

ST COLUMBA'S OXFORD UNITED REFORMED CHARITY

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

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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 2022

TRUSTEES:

Jill Fresem
Rev Helen Ganton (resigned 31 December 2022)
Jonathan Herring
Kirsten Johnson
Rosemary Knagg
Adrian Moore
David North
Andrew Smith (elected 17 April 2022)
Gordon Woods

REGISTERED ADDRESS

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Ian Parkinson

BANKERS:

CAF Bank Ltd
Virgin Money

ST COLUMBA'S OXFORD UNITED REFORMED CHARITY

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022.

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 2022 and to the date of this report are as follows:

Jill Fresen	Adrian Moore
Revd Helen Gaston (resigned 31 December 2022)	David North
Jonathan Herring	Andrew Smith (elected 17 April 2022)
Kirsten Johnson	Gordon Woods
Rosemary Knagg	

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 fulfil 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 an active ministry within the LGBTI community, which is being developed by the charity's Outreach Worker.

Achievements and performance

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.

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 was ameliorated by the receipt of the proceeds of a Loss of Profits insurance claim in the sum of £50,414 in 2021.

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.

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.

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 £136,463 (2021 £119,605, including the Loss of Profits insurance claim referred to above); expenditure totalled £136,372 (2021 £74,107). The net surplus of £91 (2021 £45,498) has been added to reserves, resulting in funds carried forward of £131,610, of which £11,956 were restricted funds.

Voluntary income, mostly from church members, held up well, and income from hirings for the year totalled £44,863 (2021 only, £9,390, because of the pandemic). There were no abnormal items of expenditure.

The Trustees are satisfied that the unrestricted fund balance of £119,654, representing more than 12 months of normal expenditure, is more than adequate to underpin future activities, and accordingly that the charity remains a going concern for at least 12 months from the date of signing this report.

Plans for Future Periods

The emphasis of the charity will continue to be on keeping its worshippers together, by means of worship and other resources delivered online and/or in the church buildings, and to develop further its outreach focussed on the wider community, 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.

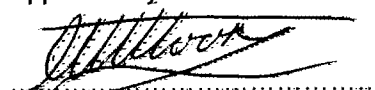
The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of 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 14 May 2023, 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 2022, 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 PCC 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:

16 June 2023

ST COLUMBA'S OXFORD UNITED REFORMED CHARITY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
		£	£	£	£
INCOME					
Voluntary Income	2	83,215		83,215	102,170
Activities for Generating Funds	3	49,696	3,222	52,918	17,360
Investment Income	4	330		330	75
TOTAL INCOME		133,241	3,222	136,463	119,605
EXPENDITURE					
Cost of generating funds		-	-	-	97
Charitable Activities	5, 6	127,824	8,548	136,372	74,050
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		127,824	8,548	136,372	74,147
Net Income before Transfers		5,417	(5,326)	91	45,458
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses)		-	-	-	-
Net Movement in Funds		5,417	(5,326)	91	45,458
Transfers Between Funds	7			-	-
Net Incoming Resources After Transfers		5,417	(5,326)	91	45,458
Total Funds Brought Forward		114,237	17,282	131,519	86,061
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		£119,654	£11,956	£131,610	£131,519

The accounting policies and notes on pages 7-9 form part of the financial statements.

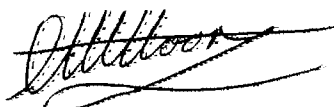
Detailed comparative figures for the Statement of Financial Activities are shown on page 10.

ST COLUMBA'S OXFORD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

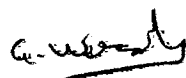
BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets		0	0
Current Assets			
Debtors	8	19,713	12,056
Cash at Bank and in Hand			
Deposit Accounts		107,073	81,749
Current Account		6,396	39,306
		<u>133,182</u>	<u>133,111</u>
Current Liabilities			
Creditors: Falling due within one year	9	<u>(1,572)</u>	<u>(1,592)</u>
Net Current Assets		131,610	131,519
Total Assets		<u><u>£131,610</u></u>	<u><u>£131,519</u></u>
 Represented by:			
Unrestricted Income Funds		119,654	114,237
Restricted Income Funds		<u>11,956</u>	<u>17,282</u>
		<u><u>£131,610</u></u>	<u><u>£131,519</u></u>

The Financial Statements on Pages 5 to 10 were approved by the Trustees on 14 May 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



Adrian Moore, Trustee & Joint Church Secretary



Gordon Woods, Trustee & Joint Church Secretary

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

ST COLUMBA'S OXFORD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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: £2,989,663 (2021: £2,768,206).

