kirklees Area.

Happy Days – A charity providing shelter, food and support for people affected by homelessness and crisis.

Shared Goods Project – Formerly known as the Sanctuary Project. Supporting asylum seekers and new refugees. Based in Huddersfield.

The Uniform Exchange – A Kirklees based charity who recycle good school uniforms, passing them from one family to another. “We want to make school uniforms accessible to all children and families who face hardship. A good uniform and a coat will improve a child’s likelihood of attendance and their ability to learn, helping to reduce social isolation.”

TIME Together – A Denby Dale based project which aims to help connect people, relieve loneliness and isolation, and improve quality of life. This is done by offering activities, transport, and places to meet.

The Welcome Centre – Helping local families and individuals in crisis with food, toiletries, and other essential items. They also provide advice, guidance, and support to address underlying issues.

**3.3 Advancing the Christian Faith**

Seeking to embody, enact and explain the Christian message in our local community and across the world.

**3.3.1 The Alpha Course**

The Alpha Course is an opportunity for people to explore the Christian faith over a 10-week period. The evening includes food, a short talk, and an opportunity to ask questions and have a discussion. People are welcome to ask whatever they want, and they will always be given an honest answer, an assurance we will go away and find out more, or a simple “we don’t know.” The values are honesty, openness and dialogue. Our objective is not to ‘convert’ people but to present our beliefs in a way that leaves people free to make up their own minds and walk away without any obligation. Over the years some people have decided to follow Jesus and others have continued their journey elsewhere. All have been grateful for a chance to talk and find out more.

**3.3.2 The Pioneer Network**

Community Church is part of the Pioneer Network. Pioneer is a relational network that is committed to connecting, inspiring and equipping churches in the UK and globally. Pioneer seeks to play its part in the re-evangelisation of the nations, planting new churches, equipping existing churches, and releasing leaders and influencers in every sphere of society. Pioneer’s strategy is to develop strong resource churches (hubs) that can support other churches as they, in turn; serve their communities, towns and cities. ([pioneer.org.uk](http://pioneer.org.uk))

In March 2023 the annual Pioneer conference was held in Southampton with members of the leadership team attending.

As part of his development in leadership Dan Lush joined the 2-year Pioneer Pathway programme in September 2021.

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Over several years Community Church has developed a close working relationship with King's Church Manchester which is a Pioneer regional hub.

**3.3.3 Debt Relief Centre**

The Debt Centre provides free debt counselling - offering hope and a practical solution to anyone in our town and surrounding area who is struggling with unmanageable debt. We work in partnership with the charity Christians Against Poverty (CAP) to offer a combination of face-to-face home visits, budgeting advice, debt management, creditor negotiations, insolvency services and befriending. We deliver a holistic and in-depth debt counselling service to those in need. The church established the centre alongside 4 other local churches and CAP has trained members of these churches to equip them to deliver the service that also involves church volunteers helping the Centre Manager in a variety of ways. Much of our work is carried out confidentially but each year we see several people from our town set free from the pressure caused by debt and experiencing a fresh start in life with relationships strengthened and lives saved.

**3.3.4 International Support**

RiverTree Trust has been able to support several projects to relieve poverty and financial hardship and to support persecuted Christians across the world. These include the following projects:

Pakistan – Funds sent for flood relief via the charity One2Another.

Turkey and Syria – Funds for earthquake relief via the charities Elam, Links, and Open Doors.

The Philippines – Sponsor A Child with the Durian Project.

The Philippines – Funds to build new walkways in a stilted Badjao village on the island of Palawan via the charity Tikvah Inc.

Zambia – Support for the work of Rainbow Africa, supporting communities by providing education, healthcare, training and employment, based in Livingstone.

Iran and beyond – Support for the work of Elam which exists to strengthen and expand the rapidly growing church in Iran.

Globally – Support for the work of Compassion UK, working around the world to release children from poverty.

Globally – Support for the work of Links, working to connect people, confront poverty, and create potential working with partners around the world to provide long-term sustainable solutions and lasting change.

