

ST COLUMBA'S OXFORD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

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Registered Charity No: 1162065

ST COLUMBA'S OXFORD UNITED REFORMED CHARITY

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

TRUSTEES:

Jill Fresen
Rev. Helen Garton
Jonathan Herring
Maureen Hussain
Kirsten Johnson
David Kennerley (resigned 15th October 2020)
Rosemary Knagg
Timothy Llewellyn
Adrian Moore
David North
Gordon Woods

REGISTERED OFFICE

St Columba's United Reformed Church
Alfred Street
Oxford
OX1 4EH

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Ian Parkinson

BANKERS

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

ST COLUMBA'S OXFORD UNITED REFORMED CHARITY

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Charitable Status

St Columba's Oxford United Reformed Charity is a charity, registered in England, number 1162065.

Trustees

The Trustees who have held office at any point during the year ended 31 December 2020 and to the date of this report are as follows:

Jill Fresen	Rosemary Knagg
Revdl Helen Garton	Timothy Llewellyn
Jonathan Herring	Adrian Moore
Maureen Hussain	David North
Kirsten Johnson	Gordon Woods
David Kennerley (resigned 15 October 2020)	

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity was established by a governing document (Constitution) adopted on 23 February 2014. It was formed in order to acquire the assets and liabilities of St Columba's United Reformed Church, Oxford, an excepted charity.

Additional trustees may be appointed by the church meeting; all new trustees are offered appropriate training in order to fulfill their role.

Objectives and activities

The object of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith for the benefit of the public, in accordance with the Scheme of Union of the United Reformed Church. It carries out this purpose by providing a place where all are welcome to participate in regular public worship.

The charity serves the whole community by hiring out premises and providing services for a wide range of community groups and activities. It has a particular involvement with a charity serving the needs of lonely people, and has an active ministry within the LGBT community.

Achievements and performance

Despite the pandemic, the charity has maintained a regular pattern of worship and witness to its members and to the wider community, both through worship in the church buildings, and through services and other activities provided online. Numbers participating in regular Sunday worship, notably students and younger people, have held up well, and several House Groups have also met on a regular basis.

Public benefit

The Trustees of the charity have had due regard both to the objectives of the charity, as set out above, and also to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission, in exercising their powers and duties. All activities are undertaken in furtherance of the charity's objects, as outlined above.

Risk management

The principal risks the charity may face are perceived to be inadequate future funding and the possibility of safeguarding issues arising in dealing with children and vulnerable adults. The issue of future funding has been brought to the forefront by the effects of COVID-19. The trustees and church members have adopted a budget for 2021, showing the effects of a resumption of church and hiring activities in either summer or autumn 2021. In both cases the deficit is readily manageable from within the charity's existing resources.

To mitigate the risks as far as possible, the Finance and Property Committee regularly monitors the income both from member contributions and from future potential hiring income, as well as keeping a tight rein on premises expenditure; appropriate safeguarding measures remain in place.

Financial Review

All the assets and liabilities of St Columba's United Reformed Church, Oxford were transferred to the charity on 28 February 2016.

Income for the year totalled £79,787 (2019: £112,265), and expenditure totalled £107,988 (2019: £94,059). Expenditure included Major Systems Renewals of £32,020 (2019: £7,871), chiefly to recreate a more welcoming entrance to the building; this was partly funded by a grant from the Wessex Synod of the United Reformed Church. The net deficit of £28,201 (2019 surplus of £18,206) has been deducted from, or added to, reserves, resulting in funds carried forward of £86,061, of which £15,510 were restricted funds.

Income was heavily impacted by COVID-19, as the church buildings had to be closed, and all external hirings terminated, in March 2020. The resulting income from hirings for the year was £5,297, compared with £40,052 in 2019, and a claim under the charity's Loss of Profits Insurance Cover is being considered. Nonetheless, the Trustees are satisfied that the unrestricted fund balance of £70,551, representing more than one year's normal expenditure, is adequate to underpin future activities, and that the charity remains a going concern for at least 12 months from the date of signing this report.

Plans for Future Periods

At the present time it is more or less impossible to put in place a detailed forward plan for the operations of the charity and its buildings. However, the emphasis will be on keeping its worshippers together, by means of worship and other resources delivered online and/or in the church buildings; this will enable the charity to maintain its outreach focussed on the wider community, and to be ready to resume its charitable activities when permitted, in furtherance of its core objectives.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Charity law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under charity law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently; make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. 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.

So far as the Trustees are aware, there is no relevant information (information needed by the independent examiner in connection with preparing his report) of which the charity's examiner is unaware, and each Trustee has taken all the steps that he or she ought to have taken in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the examiner is aware of that information.

