FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

England & Wales · Charity number 1163355

Details

Other names	FAITH, READIFOOD, STEPPING STONES, B4N BED FOR THE NIGHT
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2015-09-01
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Faith Christian Group 33 Boulton Road Reading RG2 0NH
Phone	0118 9872672
Email	director@fcg.org.uk
Website	www.fcg.org.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE, FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT:-1) TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN READING AND OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE WORLD AS THE CHARITY TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME DETERMINE; AND2) TO RELIEVE PERSONS IN CONDITIONS OF NEED, HARDSHIP OR DISTRESS OR WHO ARE AGED OR SICK IN READING AND OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE WORLD AS THE CHARITY TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME DETERMINE.

Activities: We are a Christian organisation whose objectives and activities are to relieve need or hardship in Reading. We work in three specific areas:1. ReadiFood - acting as Reading's foodbank2. Street work - feeding rough sleepers 3. A Bed for the Night (B4N) - co-ordinating a winter night shelter with local churches

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

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Geography

- Reading

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£383,007	£441,609	-	-
2023-12-31	£288,087	£343,704	-	-
2022-12-31	£200,178	£97,665	-	-
2021-12-31	£410,071	£321,806	-	-
2020-12-31	£403,627	£250,537	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Helen Anne Martin	Chair	2019-10-22
Bethan Cheryl Morey		2026-03-16
David Michael Green		2025-01-01
Edward Rundell		2017-04-01
Oliver Davidson		2024-03-26

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FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1163355

Accounts

REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO
CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1163355

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Other working names	Faith Christian Group Faith ReadiFood B4N Bed for the Night
Trustees at 31st December 2024	Mr Oliver Davidson Mr Peter Horne Mrs Helen Martin Mr Edward Rundell Mrs Stella Stroud

GOVERNING INSTRUMENT

Faith Christian Group is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation whose only voting members are its trustees. It was registered with the Charity Commissioners on 1st September 2015.

OBJECTS

The objects of the CIO are, for the public benefit:

a) to advance the Christian faith in Reading and other parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the charity trustees may from time to time determine; and

b) to relieve persons in conditions of need, hardship or distress or who are aged or sick in Reading and other parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the charity trustees may from time to time determine.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Faith Christian Group (Reading) CIO for the year ended 31st December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts are eligible for independent examination. I report in respect of my examination of the CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.



Mr Michael Homer AFA MIPA

Independent Examiner
MCH Accountants Ltd
68 Charlton Road
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 3JN

Dated: 9th September 2025

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

Organisation

The work of Faith is primarily to fight physical poverty among the homeless, needy and deprived, and by so doing to share the gospel through love, care and practical service. This work is carried out largely by teams of volunteers as well as part-time staff, mostly Christians from many different churches in and around Reading. In 2024, Faith employed one full-time member of staff, twelve part-time staff, with three temporary members of staff in addition.

The organisation was running for some time before receiving charity status in 1996 as Faith Christian Group (Reading) Trust. Since 2015, the organisation has been a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO).

2024 review

Throughout 2024, Faith worked in four main, related ways to achieve its objects: "Readistreet" and "A Bed for the Night" (B4N), which work with the hungry and homeless on the streets of Reading, "ReadiFood" which provides food parcels to individuals and families who are housed, but struggling to make ends meet and Reading Pantries, which are subsidised food shops where members can choose food as well as access support at a café run alongside each site.

"ReadiStreet" involves the distribution of food to those on the streets. On Tuesday to Friday evenings, the support of Reading Minster Church gives us a town centre base from which we offer free sandwiches (kindly donated by Pret a Manger) and hot soup to the hungry and homeless of Reading. We have different partners who come on different evenings offering hot food. On Sundays, we run the Tea Bar to provide free hot and cold drinks, soup and rolls. A key element of this work is to demonstrate to everyone we meet on the streets that they are valued individuals.

"ReadiFood – Reading's Food Bank" is a service delivering food parcels to families and individuals in need throughout the town. Those in need are referred by RBC Social Services, Job Centre, Citizens Advice and other charities, agencies and churches. The average weekly number of food parcels delivered in 2024 was 170.

A Bed for the Night is a winter night shelter. In 2024 we opened two models; one for the rough sleepers of the town and one for refugees who were homeless. We opened seven nights a week from January to March, offering a meal, a warm space, and bed and breakfast.

"Reading Pantries" A pantry is a membership-based food shop where, for a nominal subscription, members can buy subsidised goods, so giving choice and support for those on low incomes or on benefits. We now have over 400 members able to use the shops. A café running alongside each shop creates a setting where members can be better supported and signposted to other partner agencies if additional help is needed.

This year saw St Barnabas, Wesley and Southcote added to the Coley Park, Whitley Wood, Pavilion and Norcot pantries.

Relationships

Continuing to build on relationships is a key factor in the success of what we do. Providing some sandwiches on the street, or a food parcel via ReadiFood, can lead to befriending and further opportunities to help in many other practical ways. We have seen members helped and supported through our Pantries. On occasions, Faith has to act as an advocate for those without a voice, and the charity helped a number of individuals in this way during the year.

We have continued to work hard to maintain good working relationships with relevant agencies and organisations in the town, including the various sections of RBC such as Social Services, Housing, Homeless and Housing Pathways.

In 2024 we also grew our support from local businesses, both financial and volunteering.

Safeguarding

All charities are required to report serious safeguarding incidents to the Charity Commission. There were no such incidents to report.

Financial summary

We receive financial support from many individuals, accounting for 54% of giving, local churches and a number of local businesses and organisations. In addition to the direct financial donations received, a significant value of food and other items were donated to Faith for distribution to people in need. Income from churches and other organisations was notably higher than prior year 2023.

In the year ended 31 December 2024 the Charity had an overall deficit of £58,602 as the Charity continues to effectively deploy reserves in a controlled manner. Overall costs were in line with the prior year 2023 with similar levels of staffing and expenditure, with cost allocations shifting between projects, notably as activities for Bed for the Night decreased and Food Pantries increased.

Reserves remain high due to the carried-forward surplus from the COVID period. The forward-looking plan remains to be the effective use of these resources over a period of time rather than any immediate big outlay, considering our largest expense is ongoing staff costs.

THANKS

The trustees thank all the volunteers and paid staff for all their hard work in 2024 enabling Faith to serve so many of the disadvantaged and poor in Reading. Also, the trustees would like to express their thanks to churches, organisations and individuals in and around Reading for their support. The trustees are very grateful for the generous financial support the charity receives, as without this continuing and increasing support Faith would not have been able to serve the needy in Reading.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



10th October 2025

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

	Analysis of Total Income and Expenditure by Activity - 2024							2023
	General Funds	Street work	Bed for the Night	Readifood	Food Pantries	CIRDIC	Total Funds Unrestricted and Restricted	Total Funds Unrestricted and Restricted
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
RECEIPTS :	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations from								
Churches	35,690		2,700	4,120	6,172		48,682	28,081
Organisations	46,510	145	3,780	17,752	7,750	500	76,437	31,230
Grants				17,500	14,500		32,000	10,000
Individuals	143,562	1,549	2,499	36,663	849		185,123	205,756
Membership Subscriptions					23,460		23,460	6,394
Other including Interest	13,940		15	2,750	601		17,305	6,626
TOTAL RECEIPTS	**239,702**	**1,694**	**8,994**	**78,786**	**53,332**	**500**	**383,007**	**288,087**
PAYMENTS :								
Food and other assistance (Excluding donated food)	524	6,312	2,749	8,110	35,419	109	53,223	18,282
Staff Costs	116,926	17,976	9,788	66,035	36,200	4,413	251,338	199,441
Support work	287	485	11,317	341	666		13,097	22
Vehicle Lease Costs				2,400			2,400	2,400
Vehicle Depreciation		3,400		2,700			6,100	3,494
Vehicle Running Costs	3,733	845	16	4,168			8,762	9,752
Equipment	1,619	205	190	577	2,659		5,250	10,024
Training, Networking & CRBs	2,447	575	319	32	215	12	3,600	992
Office Warehouse Rent & Rates	10,440	1,629	888	23,299	3,198	389	39,842	38,245
Property Maintenance & Insurance	5,879	709	532	2,524	1,392	169	11,205	14,080
Utilities	3,208	501	273	1,782	983	119	6,865	9,114
Office Supplies	6,034			7	35		6,076	10,127
Computer Equipment Software	4,709	349		109	119		5,285	2,335
Telephone Costs	3,580			187	48		3,815	4,450
Postage	30						30	520
Publicity & newsletter	2,500	22		24	121		2,668	2,855
Professional Fees	1,741						1,741	4,949
Bank Charges	561						561	246
Projects & Partnerships	10,250			84	6,868	1,625	18,827	11,475
Governance	925						925	900
TOTAL PAYMENTS	**175,391**	**33,008**	**26,073**	**112,378**	**87,923**	**6,836**	**441,609**	**343,704**
TOTAL SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	**64,310**	**(31,314)**	**(17,079)**	**(33,593)**	**(34,590)**	**(6,336)**	**(58,602)**	**(55,617)**
TRANSFERS from General Funds	**(122,912)**	**31,314**	**17,079**	**33,593**	**34,590**	**6,336**	**-**	**-**
BALANCE at 01 January 2024	239,878	-	-	-	-	-	239,878	295,494
BALANCE at 31 December 2024	**181,276**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**181,276**	**239,878**

