



Trustees' annual report (including Directors' report) for the period

From: 01/09/19 Period start date To: 31/08/20 Period end date

Charity name: United Church Trowbridge

Charity registration number: 1156403

Objectives and activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The purpose of the Charity is to advance the Christian faith in the Area of Benefit in accordance with the principles and practices of the Participating Churches.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) the celebration of public worship;b) the teaching of the Christian faith;c) mission and evangelism;d) pastoral work, including visiting the sick and bereaved;e) the provision of facilities with a Christian ethos for the local community, especially for the retired but also those still in work and families;f) the support of other charities in the UK and overseas.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees may regulate their proceedings as they think fit, subject to the provisions of the constitution and the Charity Commission.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	No grants are awarded.

Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>Our church would not be able to function were it not for all the volunteers who help in so many different ways.</p> <p>This work includes pastoral care for all members and friends of the church; administration; producing the church magazine to spread news of the church activities widely; holding Bible studies and house groups; hosting social events; giving to overseas charities through fund raising events; collecting toiletries for local schools; providing transport for the less mobile.</p>
---------------------------------	-----------	--

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>Worship takes place in a community building in the town park. Its situation has encouraged new people to join us on a Sunday. Covid-19 restrictions meant that no town-wide activities took place in the park when United Church would have provided hospitality.</p> <p>The church continues to run a centre (offices, meeting rooms, kitchen and toilet) in another building in the town. This has been well used by United Church groups and for meetings with members from churches covering a wider geographical area.</p> <p>The Christian Debt Centre, which was set up by a Trustee from United Church, continues to use these premises for this vital work.</p>
---	-----------	---

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	<p>The church concentrates on serving the needs of its members and friends. Normally this is through worship, study groups and social interaction. The restrictions of the lockdowns for most of the year have meant finding different ways of serving the needs of the members by using Zoom and telephone conferencing.</p>
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	<p>No fundraising objectives were set.</p>

--	--	--

Financial review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	There was a shortfall of £9,773 at the end of this financial year. This is £6,228 less than the shortfall in 2018- 2019 which was encouraging. Whilst this is regrettable, it is unavoidable. The majority of the members are retired and on fixed pensions. The reserves will last well into the future if the giving cannot be raised.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Reserves are held because the income from church members does not cover the expenditure for the reason stated above.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£174,495
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	The reserves will cover many years of expenditure. We have benefitted from generous bequests from church members who have died.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The income comes from the giving of the congregation, reclaiming Gift Aid and the GASDS and fund raising. The church receives dividends and interest from investments managed on our behalf by the South Western Synod of the United Reformed Church.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	The majority of the church investments are in COIF Ethical Investment Funds.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	There are no risks facing the charity.

Structure, governance and management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document: for example, trust deed, memorandum and articles of association etc.	Para 1.25	A Model Governing Document (Constitution and Schedule) for a Single Congregation Local Ecumenical Partnership
How is the charity constituted? for example limited company, unincorporated association, CIO	Para 1.25	Unincorporated
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Trustees are nominated and seconded prior to the AGM held in November. There is a written vote by the church members at that meeting. A minimum of 6 and a maximum of ten Trustees are appointed. They hold office for three years with an option of a further three. After that they can continue to stand on an annual renewal basis if supported as above.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	All new Trustees undergo their induction and training on the job and under the supervision of a longer standing Trustee.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The minister, who has oversight of two other churches, works with the Church Secretary and the Serving Elders to run the church. The Church Meeting, where all church members have the final vote on matters, takes place quarterly.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	There is increasing collaboration with the members and friends from the minister's other two churches to hold joint meetings and services.

Reference and administrative details

Charity name	United Church Trowbridge
Other name the charity uses	-
Registered charity number	1156403
Charity's principal address	United Church 56 Stallard Street Trowbridge BA14 8HH

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Clive Jackson	Secretary		Elders' Meeting
2	Lesley Chapman	Treasurer		Elders' Meeting
3	Sheila Lerwill			Church Meeting
4	Patti Harrison			Church Meeting
5	Marguerite Denning			Church Meeting
6	Maureen Belgrove			Church Meeting
7	Alison Hicks			Church Meeting

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name	
	N/A

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year
	N/A

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
N/A		

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (optional information)

N/A

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A

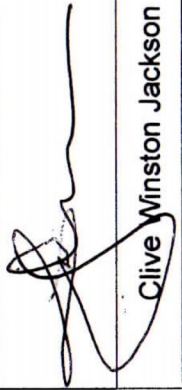
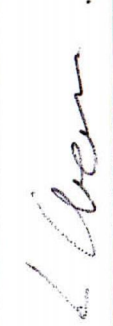
Other optional information

N/A

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report (including directors' report) above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees/directors

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Clive Winston Jackson	Lesley Carol Chapman
Position (for example Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	Treasurer

Date
14/04/21

[illegible]

[illegible]

[Handwritten signature]

• • • • •

6/12/20

I have audited these accounts, examined the bank statements, pass books and vouchers from which it was prepared and, in my opinion, is in accordance therewith.

[illegible]