Globally – Support for the work of Pioneer International.

Globally – Support for the work of Mercy Ships, a global Christian charity bringing hope and healing to those suffering from disability, disfigurement, and disease.

**3.3.5 Working with Parachurch Organisations**

As well as working with the formerly mentioned Pioneer Network, and Christians Against Poverty we support the following organisations:



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Hope Huddersfield – Local churches in Huddersfield working together to spread hope through prayer, mission events, and opportunities to serve the local community.

24/7 Prayer – An international, interdenominational movement of prayer, mission and justice.

#### **4. Public Benefit**

The trust acknowledges its requirement to demonstrate clearly that it must have charitable purposes or 'aims' that are for the benefit of the public. Details of how they have achieved this are provided in section 3 of this report. The directors confirm that they have paid due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit before deciding what activities the trust should undertake.

#### **5. Risk Assessment**

The directors actively review the major risks which the trust faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated, combined with the review of the controls over key financial systems carried out on an annual basis will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The directors have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

#### **6. Reserves Policy**

A formal policy on reserves was agreed at the meeting of the directors of RiverTree Trust on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

The trustees have set a reserves policy which requires:

- Reserves to be maintained at a level which ensures that the trust's core activities could continue during a period of unforeseen difficulty
- A proportion of reserves to be maintained in an easily accessible form
- The calculation of the required level of reserves is an integral part of the trust's annual planning, budget and forecast cycle. It takes into account:
  - risks associated with each stream of income and expenditure being different from that budgeted, for example a gradual or temporary decline in income
  - planned change in activity level: for example, a step change increase in expenditure due to taking on a new property for development, which introduces financial risk or shortfall

In accordance with this policy, RiverTree Trust intends to carry cash reserves sufficient to cover three months' routine operating expenses (including all salaries) and three months of full debt repayments.



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**7. Statement Of Directors' Responsibilities**

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company during that period. In preparing those financial statements the directors are required to:

- (i) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- (ii) make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent, and
- (iii) prepare financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. In preparing this report, the directors have taken advantage of special provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

I approve the attached statement of financial activities and balance sheet for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, and confirm that I have made available all information necessary for its preparation.

Signed on behalf of the board by .....  
Jonathan Adam Dumville, Director



Date 21-12-23 .....

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of RIVERTREE TRUST for the year ended 31st March 2023 set out on pages 17 to 26.

### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

As the charity's Trustees of RIVERTREE TRUST (and its directors for the purpose of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirement of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of RIVERTREE TRUST 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 RIVERTREE TRUST 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 Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, 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 RIVERTREE TRUST 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 (FRS102)].

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.



G W Schulz ACMA

21 December 2023

**RIVERTREE TRUST**  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	<b>TOTAL 2023</b>	TOTAL 2022
		£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	2a	190,195	18,304	<b>208,499</b>	212,976
Charitable activities	2b	6,984	28,254	<b>35,238</b>	19,605
Other trading activities	2c	102,234	-	<b>102,234</b>	92,410
Income from investments	2d	66	-	<b>66</b>	6
Grant income	2e	-	126,778	<b>126,778</b>	74,195
Other income	2f	7,898	624	<b>8,522</b>	4,814
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>307,377</b>	<b>173,960</b>	<b>481,337</b>	<b>404,006</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	3a	179,895	172,444	<b>352,339</b>	275,286
Trading activities	3b	67,219	-	<b>67,219</b>	67,632
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>247,114</b>	<b>172,444</b>	<b>419,558</b>	<b>342,918</b>
<b>NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE)</b>		<b>60,263</b>	<b>1,516</b>	<b>61,779</b>	<b>61,088</b>
Transfer between funds	4	<b>(31,101)</b>	31,101	-	-
Total funds brought forward		1,350,086	36,106	<b>1,386,192</b>	1,325,104
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>1,379,248</b>	<b>68,723</b>	<b>1,447,971</b>	<b>1,386,192</b>

Movements on all reserves and all recognised gains and losses are shown above. All of the organisation's operations are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 19 to 26 form part of these financial statements.