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

BALANCE SHEETS as at	31 December 2024 £		31 December 2023 £	
FIXED ASSETS				
Fixed Assets at Cost or Valuation		45,823		41,417
Accumulated Depreciation		(17,884)		(19,398)
Total Fixed Assets		27,939		22,019
Sundry Debtors	5,541		3,788	
Prepayments	13,752		12,129	
Cash at bank and in hand	208,283		244,101	
Current Assets	227,577		260,018	
Taxation and social security	(2,636)		(3,100)	
Deferred Income	(31,703)		-	
Other creditors	(3,500)		(2,659)	
Creditors due within a year	(37,839)		(5,759)	
Creditors due after a year	(36,400)		(36,400)	
		153,337		217,859
NET ASSETS		**181,276**		**239,878**
Street Work Restricted Fund		-		-
B4N Restricted Fund		-		-
Readifood Restricted Fund		-		-
Food Pantries Restricted Fund		-		-
CIRDIC Restricted Fund		-		-
General Fund		181,276		239,878
CHARITY FUNDS		**181,276**		**239,878**

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The trustees have considered the best approach to present the accounts to give a fair view of the charity's financial results for the calendar year ended 31 December 2024 and to allow proper comparisons with the results in 2023.

Approved by the Trustees on 10th October 2025 and 10th October 2025

Signed on their behalf by Trustee Helen Martin Trustee

NOTES to the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024

Note 1 Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

The accounts are prepared on a "going concern" basis. The Trustees actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated combined with an annual review of the controls over key financial systems will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Trustees have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

Note 2 Accounting Policies

The Accounting Policies, used and applied consistently throughout the period, are set out below. The Trustees have reviewed the other accounting policies covered by the Financial Reporting Standard and consider they are not applicable to this period's accounts.

2.1 Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, the monetary value can be measured and it is more likely than not that the charity will receive the resources.

2.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS 102.

2.3 Grants

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met. In the case of performance-related grants, income is only recognised when the performance-related conditions are met. The charity has received a local government grant in the reporting period.

2.4 Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

2.5 Donated food, goods and services and volunteer help

The value of any donated food, goods and services and volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

2.6 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

2.7 Redundancy cost

The charity made no redundancy payments during the reporting period.

2.8 Deferred income

No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.

2.9 Tangible fixed assets for use by charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or valuation. The depreciation rates and methods used are disclosed in Note 6.

2.10 Debtors

Debtors and loans receivable are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

2.11 Creditors

The charity's creditors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts.

2.12 Volunteer Help

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

Note 3 Restricted Funds

3.1 Restricted Funds for the year ended 31st December 2024

	Street Work	Bed for the Night "B4N"	Readifood	Food Pantries	CIRDIC	Total Restricted Funds
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Balances at 31 December 2023	-	-	-	-	-	-
2024 Donations from						
Churches		2,700	4,120	6,172		12,992
Organisations	145	3,780	17,752	7,750	500	29,927
Grants			17,500	14,500		32,000
Individuals	1,549	2,499	36,663	849		41,560
Membership Subscriptions				23,460		23,460
Other including Interest		15	2,750	601		3,366
Total Receipts	**1,694**	**8,994**	**78,786**	**53,332**	**500**	**143,306**
Contribution towards Staff Costs	1,694	8,994	50,556	36,200	500	97,945
Property Costs			21,134	5,572		26,707
Vehicle Costs			7,095			7,095
Other Costs		0	(0)	11,559		11,559
Total Payments	**1,694**	**8,994**	**78,786**	**53,332**	**500**	**143,306**
BALANCES at 31 December 2024	-	-	-	-	-	-

3.2 Restricted Funds Details

The **Street Work Restricted Fund** represents donations to support the distribution of food and drink to those on the streets.

The **Bed for the Night Restricted Fund** - funds donated towards the cost of running the night shelter or drop-in Hub. Preparation and training costs can be incurred in the prior year in preparation for the "B4N" in the following winter.

The **Readifood Restricted Fund** represents funds donated specifically for use for the food parcel service. This year, the funds were used for expenses directly related to Readifood including a contribution to salaries for those working for Readifood.

The **Food Pantries Restricted Fund** represents donations to support the provision of food distribution through Food Pantries.

The CIRDIC Restricted Fund represents donations to support the collaboration with CIRDIC in providing a drop-in Hub.

3.3 Unrestricted Funds Details

The **General Fund** represents income donated which is not given for a restricted purpose. In the Income and Expenditure Statement any costs that cannot be readily allocated or apportioned to the activities of the Streetwork, Bed for the Night, Readifood or Food Pantry are shown under General Funds. Any deficits on the activities are funded by transfers from the General Fund.

Note 4 Staff Costs and Numbers

	CIO 2024 £	CIO 2023 £
Gross Wages and Salaries	227,695	184,117
Employer's National Insurance Costs	14,328	13,318
(net of Employment Allowance)	(5,000)	(5,000)
Pension Contributions	14,315	7,006
	251,338	**199,441**
Number of employees		
Full Time	1	1
Part-time	12	10
Temporary - Part time	3	3
	16	**14**

No employees received employee benefits for the reporting periods of more than £60,000 per annum.

Note 5 Pension Scheme

The Charity operates a Defined Contribution scheme, and contributions are charged to the SOFA as incurred. The charity enrols all employees that meet the criteria for automatic enrolment and pays employers contributions.

Note 6 Tangible fixed assets

	2024 Motor Vehicle £	2024 Fixtures & Fittings £	2024 Total £	2023 Motor Vehicle £	2023 Fixtures & Fittings £	2023 Total £
Cost or Valuation						
At the beginning of the year	26,094	15,323	41,417	26,094	15,323	41,417
Additions	13,500	-	13,500	-	-	-
Disposals	(9,094)	-	(9,094)	-	-	-
At end of the year	30,500	15,323	45,823	26,094	15,323	41,417
Depreciation						
At the beginning of the year	16,194	3,204	19,398	12,700	1,724	14,424
Depreciation	6,100	1,480	7,580	3,494	1,480	4,974
Disposals	(9,094)	-	(9,094)		-	-
At end of the year	13,200	4,684	17,884	16,194	3,204	19,398
Net book value	17,300	10,639	27,939	9,900	12,119	22,019

Basis of depreciation – straight line

The other fixed assets acquired from Faith Trust with individual values of less than £1,000 are summarised below:

	Estimated original value
Office furniture and equipment	3,000

Note 7 Creditors falling due after one year

On 31 March 2016, the FAITH Christian Group rented 33 Boulton Road under a Full Repairing and Insuring lease. In March 2021 the lease was extended for 5 years. The Trustees resolved to provide for the Full Repairing obligation by providing for the repairs through the life of the lease. In 2023 the provision was reviewed and assessed reasonable to hold at £36,400 going forward.

Note 8 Payments to Trustees

No payments were made to trustees or any persons connected with them during this financial period other than purchases made on behalf of the charity for which a trustee has been reimbursed. No other material transaction took place between the organisation and a trustee, or any person connected with them.

Note 9 Fees for examination of the accounts

Fees towards independent examination of £925 were accrued for in 2025 (2024 fees £900).

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1163355

Accounts

REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO
CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1163355

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Mr Michael Homer AFA MIPA

Independent Examiner
MCH Accountants Ltd
68 Charlton Road
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 3JN

DATED: 18/10/2024

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2023 review

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"ReadiFood – Reading's Food Bank" is a service delivering food parcels to families and individuals in need throughout the town. Those in need are referred by RBC Social Services, Job Centre, Citizens Advice and other charities, agencies and churches. The average number of food parcels delivered in 2023 was 170 per week.

A Bed for the Night (B4N) didn't open in 2023, although plans were put in place to return to opening the winter night shelter 7 nights per week starting in early 2024.

"Reading Pantries" During the year, we rebranded our pantry name to be Reading Pantries with a wider vision to open a food pantry in every community across Reading over the next few years.
This year saw us add Coley Park Pantry, Whitley Wood Pantry and Pavilion Pantry to our already established Norcot Pantry. A pantry is a membership-based food shop where, for a nominal subscription, members can buy subsidised goods, so giving choice and support for those on low incomes or on benefits. We now have over 200 members able to use the shops. A café running alongside each shop creates a setting where members could be better supported and signposted to other partner agencies if additional help was needed.

Journey 2 work

2023 saw us also rebrand our women's project that had initially been set up by funding from Sage to Journey 2 Work. This project offers a mentoring and work experience programme for ladies wanting to return to employment. 5 ladies were given one-to-one support and worked in our food warehouse to gain confidence and skills to help in the job-hunting process.

Relationships

Building relationships over time is a key factor in the success of what we do. Providing some sandwiches on the street, or a food parcel via ReadiFood, can lead to befriending and further opportunities to help in many other practical ways. We have seen members helped and support through our Pantries. On occasions Faith has to act as an advocate for those without a voice, and the charity helped a number of individuals in this way during the year.

