



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01/09/22 Period start date To 31/08/23 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.

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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>United Church provides a caring Christian base for its members and friends. It oversees a weekly coffee morning for the general public, where all are made welcome in the comfortable community building.</p> <p>The church runs a centre (offices, meeting rooms, kitchen and toilet) in another building in the town. This is used for meetings with members from churches and non-religious groups locally. 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	The church serves the needs of its members and friends through worship, friendship groups and social interaction with the wider public.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	No fundraising objectives were set.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	N/A

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	With the closure of an investment fund, £15,000 was added to the income for the church. This led to the church ending the financial year in credit to the tune of £2,505. This transfer of funds was 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 reasons stated above.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£390,644 as at 31/08/23
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. 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's finances.

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	A Model Governing Document (Constitution and Schedule) for a Single Congregation Local Ecumenical Partnership
How is the charity constituted? (e.g. 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 at the Elder's Meeting. There is then a vote to accept the Trustees by the church members at the AGM. There is not a minimum number of Trustees but a maximum of ten Trustees can be 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 four 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 Wesley Road Methodist Church, one of our minister's other churches in Trowbridge. Regular joint services are held.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	United Church Trowbridge
Other name the charity uses	N/A
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	Patti Harrison			Church Meeting
4	Marguerite Denning			Church Meeting
5	Maureen Belgrove			Church Meeting
6	Alison Hicks			Church Meeting

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

Director name	N/A	
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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
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N/A		
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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

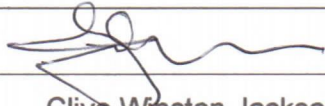
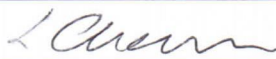
Other optional information

N/A

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Clive Winston Jackson	Lesley Carol Chapman
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	Treasurer
Date	21/5/2024	22/5/24

THE UNITED CHURCH TROWBRIDGE									
GENERAL CHURCH ACCOUNT									
Year ended 31st August 2023									

THE UNITED CHURCH, TROWBRIDGE									
SUMMARY OF INVESTMENTS									
Year ended 31st August, 2023									
Reference	Detail	Market Value As at 1/1/22	Market Value As at 31/8/23	Interest paid to General Account 1/9/22 to 31/8/23					
CCLA	886140098AA	97,394.49	125,708.56						
CCLA	886140104AA	126,059.74	99,649.45						
CCLA	886140008AA	167,345.43	152,301.64						
M & G	360772597	21,637.20	Closed and reinvested (less £15K transferred to Current A/C) in CCLA 886140098AA						
M & G	24009455	1,427.38	Closed and reinvested in CCLA 886140098AA						
M & G	24009455	3,983.87	Closed and reinvested in CCLA 886140098AA						
M & G	24005452	4,077.24	Closed and reinvested in CCLA 886140098AA						
Scottish Widows	10438181	13,694.58	12,984.85	348.10					
TOTAL		435,619.93	390,644.50	348.10					
SALE OF CHURCH									
CCLA	831470013AB	766,408.67	729,971.90	Accrued Income					
JUNIOR CHURCH									
M & G	360842057	10,862.98	Closed and reinvested in CCLA 886140098AA						
CCLA	886140028AA	314.28	286.03						
TOTAL		11,177.26	286.03	Dividend added to capital sum					

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.

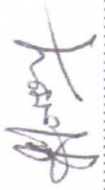
[Signature]

Signed,
J. Horsey PIIA, FMAAT

Dated,
30/1/24

THE UNITED CHURCH, TROWBRIDGE					
SUMMARY OF BANK ACCOUNTS					
Year ended 31st August, 2023					
	General Account Lloyds A/C no 00173514	30 Day Notice Account Lloyds A/C no 07115285	Business Instant Account Lloyds A/C no 07097511	TOTAL	
Balances as at 1/9/22	11,456.20	5,511.67	654.95	17,622.82	
INCOME	49,026.41	22.84	3.35	49,052.60	
(see separate sheets for details)				-	
EXPENDITURE	46,521.16	-	-	46,521.16	
(see separate sheets for details)					
TRANSFERS	1 - 8,000.00	8,000.00		-	
	2 - 8,517.51	8,517.51		-	
				-	
Balances as at 31/8/23	14,478.96	5,017.00	658.30	20,154.26	
	See separate Investment Sheet.				

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.


 Signed.....
 J. Horsey PIIA, FMAAT

Dated.....
 30/1/24

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.

Signed.....
J. Horsey PIIA, FMAAT

Dated.....,

Name of Church THE UNITED CHURCH, TROWBRIDGE No

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (~~other than that disclosed below~~) which give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- ~~the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 139 of the Act; or~~
- ~~the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.~~

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

I have/have not* obtained independent verification of all investments with the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes or held in other trusts, bank balances and funds at the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church which are individually in excess of £10,000 (ten thousand pounds) at the balance sheet date.

Signature of independent examiner 

Name of independent examiner JOHN HORSEY

Relevant professional qualification of independent examiner PIIA FMAAT

Name of firm (where appropriate)

Address 40, MENDIP DRIVE

FROME, SOMERSET

Post Code BA11 2HU

Date 30/1/24

* delete or circle as appropriate

~~September 2020~~