Independent Examiner

Ian Parkinson has signified his willingness to continue in office and a resolution to re-appoint him as examiner will be proposed at the forthcoming annual general meeting.

Approved by the Trustees on 9 May 2021, and signed by order of the Trustees by:



Adrian Moore, Trustee & Joint Church Secretary

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St Columba's Oxford
United Reformed Charity (Registered Charity No. 1162065)**

This report on the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 5 to 10, is in respect of an examination carried out in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

Respective Responsibilities of the FCC and Examiner

As trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements; you consider that the audit requirement of the Regulations and section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply, and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to issue this report on those financial statements in accordance with the terms of the Regulations.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145 (5) (b) of the Act. That examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanation from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements.

Independent Examiner's Statement

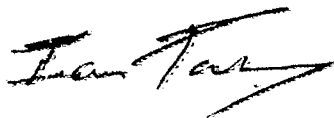
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date:

15th August 2021

ST COLUMBA'S OXFORD UNITED REFORMED CHARITY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
		£	£	£	£
INCOME					
Voluntary Income	2	66,374		66,374	63,703
Activities for Generating Funds	3	9,972	3,116	13,088	47,702
Investment Income	4	325		325	860
TOTAL INCOME		76,671	3,116	79,787	112,265
EXPENDITURE					
Cost of generating funds		60		60	60
Charitable Activities	5, 6	106,520	1,408	107,928	93,999
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		106,580	1,408	107,988	94,059
Net Income before Transfers		(29,909)	1,708	(28,201)	18,206
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses)		-	-	-	-
Net Movement in Funds		(29,909)	1,708	(28,201)	18,206
Transfers Between Funds	7			-	-
Net Incoming Resources After Transfers		(29,909)	1,708	(28,201)	18,206
Total Funds Brought Forward		100,460	13,802	114,262	96,056
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		£70,551	£15,510	£86,061	£114,262

The accounting policies and notes on pages 7-9 form part of the financial statements.
Detailed comparative figures for the Statement of Financial Activities are shown on page 10.

ST COLUMBA'S OXFORD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

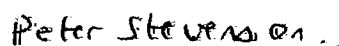
BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets		0	0
Current Assets			
Debtors	8	11,846	7,719
Cash at Bank and in Hand			
Deposit Accounts		56,674	81,349
Current Accounts		19,769	26,680
		<u>88,289</u>	<u>115,748</u>
Current Liabilities			
Creditors: Falling due within one year	9	<u>(2,228)</u>	<u>(1,486)</u>
Net Current Assets		86,061	114,262
Total Assets		<u><u>£86,061</u></u>	<u><u>£114,262</u></u>
 Represented by:			
Unrestricted Income Funds		70,551	100,460
Restricted Income Funds		<u>15,510</u>	<u>13,802</u>
		<u><u>£86,061</u></u>	<u><u>£114,262</u></u>

The Financial Statements on Pages 5 to 10 were approved by the Trustees on 9 May 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



Adrian Moore, Church Secretary



Peter Stevenson, Joint Treasurer

The accounting policies and notes on pages 7-10 form part of the financial statements.

STI COLUMBA'S OXFORD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1a Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, and the United Reformed Church guidance. The accruals basis of accounting has been adopted, and the principal accounting policies set out below are applied consistently.

1b Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the church in furtherance of its charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor, or contained in the terms of a grant.

1c Tangible Fixed Assets

Freehold property: The Trustees of the church and manse buildings are the URC Wessex Synod Trust who hold them upon trust for purposes connected with St Columba's URC. Expenditure incurred on the church and manse is written off in the year it is incurred.

The insured value of the church buildings (at Alfred Street, Oxford OX1 4EH) is £2,586,878 (2019: £2,463,693).

1d Incoming Resources

All voluntary giving is included in the financial statements for the period in which it is received. Donations under Gift Aid plus the associated tax recovery are recognised as income when the donation is received. Legacies are accounted for when their receipt is certain and can be properly quantified. All other income is generally recognised when it is receivable.

1e Resources Expended

URC Ministry & Mission Fund contribution is paid regularly and is included in the financial statements for the year to which it relates.

Resources expended are recognised in the period to which they are incurred and include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered. They are allocated to the particular activity to which they relate. Governance costs represent direct expenditure on the governance of the church, including the production and independent scrutiny of these financial statements.

As most of the management and activity of the church is carried out by volunteers, this intangible cost is not included in the financial statements as this voluntary contribution to the life of the church is incalculable.

1f Taxation

As part of the United Reformed Church, the church is an exempted charity within the meaning of the Taxes Acts. Accordingly it is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income and capital gains received to the extent that such income or gains are applied to exclusively charitable purposes. No provision for taxation has been made in these financial statements.