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All charities are required to report serious safeguarding incidents to the Charity Commission. There were no such incidents to report.

Financial summary

We receive financial support from many individuals, accounting for over 65% of giving, local churches and a number of local businesses and organisations. In addition to the direct financial donations received, a significant value of food and other items were donated to FAITH for distribution to people in need. Prior year 2021 was an exceptional year, along with 2020, where individuals and local authorities notably increased giving in reaction to COVID; with the return to more normalised conditions grant income and gifts from Organisations have reduced in 2022 more akin to pre-COVID levels, which is in line with expectation.

In the year ended 31 December 2023 the Charity had an overall deficit of £22,814 as the Charity looks to effectively deploy reserves in a controlled manner. Overall costs were in line with the prior year 2021 with similar levels of staffing and expenditure, with cost allocations shifting between projects, notably as activities for Bed for the Night decreased and Food Pantries increased.

Reserves remain high due to the carried-forward surplus from the COVID period. The forward-looking plan remains to be the use of these resources effectively over a period of time rather than any immediate big outlay, considering our largest expense is ongoing staff costs.

THANKS

The trustees thank all the volunteers and paid staff for all their hard work in 2022 enabling Faith to serve so many of the disadvantaged and poor in Reading. Also, the trustees would like to express their thanks to churches, organisations and individuals in and around Reading for their support. The trustees are very grateful for the generous financial support the charity receives, as without this continuing and increasing support Faith would not have been able to serve the needy in Reading.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

P. Hone 18/10/24

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	Analysis of Total Income and Expenditure by Activity - 2023						2022
	General Funds	Street work	Bed for the Night	Readifood	Food Pantries	Total Funds Unrestricted and Restricted	Total Funds Unrestricted and Restricted
	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2023	2022
RECEIPTS :	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations from							
Churches	18,236		500	9,345		28,081	15,998
Organisations	11,983	1,000	500	17,747		31,230	35,753
Grants				10,000		10,000	37,154
Individuals	167,860	350	57	36,530	960	205,756	199,552
Membership Subscriptions					6,394	6,394	1,487
Other including Interest	5,229				1,397	6,626	1,836
TOTAL RECEIPTS	**203,308**	**1,350**	**1,057**	**73,621**	**8,751**	**288,087**	**291,780**
PAYMENTS :							
Food and other assistance (Excluding donated food)	8	8,222	502	4,440	5,110	18,282	24,090
Staff Costs	82,391	21,481	3,045	75,009	17,516	199,441	175,531
Support work	8			14		22	2,024
Vehicle Lease Costs				2,400		2,400	2,400
Vehicle Depreciation		3,400		94		3,494	5,200
Vehicle Running Costs	1,306	1,194		7,246	5	9,752	8,788
Equipment	1,723	1,366		1,782	5,154	10,024	8,826
Training, Networking & CRBs	570	339			84	992	735
Office Warehouse Rent & Rates	13,165	1,386	222	22,341	1,130	38,245	37,842
Property Maintenance & Insurance	9,907	707	420	2,469	577	14,080	12,491
Utilities	5,784	609	98	2,127	497	9,114	6,587
Office Supplies	8,216	1,136	4	709	62	10,127	6,713
Computer Equipment Software	1,401		379	61	494	2,335	2,150
Telephone Costs	3,663	89		698		4,450	4,244
Postage	484				36	520	370
Publicity & newsletter	1,223	46	68	983	535	2,855	4,176
Professional Fees	4,554		395			4,949	6,168
Bank Charges	246					246	161
Projects & Partnerships	500				10,975	11,475	5,000
Governance	900					900	1,075
TOTAL PAYMENTS	**136,048**	**39,976**	**5,133**	**120,372**	**42,174**	**343,704**	**314,569**
TOTAL SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	**67,260**	**(38,626)**	**(4,076)**	**(46,751)**	**(33,423)**	**(55,617)**	**(22,789)**
TRANSFERS from General Funds	**(116,631)**	**38,626**	**4,076**	**46,751**	**27,177**	-	-
BALANCE at 01 January 2023	289,248	-	-	-	6,246	295,494	318,283
BALANCE at 31 December 2023	**239,878**	-	-	-	-	**239,878**	**295,494**

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

ACCOUNTS for the YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

BALANCE SHEETS as at	31 December 2023 £		31 December 2022 £	
FIXED ASSETS				
Fixed Assets at Cost or Valuation		41,417		41,417
Accumulated Depreciation		(19,398)		(14,424)
Total Fixed Assets		22,019		26,993
Sundry Debtors	3,788		2,660	
Prepayments	12,129		11,861	
Cash at bank and in hand	244,101		288,917	
Current Assets	260,018		303,439	
Taxation and social	(3,100)		(1,663)	
Other creditors	(2,659)		(875)	
Creditors due within a year	(5,759)		(2,538)	
Creditors due after a year	(36,400)		(32,400)	
		217,859		268,501
NET ASSETS		239,878		295,494
Street Work Restricted Fund		-		-
B4N Restricted Fund		-		-
Readifood Restricted Fund		-		-
Food Pantries Restricted Fund		-		6,246
General Fund		239,878		289,248
CHARITY FUNDS		239,878		295,494

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The trustees have considered the best approach to present the accounts to give a fair view of the charity's financial results for the calendar year ended 31 December 2023 and to allow proper comparisons with the results in 2022.

Approved by the Trustees on 18/10/24 and 18/10/24

Signed on their behalf by [signature] Trustee P. Howe Trustee

NOTES to the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023

Note 1 Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

The accounts are prepared on a "going concern" basis. The Trustees actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated combined with an annual review of the controls over key financial systems will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Trustees have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

Note 2 Accounting Policies

The Accounting Policies, used and applied consistently throughout the period, are set out below. The Trustees have reviewed the other accounting policies covered by the Financial Reporting Standard and consider they are not applicable to this period's accounts.

2.1 Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, the monetary value can be measured and it is more likely than not that the charity will receive the resources.

2.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS 102.

2.3 Grants

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met. In the case of performance-related grants, income is only recognised when the performance related conditions are met. The charity has received a local government grant in the reporting period.

2.4 Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

2.5 Donated food, goods and services and volunteer help

The value of any donated food, goods and services and volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

2.6 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

2.7 Redundancy cost

The charity made no redundancy payments during the reporting period.

2.8 Deferred income

No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.

2.9 Tangible fixed assets for use by charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or valuation. The depreciation rates and methods used are disclosed in Note 6.

2.10 Debtors

Debtors and loans receivable are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

2.11 Creditors

The charity's creditors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts

2.12 Volunteer Help

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

Note 3 Restricted Funds

3.1 Restricted Funds for the year ended 31st December 2023

	Street Work	Bed for the Night "B4N"	Readifood	Food Pantries	Total Restricted Funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Balances at 31 December 2022	-	-	-	6,246	6,246
2023 Donations from					
Churches		500	9,345		9,845
Organisations	1,000	500	17,747		19,247
Grants			10,000		10,000
Individuals	350	57	36,530	960	37,896
Membership Subscriptions				6,394	6,394
Other including Interest				1,397	1,397
Total Receipts	**1,350**	**1,057**	**73,621**	**8,751**	**84,779**
Contribution towards Staff Costs	1,350	1,057	49,445	12,793	64,645
Property Costs			17,757	2,204	19,960
Vehicle Costs			6,421		6,421
Other Costs					
Total Payments	**1,350**	**1,057**	**73,622**	**14,997**	**91,026**
BALANCES at 31 December 2023	-	-	-	-	-

3.2 Restricted Funds Details

The **Street Work Restricted Fund** represents donations to support the distribution of food and drink to those on the streets.

The **Bed for the Night Restricted Fund** - funds donated towards the cost of running the night shelter or drop-in Hub. Preparation and training costs can be incurred in the prior year in preparation for the "B4N" in the following January to March, which means that the costs of a winter's night shelter are reported in two accounting periods.

The **Readifood Restricted Fund** represents funds donated specifically for use for the food parcel service, this year the funds were used for expenses directly related to Readifood including a contribution to salaries for those working for Readifood.

The **Food Pantries Restricted Fund** represents donations to support the provision of food distribution through Food Pantries.

3.3 Unrestricted Funds Details

The **General Fund** represents income donated which is not given for a restricted purpose. In the Income and Expenditure Statement any costs that cannot be readily allocated or apportioned to the activities of the Streetwork, Bed for the Night, Readifood or Food Pantry are shown under General Funds. Any deficits on the activities are funded by transfers from the General Fund.

Note 4 Staff Costs and Numbers

	CIO 2023 £	CIO 2022 £
Gross Wages and Salaries	184,117	163,568
Employer's National Insurance Costs	13,318	11,463
(net of Employment Allowance)	(5,000)	(5,000)
Pension Contributions	7,006	5,500
	199,441	**175,531**
Number of employees		
Full Time	1	1
Part-time	10	9
Temporary - Part time	3	3
	14	**13**

No employees received employee benefits for the reporting periods of more than £60,000 per annum.