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 2022	Total 2021
Offeritory	45,936		45,936	49,553
Grants and donations	37,039		37,039	2,203
Loss of Profits insurance claim	0		0	50,414
Other	240		240	0
	83,215	0	83,215	102,170

3 ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

Chaplaincy Fund	4,833	3,222	8,055	7,970
Hiring of church buildings	44,863		44,863	9,390
	49,696	3,222	52,918	17,360

STI COLUMBA'S OXFORD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
4 INVESTMENT INCOME				
Deposit interest	330		330	75
	330	0	330	75

5 RESOURCES USED: CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

URC Ministry & Mission Fund	34,669		34,669	34,320
Special Collections and donations	2,652		2,652	500
Property costs (note 6)	65,682		65,682	33,763
Ministry costs	3,657	1,612	5,269	4,632
Outreach project	20,809	6,936	27,745	0
Other	355		355	835
	127,824	8,548	136,372	74,050

6 PROPERTY COSTS

Major systems & PC renewals	8,569		8,569	932
Maintenance & utilities	23,830		23,830	8,562
Church cleaning & caretaking	6,842		6,842	6,600
Manse expenses	6,327		6,327	4,741
Church administrator & expenses	15,298		15,298	8,376
Organ and piano	2,080		2,080	2,000
Insurance	2,736		2,736	2,552
	65,682	0	65,682	33,763

7 DESIGNATED AND RESTRICTED FUNDS

Fund name	Brought forward	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Carried forward
<i>Unrestricted funds:</i>					
General	14,220	133,241	127,824		19,637
Centenary Appeal (des)	12,779				12,779
Buildings (des)	12,824				12,824
Insurance claim proceeds (des)	50,414				50,414
Emergency Reserve (des)	24,000				24,000
	114,237	133,241	127,824		119,654
<i>Restricted funds:</i>					
Children and Families	237				237
Chaplaincy	17,045	3,222	8,548		11,719
	17,282	3,222	8,548	-	11,956

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. 25% of the Outreach Project cost (£6,936; 2021 ENIL) has been charged against the Fund in respect of the student outreach. **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 other designated reserves** are the emergency reserve of £24,000 (c. 3 months' normal expenditure), the insurance claim proceeds Fund and the Buildings Fund designed to fund long-term building works.

ST COLUMBA'S OXFORD UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

8 DEBTORS AT YEAR END	2022	2021
	£	£
URC Trust (Chaplaincy Fund)	2,000	2,000
HMRC – unclaimed Gift Aid	9,000	9,686
Amounts due from hirers	1,558	370
Utility refund	1,644	0
Wessex Trust Outreach grant	5,511	0
	19,713	12,056

9 CREDITORS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2022	2021
	£	£
Organists and preaching fees (Dec)	160	160
HMRC (income tax / national insurance)	1,237	174
Agency collections	175	1,258
	1,572	1,592

10. STAFF AND SALARIES

The church employed 1 full time and one part time employee in the year (2021: 1) on total gross annual salaries of £38,006 (2021 £13,620).

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:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Commitment For Life	2,500	5,080
Archway Foundation	52	580
Oxford Street Pastors	100	450
Others (2021)	0	800
	2,652	6,910

12. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

None of the church trustees receive remuneration from the charity. One trustee, (the Minister), (2021: 1) received reimbursement of expenses totalling £2,448 (2021: £2,092).

The previous year's SOFA is given here to show the breakdown between restricted and unrestricted funds for 2021

ST COLUMBA'S OXFORD UNITED REFORMED CHARITY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2021
	£	£	£
INCOME			
Voluntary Income	102,170	-	102,170
Activities for Generating Funds	14,172	3,188	17,360
Investment Income	75	0	75
Other incoming resources	-	-	-
Total Incoming Resources	116,417	3,188	119,605
EXPENDITURE			
Cost of generating funds	97	-	97
Charitable Activities	72,634	1,416	74,050
	-	-	-
Total Resources Expended	72,731	1,416	74,147
Net Incoming Resources Before Transfers	43,686	1,772	45,458
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses)			
Investments Realised	-	-	-
Net Movement in Funds	43,686	1,772	45,458
Transfers Between Funds	-	-	-
Net Incoming Resources After Transfers	43,686	1,772	45,458
Total Funds Brought Forward	70,551	15,510	86,061
Total Funds Carried Forward	£114,237	£17,282	£131,519