**RIVERTREE TRUST**  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31st MARCH 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	5	1,263,250	-	1,263,250	1,260,406
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	6	38,978	548	39,526	18,164
Cash at bank and in hand	7	96,910	108,708	205,618	262,586
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		135,888	109,256	245,144	280,750
<b>CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year</b>	8	19,890	40,533	60,423	83,932
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		115,998	68,723	184,721	196,818
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		1,379,248	68,723	1,447,971	1,457,224
<b>CREDITORS: amounts falling due in more than one year</b>	9	-	-	-	71,032
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		1,379,248	68,723	1,447,971	1,386,192
<b>FUNDS OF THE CHARITY</b>					
Unrestricted		1,379,248	-	1,379,248	1,350,086
Restricted		-	68,723	68,723	36,106
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		1,379,248	68,723	1,447,971	1,386,192

For the financial year ending 31st March 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

**Directors' responsibilities:**

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Directors on 21-12-23 and

Signed on their behalf by , Jonathan Dumville, Chair.

**RIVERTREE TRUST**  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

*Recognition of Incoming Resources*

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- it is more likely than not that the Directors will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability

*Offsetting*

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resource and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

*Grants and Donations*

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

*Tax Reclaims on Donations and Gifts*

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA during the same time as the gift to which they relate.

*Contractual Income and Performance Related Grants*

This is only included in the SoFA once the related goods or services have been delivered.

*Gifts in Kind*

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.

*Donated Services and Facilities*

These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

*Volunteer Help*

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the Directors' annual report.

*Investment Income*

This is included in the accounts when receivable.

*Investment Gains and Losses*

This included any gain or loss on the sale of investments and any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

*Liability Recognition*

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

*Governance Costs*

Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of Directors' meetings and cost of any legal advice to Directors on governance or constitutional matters.

**RIVERTREE TRUST**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023**

*Grants with Performance Conditions*

Where the charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised in the SoFA once the recipient of the grant has provided the specified service or output.

*Grants Payable without Performance Conditions*

These are only recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to a grant which remains in control of the charity.

*Support Costs*

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of the resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

*Changes in Accounting Policies and Previous Accounts*

There have been no changes to the accounting policies (variation rules and methods of accounting) since last year.

*Assets*

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity:

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

Depreciation is calculated at a rate to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets on a reducing balance over their estimated useful life. The rates applied per annum are as follows:

Land and Buildings	2%
Furniture and Equipment	20%
Computer Equipment	30%
Motor Vehicles	30%

*Investments*

Investments quoted on a recognised stock exchange are valued at market value at the year end. Other investment assets are included at Directors' best estimate of market value.

*Pensions*

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amount payable by the charity to the fund in respect of the year.

*Basis of Preparation*

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis convention (as modified to include the revaluation of investments) in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2015), applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 2006. The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The charity has claimed exemptions available in Section 1a of FRS 102 not to prepare a cash flow statement since it is a small charity.



**RIVERTREE TRUST**  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023**

**2. ANALYSIS OF INCOME**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	<b>TOTAL 2023 £</b>	TOTAL 2022 £
<b>a) Donations and legacies</b>				
Donations and gifts	158,983	17,128	<b>176,111</b>	178,059
Gift Aid	31,212	1,176	<b>32,388</b>	34,917
	<u>190,195</u>	<u>18,304</u>	<u><b>208,499</b></u>	<u>212,976</u>
<b>b) Charitable activities</b>				
Activities and events	6,984	28,254	<b>35,238</b>	19,605
<b>c) Other trading activities</b>				
Lettings income	102,234	-	<b>102,234</b>	92,410
<b>d) Income from investments</b>				
Interest income	66	-	<b>66</b>	6
<b>e) Grant income</b>				
Grant income	-	126,778	<b>126,778</b>	74,195
<b>f) Other income</b>				
Other income	7,898	624	<b>8,522</b>	4,814