Note 5 Pension Scheme

The Charity enrols all employees that meet the criteria for automatic enrolment and pays employer's contributions to the workplace pension scheme NEST (National Employment Savings Trust).

Note 6 Tangible fixed assets

	2023 Motor Vehicle £	2023 Fixtures & Fittings £	2023 Total £	2022 Motor Vehicle £	2022 Fixtures & Fittings £	2022 Total £
Cost or Vauation						
At the beginning of the year	26,094	15,323	41,417	26,094	8,135	34,229
Additions	-	-	-	-	7,188	7,188
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	26,094	15,323	41,417	26,094	15,323	41,417
Depreciation						
At the beginning of the year	12,700	1,724	14,424	7,500	406	7,906
Depreciation	3,494	1,480	4,974	5,200	1,318	6,518
Disposals		-	-		-	-
At end of the year	16,194	3,204	19,398	12,700	1,724	14,424
Net book value	9,900	12,119	22,019	13,394	13,599	26,993

Basis of depreciation – straight line

The other fixed assets acquired from Faith Trust with individual values of less than £1,000 are summarised below:

	Estimated original value
Office furniture and equipment	3,000

Note 7 Creditors falling due after one year

On 31 March 2016, the FAITH Christian Group rented 33 Boulton Road under a Full Repairing and Insuring lease. In March 2021 the lease was extended for 5 years. The Trustees resolved to provide for the Full Repairing obligation by providing for the repairs through the life of the lease. In 2023 the provision was reviewed and assessed reasonable to hold at £36,400 going forward.

Note 8 Payments to Trustees

In the year Trustees conducted interviews for the Director position during which lunch was paid by the charity for three trustees, totalling £37. No other payments were made to trustees or any persons connected with them during this financial period other than purchases made on behalf of the charity for which a trustee has been reimbursed. No other material transaction took place between the organisation and a trustee or any person connected with them.

Note 9 Fees for examination of the accounts

Fees towards Independent Examination of £900 were accrued for in 2024 (2023 fees £875).

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1163355

Accounts

REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1163355

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Other working names	Faith Christian Group Faith ReadiFood B4N Bed for the Night
Trustees at 31st December 2022	Mr Peter Horne Mr Neil Jackson Mrs Helen Martin Mr Edward Rundell Mrs Stella Stroud

GOVERNING INSTRUMENT

Faith Christian Group is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation whose only voting members are its trustees. It was registered with the Charity Commissioners on 1st September 2015.

OBJECTS

The objects of the CIO are, for the public benefit:

a) to advance the Christian faith in Reading and other parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the charity trustees may from time to time determine; and

b) to relieve persons in conditions of need, hardship or distress or who are aged or sick in Reading and other parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the charity trustees may from time to time determine.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Faith Christian Group (Reading) CIO for the year ended 31st December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts are eligible for independent examination. I report in respect of my examination of the CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.



Mr Michael Homer AFA MIPA

Independent Examiner
MCH Accountants Ltd
68 Charlton Road
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 3JN

Dated: 20/10/2023

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

Organisation

The work of Faith is primarily to fight physical poverty among the homeless, needy and deprived, and by so doing to share the gospel through love, care and practical service. This work is carried out largely by teams of volunteers as well as part-time staff, mostly Christians from many different churches in and around Reading. In 2022 Faith employed eight part-time staff, with one temporary member of staff in addition.

The organisation was running for some time before receiving charity status in 1996 as Faith Christian Group (Reading) Trust. Since 2015, the organisation has been a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO).

2022 review

Faith works in three main, related ways to achieve its objects: "Readistreet" and "A Bed for the Night" (B4N), which work with the hungry and homeless on the streets of Reading and "ReadiFood" which provides food parcels to individuals and families who are housed, but struggling to make ends meet.

"ReadiStreet" involves the distribution of food to those on the streets. On weekday evenings, the support of Reading Minster Church gives us a town centre base from which we offer free sandwiches (kindly donated by Pret a Manger) and hot soup to the hungry and homeless of Reading. On Sundays, we run the Tea Bar to provide free hot and cold drinks and soup and rolls. A key element of this work is to demonstrate to everyone we meet on the streets that they are valued individuals.

"ReadiFood – Reading's Food Bank" is a service delivering food parcels to families and individuals in need throughout the town. Those in need are referred by RBC Social Services, Job Centre, Citizens Advice and other charities, agencies and churches. The average number of food parcels delivered in 2022 was 192 per week. Donations both financial and food continued to be good.

A Bed for the Night (B4N) continued to run as a daytime drop-in "hub" from January 2022.

Guests were offered winter clothes, activities (colouring/reading/puzzles) and a hot meal and snacks to take away. Initially we had planned to open the venues for guests to come inside with enough space to eat, relax and enjoy activities inside the venue whilst maintaining social distancing. However, the UK national lockdown and stricter restrictions introduced by the Government after Christmas meant that we decided to offer take-away provision only.

Guests were referred to the B4N hub from the St Mungo's Rough Sleeper Outreach Service and by RBC or Faith directly. The provision was specifically for those staying in hotel / B&B placements and not a general food handout. The majority of guests who used the B4N hub were those with no recourse to public funds.

In total, 23 guests in either winter provision or COVID placements came to the B4N hub.

Norcot Pantry

After the groundwork laid in 2021, 2022 saw the launch of this new project, which we run in cooperation with Your Local Pantry and Norcot Mission Church. The pantry is a membership-based food shop where, for a nominal subscription, members can buy subsidised goods, so giving choice and support for those on low incomes or on benefits. 106 members used the shop. A café running alongside the shop created a setting where members could be better supported and signposted to other partner agencies if additional help was needed.

Sage Women's Project

This was another new project, sponsored by Sage. It offers a mentoring and work experience programme for ladies wanting to return to employment. 5 ladies were given one-to-one support and worked in our food warehouse to gain confidence and skills to help in the job-hunting process.

Relationships

Building relationships over time is a key factor in the success of what we do. Providing some sandwiches on the street, or a food parcel via ReadiFood, can lead to befriending and further opportunities to help in many other practical ways. B4N in particular gives opportunities over a number of days or weeks to build relationships and provide links to further help. On occasions Faith believes it has to act as an advocate for those without a voice, and the charity helped a number of individuals in this way during the year.

We have continued to work hard to maintain good working relationships with relevant agencies and organisations in the town, including the various sections of RBC such as Social Services, Housing, Homeless and Housing Pathways.

Safeguarding

All charities are required to report serious safeguarding incidents to the Charity Commission. There were no such incidents to report.

Financial summary

We receive financial support from many individuals, accounting for over 65% of giving, local churches and a number of local businesses and organisations. In addition to the direct financial donations received, a significant value of food and other items were donated to FAITH for distribution to people in need. Prior year 2021 was an exceptional year, along with 2020, where individuals and local authorities notably increased giving in reaction to COVID; with the return to more normalised conditions grant income and gifts from Organisations have reduced in 2022 more akin to pre-COVID levels, which is in line with expectation.

In the year ended 31 December 2022 the Charity had an overall deficit of £22,814 as the Charity looks to effectively deploy reserves in a controlled manner. Overall costs were in line with the prior year 2021 with similar levels of staffing and expenditure, with cost allocations shifting between projects, notably as activities for Bed for the Night decreased and Food Pantries increased.

Reserves remain high due to the carried-forward surplus from the COVID period. The forward-looking plan remains to be the use of these resources effectively over a period of time rather than any immediate big outlay, considering our largest expense is ongoing staff costs.

THANKS

The trustees thank all the volunteers and paid staff for all their hard work in 2022 enabling Faith to serve so many of the disadvantaged and poor in Reading. Also, the trustees would like to express their thanks to churches, organisations and individuals in and around Reading for their support. The trustees are very grateful for the generous financial support the charity receives, as without this continuing and increasing support Faith would not have been able to serve the needy in Reading.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