2 VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
Offerory	54,217		54,217	60,880
Grants and donations	11,407		11,407	2,175
Other	750		750	648
	66,374	0	66,374	63,703

3 ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

Chaplaincy Fund	4,675	3,116	7,791	7,650
Hiring of church buildings	5,297		5,297	40,052
	9,972	3,116	13,088	47,702

ST COLUMBA'S OXFORD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2020	Total 2019
4 INVESTMENT INCOME				
Deposit interest	325		325	860
	325	0	325	860

5 RESOURCES USED: CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

URC Ministry & Mission Fund	33,648		33,648	32,520
Special Collections and donations	1,150		1,150	327
Property costs (note 6)	68,144		68,144	52,167
Ministry costs	2,771	1,408	4,179	6,528
Other	807		807	2,457
	106,520	1,408	107,928	93,999

6 PROPERTY COSTS

Major systems renewals	32,020		32,020	7,871
Maintenance & utilities	11,320		11,320	12,735
Church cleaning & caretaking	7,912		7,912	7,143
Minor expenses	4,842		4,842	7,974
Church administrator & expenses	8,811		8,811	14,116
Organ and piano	840		840	180
Insurance	2,399		2,399	2,148
	68,144	0	68,144	52,167

7 DESIGNATED AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

Fund name	Brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Carried forward
<i>Unrestricted funds:</i>					
General	26,334	69,174	74,560		20,948
Centenary Appeal (des)	12,779				12,779
Buildings (des)	37,347	7,497	32,020		12,824
Emergency Reserve (des)	24,000				24,000
	100,460	76,671	106,580	-	70,551
<i>Restricted funds:</i>					
Children and Families	237				237
Chaplaincy	13,565	3,116	1,408		15,273
	13,802	3,116	1,408	-	15,510

Chaplaincy Fund represents monies collected and set aside for student ministry. It was agreed with the URC in 2013 that this fund would in future be split 60:40 between general funds and student-related ministry, in future, with existing funds to be de-restricted. Children & families refers to funds raised by a collection dedicated towards work with children and families. The Centenary Fund represents monies raised during and after the centenary year for use towards major projects in future. The designated reserves are the emergency reserve of £24,000 (approximating three months' expenditure), and the buildings fund, designed to fund long-term building works; this was used for the glazing project and associated works (net of Synod grant).

ST. COLUMBA'S OXFORD UNITED REFORMED CHARITY

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

8 DEBTORS AT YEAR END

	2020	2019
	£	£
URC Trust (Chaplaincy Fund)	1,971	1,924
HMRC – unclaimed Gift Aid	9,875	4,200
Amounts due from hirers	0	1,595
	<u>11,846</u>	<u>7,719</u>

9 CREDITORS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2020	2019
	£	£
Major works: vestibule heater replacement	2,004	0
Organists and preaching fees (Dec)	160	200
Minister's expenses (Dec)	64	0
HMRC (income tax / national insurance)	0	807
Agency collections	0	479
	<u>2,228</u>	<u>1,486</u>

10. STAFF AND SALARIES

The church employed 1 part time employee for part of the year (2019: 1) on a gross annual salary of £13,620 (2019: £13,320).

11. APPEALS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

These are collected and then paid to the organisation concerned together with any Gift Aid claimed.

They were as follows:

	2020	2019
	£	£
ABCD (Coffee Donations)	200	430
Commitment For Life	3,200	2,190
Zambia Appeal	241	0
Salvation Army (Xmas)	600	0
Friends of Kihwendo Ken	100	135
Others (2019)	0	1,671
	<u>4,341</u>	<u>4,426</u>

12. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

None of the church trustees receive remuneration from the charity. One trustee, (the Minister), (2019: 2) received reimbursement of expenses totalling £1,673 (2019: £1,703).

The previous year's SOFA is given here to show the breakdown between restricted and unrestricted funds for 2019.

ST COLUMBA'S OXFORD UNITED REFORMED CHARITY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2019
	£	£	£
INCOME			
Voluntary Income	63,703	-	63,703
Activities for Generating Funds	44,642	3,060	47,702
Investment Income	860	0	860
Other incoming resources	-	-	-
Total Incoming Resources	109,205	3,060	112,265
EXPENDITURE			
Cost of generating funds	60	-	60
Charitable Activities	92,554	1,445	93,999
	-	-	-
Total Resources Expended	92,614	1,445	94,059
Net Incoming Resources Before Transfers	16,591	1,615	18,206
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses)			
Investments Realised	-	-	-
Net Movement in Funds	16,591	1,615	18,206
Transfers Between Funds	-	-	-
Net Incoming Resources After Transfers	16,591	1,615	18,206
Total Funds Brought Forward	83,869	12,187	96,056
Total Funds Carried Forward	£100,460	£13,802	£114,262