**3. RESOURCES EXPENDED**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	<b>TOTAL 2023 £</b>	TOTAL 2022 £
<b>a) Charitable Activities</b>				
Administration Costs	20,597	5,604	<b>26,201</b>	18,265
Events & Activities	9,060	1,675	<b>10,735</b>	5,896
Gross Salaries:				
Ministry Support	51,019	-	<b>51,019</b>	48,814
Other	63,867	113,793	<b>177,660</b>	140,600
Mission & Other Charitable Gifts	28,793	51,280	<b>80,073</b>	50,200
Training Costs	2,023	92	<b>2,115</b>	1,886
Depreciation	4,536	-	<b>4,536</b>	7,826
Independent Examination	-	-	<b>-</b>	1,800
	<u>179,895</u>	<u>172,444</u>	<u><b>352,339</b></u>	<u>275,286</u>
<b>b) Trading Activities</b>				
Premises Costs	67,219	-	<b>67,219</b>	67,632

**RIVERTREE TRUST**  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023**

<b>4. FUNDS</b>	Balance 1 Apr 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfer £	Balance 31 Mar 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	1,350,086	307,377	247,114	(31,101)	1,379,248
<b>Restricted Funds</b>					
Debt Relief Centre (CAP)*	7,459	10,945	19,075	7,638	6,967
The Branch	28,647	163,015	153,369	23,463	61,756
	36,106	173,960	172,444	31,101	68,723
<b>Total Funds</b>	1,386,192	481,337	419,558	-	1,447,971

Restricted funding is reserved for the administration of the following projects and activities:

- Debt Relief Centre Staff & Operational Costs (see section 3.3.3)
  - \* The balance shown against Debt Relief Centre (CAP), is represented by funds held in the CAP (Hudds) Account (Note 6).
- The Branch staff and operation costs, a significant amount of which was also Grant Funding received with thanks (see sections 3.2.1).

**RIVERTREE TRUST**  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023**

**5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

		Land & Buildings £	Furniture & Equipment £	Computer Equipment £	TOTAL £
<b>UNRESTRICTED</b>					
Cost of assets	01-Apr-22	888,539	85,669	16,303	990,511
Additions		-	1,543	5,837	7,380
Disposals		-	-	-	-
Cost carried forward	31-Mar-22	<u>888,539</u>	<u>87,212</u>	<u>22,140</u>	<u>997,891</u>
Depreciation at	01-Apr-22	-	76,036	16,003	92,039
Disposals		-	-	-	-
Depreciation charge for the year		-	2,235	1,841	4,076
Adjustment		-	-	-	-
Depreciation at	31-Mar-23	<u>-</u>	<u>78,271</u>	<u>17,844</u>	<u>96,115</u>
<b>Net Book Value at</b>	31-Mar-23	<u><b>888,539</b></u>	<u><b>8,941</b></u>	<u><b>4,296</b></u>	<u><b>901,776</b></u>
Net Book Value at	01-Apr-22	888,539	9,633	300	898,472

		Land & Buildings £	Furniture & Equipment £	Computer Equipment £	TOTAL £
<b>WILLOW LANE HOUSES</b>					
Cost of assets	01-Apr-22	359,635	6,742	-	366,377
Additions		-	-	-	-
Transfers		-	-	-	-
Cost carried forward	31-Mar-23	<u>359,635</u>	<u>6,742</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>366,377</u>
Depreciation at	01-Apr-22	-	4,443	-	4,443
Disposals		-	-	-	-
Depreciation charge for the year		-	460	-	460
Adjustment		-	-	-	-
Depreciation at	31-Mar-23	<u>-</u>	<u>4,903</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,903</u>
<b>Net Book Value at</b>	31-Mar-23	<u><b>359,635</b></u>	<u><b>1,839</b></u>	<u><b>-</b></u>	<u><b>361,474</b></u>
Net Book Value at	01-Apr-22	359,635	2,299	-	361,934