	Analysis of Total Income and Expenditure by Activity - 2022						2021
	General Funds	Street work	Bed for the Night	Readifood	Food Pantries	Total Funds Unrestricted and Restricted	Total Funds Unrestricted and Restricted
	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2021
RECEIPTS :	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations from							
Churches	14,186			1,812		15,998	15,879
Organisations	15,746	500		19,506		35,753	52,405
Grants				37,154		37,154	104,752
Individuals	168,410	185	2,590	28,317	51	199,552	232,175
Membership Subscriptions					1,487	1,487	-
Other including Interest	1,836					1,836	4,860
TOTAL RECEIPTS	**200,178**	**685**	**2,590**	**86,789**	**1,538**	**291,780**	**410,071**
PAYMENTS :							
Food and other assistance (Excluding donated food)	52	4,173	10,579	9,025	261	24,090	26,459
Staff Costs	46,088	23,383	19,313	76,249	10,498	175,531	173,969
Support work			2,024			2,024	1,100
Vehicle Lease Costs				2,400		2,400	2,600
Vehicle Depreciation		3,400		1,800		5,200	2,100
Vehicle Running Costs		1,505	3	7,212	67	8,788	7,285
Equipment	3,178	899		982	3,767	8,826	12,298
Training, Networking & CRBs	276		221		238	735	2,290
Office Warehouse Rent & Rates	11,824	1,534	1,293	22,502	689	37,842	37,842
Property Maintenance & Insurance	8,062	733	860	2,402	434	12,491	12,356
Utilities	3,829	497	419	1,620	223	6,587	5,825
Office Supplies	5,870	31	152	101	559	6,713	5,820
Computer Equipment Software	1,394			97	659	2,150	3,969
Telephone Costs	3,356	20	20	662	186	4,244	3,705
Postage	212			21	137	370	578
Publicity & newsletter	2,205	205		1,395	371	4,176	11,303
Professional Fees	5,077		395		696	6,168	6,305
Bank Charges	159				2	161	177
Projects & Resourcing	5,000					5,000	5,000
Governance	1,075					1,075	825
TOTAL PAYMENTS	**97,655**	**36,380**	**35,279**	**126,467**	**18,788**	**314,569**	**321,806**
TOTAL SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	**102,523**	**(35,696)**	**(32,689)**	**(39,678)**	**(17,250)**	**(22,789)**	**88,265**
TRANSFERS from General Funds	**(77,817)**	**31,558**	**6,582**	**39,678**	**-**	**-**	**-**
BALANCE at 01 January 2022	264,542	4,138	26,107	-	23,496	318,283	230,018
BALANCE at 31 December 2022	**289,248**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**6,246**	**295,494**	**318,283**

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

BALANCE SHEETS as at	31 December 2022 £		31 December 2021 £	
FIXED ASSETS				
Fixed Assets at Cost or Valuation		41,417		34,229
Accumulated Depreciation		(14,424)		(7,906)
Total Fixed Assets		26,993		26,323
Sundry Debtors	2,660		1,119	
Prepayments	11,861		11,285	
Cash at bank and in hand	288,917		311,677	
Current Assets	303,439		324,081	
Taxation and social security	(1,663)		(2,611)	
Other creditors	(875)		(1,910)	
Creditors due within a year	(2,538)		(4,521)	
Creditors due after a year	(32,400)		(27,600)	
		268,501		291,960
NET ASSETS		**295,494**		**318,283**
Street Work Restricted Fund		-		4,138
B4N Restricted Fund		-		26,107
Readifood Restricted Fund		-		-
Food Pantries Restricted Fund		6,246		23,496
General Fund		289,248		264,542
CHARITY FUNDS		**295,494**		**318,283**

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The trustees have considered the best approach to present the accounts to give a fair view of the charity's financial results for the calendar year ended 31 December 2022 and to allow proper comparisons with the results in 2021.

Approved by the Trustees on 20/10/23 and 20/10/23

Signed on their behalf by Trustee P. Howe Trustee

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There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS 102.

2.3 Grants

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met. In the case of performance-related grants, income is only recognised when the performance related conditions are met. The charity has received a local government grant in the reporting period.

2.4 Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

2.5 Donated food, goods and services and volunteer help

The value of any donated food, goods and services and volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

2.6 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

2.7 Redundancy cost

The charity made no redundancy payments during the reporting period.

2.8 Deferred income

No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.

2.9 Tangible fixed assets for use by charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or valuation. The depreciation rates and methods used are disclosed in Note 6.

2.10 Debtors

Debtors and loans receivable are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

2.11 Creditors

The charity's creditors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts

2.12 Volunteer Help

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

Note 3 Restricted Funds

3.1 Restricted Funds for the year ended 31st December 2022

	Street Work	Bed for the Night "B4N"	Readifood	Food Pantries	Total Restricted Funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Balances at 31 December 2021	**4,138**	**26,107**	**-**	**23,496**	**53,741**
2022 Donations from					
Churches			1,812		1,812
Organisations	500		19,506		20,006
Grants			37,154		37,154
Individuals	185	2,590	28,317	51	31,142
Membership Subscriptions				1,487	1,487
Other including Interest					
Total Receipts	**685**	**2,590**	**86,789**	**1,538**	**91,602**
Contribution towards Staff Costs	4,823	19,313	76,249	10,498	110,883
Property Costs		2,571		1,346	3,917
Vehicle Costs		3	10,540	67	10,610
Other Costs		6,809		6,877	13,686
Total Payments	**4,823**	**28,697**	**86,789**	**18,788**	**139,097**
BALANCES at 31 December 2022	**-**	**-**	**-**	**6,246**	**6,246**

3.2 Restricted Funds Details

The **Street Work Restricted Fund** represents donations to support the distribution of food and drink to those on the streets.

The **Bed for the Night Restricted Fund** - funds donated towards the cost of running the night shelter or drop-in Hub. Preparation and training costs can be incurred in the prior year in preparation for the "B4N" in the following January to March, which means that the costs of a winter's night shelter are reported in two accounting periods.

The **Readifood Restricted Fund** represents funds donated specifically for use for the food parcel service, this year the funds were used for expenses directly related to Readifood including a contribution to salaries for those working for Readifood.

The **Food Pantries Restricted Fund** represents donations to support the provision of food distribution through Food Pantries.

3.3 Unrestricted Funds Details

The **General Fund** represents income donated which is not given for a restricted purpose. In the Income and Expenditure Statement any costs that cannot be readily allocated or apportioned to the activities of the Streetwork, Bed for the Night, Readifood or Food Pantry are shown under General Funds. Any deficits on the activities are funded by transfers from the General Fund.

Note 4 Staff Costs and Numbers

	CIO 2022 £	CIO 2021 £
Gross Wages and Salaries	163,568	161,434
Employer's National Insurance Costs	11,463	10,873
(net of Employment Allowance)	(5,000)	(4,000)
Pension Contributions	5,500	5,662
	175,531	**173,969**
Number of employees		
Full Time	1	1
Part-time	9	9
Temporary - Part time	3	4
	13	**14**

No employees received employee benefits for the reporting periods of more than £60,000 per annum.

Note 5 Pension Scheme

The Charity enrols all employees that meet the criteria for automatic enrolment and pays employer's contributions to the workplace pension scheme NEST (National Employment Savings Trust).

Note 6 Tangible fixed assets

	2022 Motor Vehicle £	2022 Fixtures & Fittings £	2022 Total £	2021 Motor Vehicle £	2021 Fixtures & Fittings £	2021 Total £
Cost or Vauation						
At the beginning of the year	26,094	8,135	34,229	9,094	-	9,094
Additions	-	7,188	7,188	17,000	8,135	25,135
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	26,094	15,323	41,417	26,094	8,135	34,229
Depreciation						
At the beginning of the year	7,500	406	7,906	5,400	-	5,400
Depreciation	5,200	1,318	6,518	2,100	406	2,506
Disposals		-	-		-	-
At end of the year	12,700	1,724	14,424	7,500	406	7,906
Net book value	13,394	13,599	26,993	18,594	7,729	26,323

Basis of depreciation – straight line

The other fixed assets acquired from Faith Trust with individual values of less than £1,000 are summarised below:

	Estimated original value
Office furniture and equipment	3,000

Note 7 Creditors falling due after one year

On 31 March 2016, the FAITH Christian Group rented 33 Boulton Road under a Full Repairing and insuring Lease. The Trustees resolved to provide for the Full Repairing obligation by providing for the repairs through the life of the lease. Advice was taken as to the likely costs of major repairs through the life of the lease, and an annual accrual of £4,800 was determined to be reasonable. In 2022 £4,800 was charged as expenditure and credited to this Provision for Building Repairs to cover these costs.

In March 2021 the lease was extended for 5 Years.

Note 8 Payments to Trustees

No payments were made to trustees or any persons connected with them during this financial period other than purchases made on behalf of the charity for which trustees have been reimbursed. No other material transaction took place between the organisation and a trustee or any person connected with them. No trustee expenses have been incurred.

Note 9 Fees for examination of the accounts

Fees towards Independent Examination of £875 were accrued for in 2022 (2021 fees £825)

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1163355

Accounts

REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1163355

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Other working names	Faith Christian Group FAITH ReadiFood B4N Bed for the Night
Trustees at 31st December 2020	Mr Peter Horne Mr Neil Jackson Mrs Helen Martin Mr Edward Rundell Mrs Stella Stroud

GOVERNING INSTRUMENT

Faith Christian Group is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation whose only voting members are its trustees. It was registered with the Charity Commissioners on 1st September 2015.

On 1st November 2015, Faith Christian Group (Reading) CIO (FAITH CIO) took over the activities, net assets and employees of Faith Christian Group from Faith Christian Group (Reading) Trust (FAITH Trust) which was registered as a charity under a Declaration of Trust in 1996.

OBJECTS

The objects of the CIO are, for the public benefit:

a) to advance the Christian faith in Reading and other parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the charity trustees may from time to time determine; and

b) to relieve persons in conditions of need, hardship or distress or who are aged or sick in Reading and other parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the charity trustees may from time to time determine.

Correspondence address	33 Boulton Road Reading RG2 0NH
Primary bankers	Charities Aid Foundation Bank
DBS registered body	thirtyone:eight (formerly CCPAS)
Independent examiner	Michael Homer AFA MIPA

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Faith Christian Group (Reading) CIO for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts are eligible for independent examination. I report in respect of my examination of the CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.



Mr Michael Homer AFA MIPA

Independent Examiner
MCH Accountants Ltd
68 Charlton Road
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 3JN

Dated: 21/10/2022

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

Organisation

The work of FAITH is primarily to fight physical poverty among the homeless, needy and deprived, by so doing to share the gospel through love, care and practical service. This work is carried out largely by teams of volunteers as well as part-time staff, mostly Christians from many different churches in and around Reading. In 2021 FAITH employed nine part-time staff, with one temporary member of staff in addition.

The organisation was running for some time before receiving charity status in 1996 as FAITH Christian Group (Reading) Trust. On 1st September 2015, the Charity Commissioners registered FAITH Christian Group (Reading) CIO, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, and on 1st November 2015, the CIO took over the operation of the services, assets, and liabilities of the Trust and took on the employment of all the staff employed by the Trust. This change coincided with the whole operation moving to its current premises in Boulton Road.

2021 review

FAITH works in three main, related ways to achieve its objects: "**Readistreet**" and "**A Bed for the Night**" (B4N), which work with the hungry and homeless on the streets of Reading and "**ReadiFood**" which provides food parcels to individuals and families who are housed, but struggling to make ends meet.

Covid-19 pandemic

2021 saw us able to return to almost normal working whilst remaining vigilant. Regular testing for staff was phased out.

"ReadiStreet" involves the distribution of food to those on the streets. On weekday evenings, the support of Reading Minster Church gives us a town centre base from which we offer free sandwiches (kindly donated by Pret a Manger) and hot soup to the hungry and homeless of Reading. On Sundays, we run the Tea Bar to provide free hot and cold drinks and soup and rolls. 2021 saw the acquisition of a catering van kitted out to our specifications. A key element of this work is to demonstrate to everyone we meet on the streets that they are valued individuals.

Some of the practices, such as queueing outside, developed for the pandemic, have continued and make for a more controlled atmosphere.

"ReadiFood – Reading's Food Bank" is a service delivering food parcels to families and individuals in need throughout the town. Those in need are referred by RBC Social Services, Job Centre, Citizens Advice and other charities, agencies and churches. The average number of food parcels delivered in 2021 was 178 per week, having been 250 at the height of the pandemic. Donations both financial and food continued to be good.

A Bed for the Night

A Bed for the Night (B4N) was a church based rolling winter night shelter that FCG ran from 2015 to 2020. We were able to offer meals and a camp bed to up to 20 adults each night. With government policy changes brought about by COVID 19 regulations we evolved that into a daytime drop-in "hub" from January 2021.

Guests were offered winter clothes, activities (colouring/reading/puzzles) and a hot meal and snacks to take away. Initially we had planned to open the venues for guests to come inside with enough space to eat, relax and enjoy activities inside the venue whilst maintaining social distancing. However, the UK national lockdown and stricter restrictions introduced by the Government after Christmas meant that we decided to offer take-away provision only.

Guests were referred to the B4N-HUB from the **St Mungos** Rough Sleeper Outreach Service and by **RBC or FCG** directly. The provision was specifically for those staying in hotel / B&B placements and not a general food handout. The majority of guests who used the B4N-HUB were those with no recourse to public funds (NRPF).

In total, there were 21 guests in either winter provision or COVID placements that came to the B4N-HUB.

Relationships

Building relationships over time is a key factor in the success of what we do. Providing some sandwiches on the street, or a food parcel via ReadiFood, can lead to befriending and further opportunities to help in many other practical ways. B4N in particular gives opportunities over a number of days or weeks to build relationships and provide links to further help. On occasions FAITH believes it has to act as an advocate for those without a voice, and the charity helped a number of individuals in this way during the year.

We have continued to work hard to maintain good working relationships with relevant agencies and organisations in the town, including the various sections of RBC such as Social Services, Housing, Homeless and Housing Pathways. 2021 also saw us working with the local council, a church and a housing association, towards opening Reading's first "Food Pantry".

Safeguarding

All charities are required to report serious safeguarding incidents to the Charity Commission. There were no such incidents to report.

Financial summary

We receive financial support from many individuals, accounting for over 50% of giving, local churches and a number of local businesses and organisations. Grant income has increased as specific projects are launched to address increased needs in light of the COVID pandemic. In addition to the direct financial donations received, a significant value of food and other items were donated to FAITH for distribution to people in need.

In the year ended 31 December 2021 the Charity had an overall surplus of £88,265, with high levels of giving maintained in response to COVID-19, replicating the prior year 2020. In the year ended 31 December 2021 Payments increased by 28% on prior year as the charity repositioned itself in response to the higher levels of giving.

Reserves have remained high due to this surplus, and it is acknowledged that the high levels of giving experienced in 2020 and 2021 are not sustainable, but rather a unique response during COVID. The forward-looking plan is to use these resources effectively over a period of time considering our largest expense is ongoing staff costs, rather than there being an immediate need to release cash.

THANKS

The trustees thank all the volunteers and paid staff for all their hard work in 2021 enabling FAITH to serve so many of the disadvantaged and poor in Reading. Also, the trustees would like to express their thanks to churches, organisations and individuals in and around Reading for their support. The trustees are very grateful for the generous financial support the charity receives, as without this continuing and increasing support FAITH would not have been able to serve the needy in Reading.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

	Analysis of Total Income and Expenditure by Activity - 2021								2020
				READIFOOD					
	General Funds	Street work	Bed for the Night	Boulton Road - Rent	Readifood	Vehicle Costs	Food Pantry	Total Funds Unrestricted and Restricted	Total Funds Unrestricted and Restricted
	2021 £	2021 £	2021 £	2021 £	2021 £	2021 £	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £
RECEIPTS :									
Donations from									
Churches	15,221				658			15,879	36,974
Organisations	13,355	1,500			37,551			52,405	104,255
Grants			48,857		26,899		28,996	104,752	59,074
Individuals	186,982	26,066	50		19,077			232,175	203,222
Other including Interest	4,654		206					4,860	102
TOTAL RECEIPTS	**220,212**	**27,566**	**49,113**	**-**	**84,185**	**-**	**28,996**	**410,071**	**403,627**
PAYMENTS :									
Food and other assistance (Excluding donated food)	335	2,249	15,895		7,980			26,459	6,797
Staff Costs	45,206	15,325	43,915		69,522			173,969	145,150
Support work			1,100					1,100	-
Vehicle Lease Costs					2,600			2,600	2,621
Vehicle Depreciation		300			1,800			2,100	1,800
Vehicle Running Costs	290	515	26		3,414	3,041		7,285	8,534
Equipment	4,549	2,056	2,421		3,272			12,298	6,908
Training, Networking & CRBs	1,968	2	170		150			2,290	1,115
Office Warehouse Rent & Rates	11,846	1,008	2,915	17,500	4,573			37,842	37,838
Property Maintenance & Insurance	7,380	539	1,990		2,447			12,356	10,760
Utilities	3,392	289	835		1,310			5,825	7,994
Office Supplies	5,416	117	118		169			5,820	6,000
Computer Equipment Software	3,647		244		77			3,969	2,212
Telephone Costs	2,968		126		611			3,705	3,476
Postage	540		19		19			578	283
Publicity & newsletter	8,525	1,027			1,751			11,303	4,433
Professional Fees	5,410		395				500	6,305	3,453
Bank Charges	173		4					177	362
Projects & Resourcing							5,000	5,000	-
Governance	825							825	800
TOTAL PAYMENTS	**102,471**	**23,427**	**70,171**	**17,500**	**99,695**	**3,041**	**5,500**	**321,806**	**250,537**
TOTAL SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	**117,741**	**4,138**	**(21,059)**	**(17,500)**	**(15,510)**	**(3,041)**	**23,496**	**88,265**	**153,090**
TRANSFERS from									
General Funds	**(24,726)**	**-**	**22,095**	**17,500**	**(17,910)**	**3,041**	**-**	**-**	**-**
BALANCE at 01 January 2021	171,527	-	25,071	-	33,421	-	-	230,018	76,928
BALANCE at 31 December 2021	**264,542**	**4,138**	**26,107**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**23,496**	**318,283**	**230,018**

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

BALANCE SHEETS as at	31 December 2021 £		31 December 2020 £	
FIXED ASSETS				
Fixed Assets at Cost or Valuation		34,229		9,094
Accumulated Depreciation		(7,906)		(5,400)
Total Fixed Assets		26,323		3,694
Sundry Debtors	1,119		829	
Prepayments	11,285		9,977	
Cash at bank and in hand	311,677		241,754	
Current Assets	324,081		252,560	
Taxation and social security	(2,611)		(2,094)	
Other creditors	(1,910)		(1,341)	
Creditors due within a year	(4,521)		(3,435)	
Creditors due after a year	(27,600)		(22,800)	
NET ASSETS		291,960		226,325
		318,283		**230,018**
Street Work Restricted Fund		4,138		-
B4N Restricted Fund		26,107		25,071
Readifood Restricted Fund		-		33,421
Food Pantry Restricted Fund		23,496		-
General Fund		264,542		171,527
CHARITY FUNDS		**318,283**		**230,018**

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The trustees have considered the best approach to present the accounts to give a fair view of the charity's financial results for the calendar year ended 31 December 2021 and to allow proper comparisons with the results in 2020.