**RIVERTREE TRUST**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023**

**6. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	<b>TOTAL 2023 £</b>	TOTAL 2022 £
HSBC	55,676	-	<b>55,676</b>	65,332
Money Market	41,234	-	<b>41,234</b>	93,316
CAP (Hudds) Account	-	6,967	<b>6,967</b>	7,459
The Branch Account	-	101,702	<b>101,702</b>	96,396
The Branch Cash	-	39	<b>39</b>	82
	<b>96,910</b>	<b>108,708</b>	<b>205,618</b>	<b>262,586</b>

**7. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	<b>TOTAL 2023 £</b>	TOTAL 2022 £
Tax Recoverable	9,974	548	<b>10,522</b>	3,474
Trade Debtors	8,539	-	<b>8,539</b>	921
Other Debtors	9,826	-	<b>9,826</b>	5,624
Prepayments	10,639	-	<b>10,639</b>	8,145
	<b>38,978</b>	<b>548</b>	<b>39,526</b>	<b>18,164</b>

**8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	<b>TOTAL 2023 £</b>	TOTAL 2022 £
Credit card	3,653	-	<b>3,653</b>	1,281
Trade creditors	10,073	-	<b>10,073</b>	6,678
Deferred income	-	40,533	<b>40,533</b>	72,417
Accruals	1,680	-	<b>1,680</b>	1,920
Taxation and social security	3,484	-	<b>3,484</b>	636
Other creditors	1,000	-	<b>1,000</b>	1,000
	<b>19,890</b>	<b>40,533</b>	<b>60,423</b>	<b>83,932</b>

**9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE IN MORE THAN ONE YEAR**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	<b>TOTAL 2023 £</b>	TOTAL 2022 £
Mortgage	-	-	<b>-</b>	<b>71,032</b>

**RIVERTREE TRUST**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023**

**10. PAID EMPLOYEES**

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>£</b>	£
<b>Staff Costs</b>		
Gross Wages and Salaries	<b>213,389</b>	178,173
Employer's National Insurance Costs	<b>10,839</b>	7,805
Employer's Pension Contributions	<b>4,451</b>	3,435
	<b>228,679</b>	189,413

**Pensions**

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from the charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charges (shown above) represent the contributions payable by the charity to the fund.

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>Number</b>	Number
<b>Average head count in the year</b>		
Employees were engaged in each of the following activities:		
Leadership	<b>2</b>	2
Activities in furtherance of organisation's objects	<b>7</b>	6
Administration	<b>5</b>	5
	<b>14</b>	13

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000. Two people were paid on a self-employed basis, while the other eleven staff were paid through the PAYE system.

**11. GOVERNANCE COSTS**

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>£</b>	£
Independent examiners' fees (examination of accounts)	<b>1,500</b>	1,620
Independent examiners' fees (taxation services)	<b>180</b>	180
	<b>1,680</b>	1,800

**RIVERTREE TRUST**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023**

**12. TRUSTEES AND OTHER RELATED PARTIES**

Two Trustees and one related party received payments over the year as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>£</b>	£
TM Shotter (Director/Trustee)		
Ministry	<b>22,501</b>	20,634
Expenses	-	154
TB Lloyd (Director/Trustee)		
Ministry	<b>28,519</b>	28,179
Expenses	<b>305</b>	612
A Lloyd (married to TB Lloyd) - Ministry		
Gross Salary	<b>28,434</b>	29,571
Expenses	<b>164</b>	933
Total amount paid	<b>79,922</b>	80,083

Two Trustees are engaged in the Ministry and in accordance with the Articles of Association, Ministry fees were paid to them during this and the previous year as shown above, these trustees are regarded as self-employed. The wife of one of the Trustees is also paid for Ministry work. No other payments were made to Trustees or any persons connected with them during this financial period. DB Gledhill (married to K Gledhill) working as Taylor & Gledhill Electrical assisted in a number of maintenance tasks and the firm was paid £2,391 for this service. No other material transaction took place between the organisation and a Trustee or any person connected with them, other than those stated above.

The total amount given by trustees to the charity during the year was £17,260 (2022: £18,167).