Approved by the Trustees on 21/10/22 and 21/10/22

Signed on their behalf by Trustee Trustee

NOTES to the Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2021

Note 1 Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

The accounts are prepared on a "going concern" basis. The Trustees actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated combined with an annual review of the controls over key financial systems will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Trustees have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

Note 2 Accounting Policies

The Accounting Policies, used and applied consistently throughout the period, are set out below. The Trustees have reviewed the other accounting policies covered by the Financial Reporting Standard and consider they are not applicable to this period's accounts.

2.1 Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, the monetary value can be measured and it is more likely than not that the charity will receive the resources.

2.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS 102.

2.3 Grants

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met. In the case of performance-related grants, income is only recognised when the performance related conditions are met. The charity has received a local government grant in the reporting period.

2.4 Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

2.5 Donated food, goods and services and volunteer help

The value of any donated food, goods and services and volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

2.6 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

2.7 Redundancy cost

The charity made no redundancy payments during the reporting period.

2.8 Deferred income

No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.

2.9 Tangible fixed assets for use by charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or valuation. The depreciation rates and methods used are disclosed in Note 6.

2.10 Debtors

Debtors and loans receivable are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

2.11 Creditors

The charity's creditors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts

2.12 Volunteer Help

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

Note 3 Restricted Funds

3.1 Restricted Funds for the year ended 31st December 2021

	Street Work	Bed for the Night "B4N"	Readifood	Food Pantry	Total Restricted Funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Balances at 31 December 2020	-	**25,071**	**33,421**	-	**58,492**
2021 Donations from					
Churches			658		658
Organisations	1,500		37,551		39,051
Grants		48,857	26,899	28,996	104,752
Individuals	26,066	50	19,077		45,193
Other including Interest		206			206
Total Receipts	**27,566**	**49,113**	**84,185**	**28,996**	**189,859**
Contribution towards Staff Costs	15,325	43,915	69,522		128,763
Property Costs	1,836	4,135	25,830		31,801
Vehicle Costs	815	26	10,855		11,695
Other Costs	5,451		11,399	5,500	22,350
Total Payments	**23,427**	**48,076**	**117,605**	**5,500**	**194,609**
BALANCES at 31 December 2021	**4,138**	**26,107**	-	**23,496**	**53,741**

3.2 Restricted Funds Details

The **Bed for the Night Restricted Fund** – funds donated towards the cost of running the night shelter each year. Preparation and training costs are incurred in the autumn of each year in preparation for the "B4N" for the following January to March, which means that the costs of each winter's night shelter are reported in two accounting periods.

The **Rent for Boulton Road Premises Fund** – funds donated specifically towards the rental cost of the Offices and Warehouse at Boulton Road.

The **Readifood Restricted Fund** represents funds donated specifically for use for the food parcel service, this year the funds were used for expenses directly related to Readifood including a contribution to salaries for those working for Readifood.

The **Vehicle Restricted Fund** includes a grant from Toyota towards the costs of the van Toyota have leased to the charity.

3.3 Unrestricted Funds Details

The **General Fund** represents income donated which is not given for a restricted purpose. In the Income and Expenditure Statement any costs that cannot be readily allocated or apportioned to the activities of the Streetwork, Bed for the Night, Readifood or Food Pantry are shown under General Funds. Any deficits on the activities are funded by transfers from the General Fund.

Note 4 Staff Costs and Numbers

	CIO 2021 £	CIO 2020 £
Gross Wages and Salaries	161,434	136,570
Employer's National Insurance Costs	10,873	9,013
(net of Employment Allowance)	(4,000)	(4,000)
Pension Contributions	5,662	3,568
	173,969	**145,150**
Number of employees		
Full Time	1	-
Part-time	9	9
Temporary - Part time	4	10
	14	**19**

No employees received employee benefits for the reporting periods of more than £60,000 per annum.

Note 5 Pension Scheme

The Charity enrols all employees that meet the criteria for automatic enrolment and pays employer's contributions to the workplace pension scheme NEST (National Employment Savings Trust).

Note 6 Tangible fixed assets

	2021 Motor Vehicle £	2021 Fixtures & Fittings £	2021 Total £	2020 Motor Vehicle £	2020 Fixtures & Fittings £	2020 Total £
Cost or Vauation						
At the beginning of the year	9,094	-	9,094	9,094	-	9,094
Additions	17,000	8,135	25,135	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At end of the year	26,094	8,135	34,229	9,094	-	9,094
Depreciation						
At the beginning of the year	5,400	-	5,400	3,600	-	3,600
Depreciation	2,100	406	2,506	1,800	-	1,800
Disposals		-	-		-	-
At end of the year	7,500	406	7,906	5,400	-	5,400
Net book value	18,594	7,729	26,323	3,694	-	3,694

Basis of depreciation – straight line

The other fixed assets acquired from FAITH Trust with individual values of less than £1,000 are summarised below:

	Estimated original value
Office furniture and equipment	3,000

Note 7 Creditors falling due after one year

On 31 March 2016, the FAITH Christian Group rented 33 Boulton Road under a Full Repairing and insuring Lease. The Trustees resolved to provide for the Full Repairing obligation by providing for the repairs through the life of the lease. Advice was taken as to the likely costs of major repairs through the life of the lease, and an annual accrual of £4,800 was determined to be reasonable. In 2021 £4,800 was charged as expenditure and credited to this Provision for Building Repairs to cover these costs.

Note 8 Payments to Trustees

No payments were made to trustees or any persons connected with them during this financial period. No other material transaction took place between the organisation and a trustee or any person connected with them. No trustee expenses have been incurred.

Note 9 Fees for examination of the accounts

Fees towards Independent Examination of £825 were accrued for in 2021 (2020 fees were £800).

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

England & Wales - Charity number 1163355

Accounts

REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1163355

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Other working names	Faith Christian Group FAITH ReadiFood B4N Bed for the Night
Trustees at 31st December 2020	Mr Peter Horne Mr Neil Jackson Mrs Helen Martin Mr Edward Rundell Mrs Stella Stroud

GOVERNING INSTRUMENT

Faith Christian Group is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation whose only voting members are its trustees. It was registered with the Charity Commissioners on 1st September 2015.

On 1st November 2015, Faith Christian Group (Reading) CIO (FAITH CIO) took over the activities, net assets and employees of Faith Christian Group from Faith Christian Group (Reading) Trust (FAITH Trust) which was registered as a charity under a Declaration of Trust in 1996.

OBJECTS

The objects of the CIO are, for the public benefit:

a) to advance the Christian faith in Reading and other parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the charity trustees may from time to time determine; and

b) to relieve persons in conditions of need, hardship or distress or who are aged or sick in Reading and other parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the charity trustees may from time to time determine.

Correspondence address	33 Boulton Road Reading RG2 0NH
Primary bankers	Charities Aid Foundation Bank
DBS registered body	thirtyone:eight (formerly CCPAS)
Independent examiner	Michael Homer AFA MIPA

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Faith Chistian Group (Reading) CIO for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts are eligible for independent examination. I report in respect of my examination of the CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.



Mr Michael Homer AFA MIPA

Independent Examiner
MCH Accountants Ltd
68 Charlton Road
Andover
Hampshire
SP10 3JN

Dated: 26/10/2021

TRUSTEES REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

Organisation

The work of FAITH is to fight spiritual and physical poverty among the homeless, needy and deprived. We aim to share the gospel through love, care and practical service. This work is carried out by a dedicated team of volunteers and part-time staff, mostly Christians from many different churches in and around Reading. In 2020, FAITH employed nine part-time staff, with one temporary member of staff in addition.

The organisation was running for some time before receiving charity status in 1996 as FAITH Christian Group (Reading) Trust. On 1st September 2015, the Charity Commissioners registered FAITH Christian Group (Reading) CIO, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, and on 1st November 2015, the CIO took over the operation of the services, assets, and liabilities of the Trust and took on the employment of all the staff employed by the Trust. This change coincided with the whole operation moving to its current premises in Boulton Road.

2020 review

FAITH works in three main, related ways to achieve its objects: "Readistreet" and Bed for the Night (B4N), which work with the hungry and homeless on the streets of Reading and "ReadiFood" which provides food parcels to individuals and families who are housed, but struggling to make ends meet.

Covid-19 pandemic

In March, the pandemic led to a national lockdown across the UK. FAITH responded in partnership with Reading Borough Council (RBC) and other voluntary organisations, supporting the One Reading Community in providing food and other help.

"ReadiStreet" involves the distribution of food to those on the streets. On weekday evenings, the committed support of Reading Minster Church gives us a town centre base from which we offer free sandwiches (kindly donated by Pret a Manger) and hot soup to the hungry and homeless of Reading. On Sundays, we run the Candle tea-bar to provide free hot and cold drinks and soup and rolls. A key element of this work is to demonstrate to everyone we meet on the streets that they are valued individuals.

At the start of the pandemic, ReadiStreet continued as normal until Reading Minster Church was forced to close its doors. We continued handing out food on the streets, but when Pret a Manger also had to close, we had no option but to suspend ReadiStreet. Thankfully, national government's 'Everyone In' scheme immediately housed all the rough sleepers in emergency accommodation and food was provided, which lessened the impact on the streets. The service resumed in July.

"ReadiFood – Reading's Food Bank" is a service delivering food parcels to families and individuals in need throughout the town. Those in need are referred by RBC Social Services, Job Centre, the Citizens Advice Bureau, other charities, agencies and churches. The average number of food parcels rose from 126 in January 2020 to 245 per week in March 2020. Covid lockdown, self-isolating and supporting clients considered to be clinically extremely vulnerable were the main reasons for the increase.

Companies who would normally have encouraged staff to help at the Foodbank supported us financially instead. This allowed us to supplement emergency food parcels by bringing in food from wholesalers and supermarkets.

Bed for the Night

From a pilot project run in 2015, B4N has become well established as a winter night shelter, and is accredited by Housing Justice with their highest certification mark: excellent.

2020 was the sixth year of running B4N. We planned to open for twelve weeks, but closed a few days early because of Covid restrictions. Twelve churches in Reading hosted the winter night shelter. Housing Justice funding enabled us to employ an additional member of staff, and several overnight supervisors. Clients came via referrals from RBC, St. Mungo's and Launchpad, along with some known to us through ReadiStreet. A total of 37 guests stayed at B4N in 2020. We averaged 19 guests per night, compared to an average of 16 guests per night during B4N 2019.

Over 350 volunteers supported the winter night shelter, 125 of these being new volunteers. All new volunteers are given training sessions with the previous volunteers being given refresher shorter sessions. Change Grow Live, a national health and social care charity, provided drug awareness courses and RBC ran adult safeguarding training. First Aid courses were offered to co-ordinators and overnight supervisors. The support of the Reading Street Pastors was also invaluable at each venue.

When lockdown was implemented by the Government, all the guests were immediately provided with temporary accommodation by RBC.

Relationships

Building relationships over time is a key factor in the success of what we do. Providing some sandwiches on the street, or a food parcel via ReadiFood, can lead to befriending and further opportunities to help in many other practical ways. B4N in particular gives opportunities over a number of days or weeks to build relationships and provide links to further help.

On occasions FAITH believes it has to act as an advocate for those without a voice, and the charity helped a number of individuals in this way during the year.

We have continued to work hard to maintain good working relationships with relevant agencies and organisations in the town, including the various sections of RBC such as Social Services, Housing, Homeless and Housing Pathways. We regularly respond to requests from Social Services for assistance with urgent practical needs for families and individuals whom Social Services are unable to help directly. With changes in the Social Security system, we have seen these requests grow.

Safeguarding

All charities are required to report serious safeguarding incidents to the Charity Commission. There were no such incidents to report.

Financial summary

We receive financial support from many local churches and a number of local businesses and organisations, but circa 50% of the Charity's total income was donated by individuals, a marked increase from prior year. In addition to the direct financial donations received, a significant value of food and other items were donated to FAITH for distribution to people in need.

In the year ended 31 December 2020 the Charity had an overall surplus of £153,090, largely due to increased giving in response to COVID-19. Receipts were not far off double prior year, with payments only a circa 13% increase on prior year. Reserves have increased notably due to this surplus.

THANKS

The trustees thank all the volunteers and paid staff for all their hard work in 2020 enabling FAITH to serve so many of the disadvantaged and poor in Reading. Also, the trustees would like to express their thanks to churches, organisations and individuals in and around Reading for their support. The trustees are very grateful for the generous financial support the charity receives, as without this continuing and increasing support FAITH would not have been able to serve the needy in Reading.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees 

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

	Analysis of Total Income and Expenditure by Activity - 2020							2019
				READIFOOD				
	General Funds	Street work	Bed for the Night	Boulton Road -Rent	Readifood	Vehicle Costs	Total Funds Unrestricted and Restricted	Total Funds Unrestricted and Restricted
	2020 £	2020 £	2020 £	2020 £	2020 £	2020 £	2020 £	2019 £
RECEIPTS :								
Donations from								
Churches	25,410		988		10,576		36,974	32,092
Organisations	19,992		7,000		77,263		104,255	102,973
Grants	513		52,561		6,000		59,074	4,987
Individuals	164,361	192	542		38,128		203,222	74,039
Other including Interest	72				30		102	381
TOTAL RECEIPTS	**210,348**	**192**	**61,091**	**-**	**131,996**	**-**	**403,627**	**214,472**
PAYMENTS :								
Food and other assistance (Excluding donated food)		1,079	123		5,595		6,797	1,903
Staff Costs	39,024	13,206	42,034		50,887		145,150	127,764
Vehicle Lease Costs					421	2,200	2,621	200
Vehicle Depreciation						1,800	1,800	1,800
Vehicle Running Costs	398		340		2,102	5,694	8,534	6,637
Equipment	1,658	299	3,536		1,416		6,908	8,429
Training, Networking & CRBs	501		608		6		1,115	2,237
Office Warehouse Rent & Rates	9,296	1,374	4,373	17,500	5,295		37,838	39,166
Property Maintenance & Insurance	5,780	620	1,972		2,388		10,760	8,940
Utilities	3,661	539	1,716		2,078		7,994	5,001
Office Supplies	5,569	51	132		248		6,000	6,438
Computer Equipment Software	1,121		351		741		2,212	1,545
Telephone Costs	2,962		329		186		3,476	2,593
Postage	244		23		17		283	58
Publicity & newsletter	4,359	74					4,433	8,764
Professional Fees	3,453						3,453	793
Bank Charges	356		2		4		362	120
Governance	800						800	-
TOTAL PAYMENTS	**79,181**	**17,243**	**55,538**	**17,500**	**71,382**	**9,694**	**250,537**	**222,386**
TOTAL SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	**131,167**	**(17,051)**	**5,553**	**(17,500)**	**60,614**	**(9,694)**	**153,090**	**(7,915)**
TRANSFERS from General Funds	**(17,051)**	**17,051**	**-**	**17,500**	**(27,194)**	**9,694**	**-**	**(0)**
BALANCE at 01 January 2020	57,410	-	19,518	-	-	-	76,928	84,843
BALANCE at 31 December 2020	**171,527**	**-**	**25,071**	**-**	**33,421**	**-**	**230,018**	**76,928**

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

BALANCE SHEETS as at	31 December 2020 £		31 December 2019 £	
FIXED ASSETS				
Fixed Assets at Cost or Valuation		9,094		9,094
Accumulated Depreciation		(5,400)		(3,600)
Total Fixed Assets		3,694		5,494
Sundry Debtors	829		777	
Prepayments	9,977		9,793	
Cash at bank and in hand	241,754		82,237	
Current Assets	252,560		92,807	
Taxation and social security	(2,094)		(2,831)	
Other creditors	(1,341)		(541)	
Creditors due within a year	(3,435)		(3,373)	
Creditors due after a year	(22,800)		(18,000)	
		226,325		71,434
NET ASSETS		**230,018**		**76,928**
B4N Restricted Fund		25,071		19,518
Readifood Restricted Fund		33,421		-
General Fund		171,527		57,410
CHARITY FUNDS		**230,018**		**76,928**

TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The trustees have considered the best approach to present the accounts to give a fair view of the charity's financial results for the calendar year ended 31 December 2020 and to allow proper comparisons with the results in 2019.

Approved by the Trustees on 27/10/21 and 28/10/21

Signed on their behalf by Trustee Trustee

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

Note 1 Basis of preparation

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

The accounts are prepared on a "going concern" basis. The Trustees actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated combined with an annual review of the controls over key financial systems will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Trustees have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

Note 2 Accounting Policies

The Accounting Policies, used and applied consistently throughout the period, are set out below. The Trustees have reviewed the other accounting policies covered by the Financial Reporting Standard and consider they are not applicable to this period's accounts.

2.1 Income recognition

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, the monetary value can be measured and it is more likely than not that the charity will receive the resources.

2.2 Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses, unless required or permitted by FRS 102.

2.3 Grants

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met. In the case of performance-related grants, income is only recognised when the performance related conditions are met. The charity has received a local government grant in the reporting period.

2.4 Tax reclaims on donations and gifts

Gift Aid receivable is included in income when there is a valid declaration from the donor. Any Gift Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

2.5 Donated food, goods and services and volunteer help

The value of any donated food, goods and services and volunteer help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

2.6 Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

2.7 Redundancy cost

The charity made no redundancy payments during the reporting period.

2.8 Deferred income

No material item of deferred income has been included in the accounts.

2.9 Tangible fixed assets for use by charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £1,000. They are valued at cost or valuation. The depreciation rates and methods used are disclosed in Note 6.

2.10 Debtors

Debtors and loans receivable are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

2.11 Creditors

The charity's creditors are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts

2.12 Volunteer Help

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

Note 3 Restricted Funds

3.1 Restricted Funds for the year ended 31st December 2020

	Bed for the Night "B4N"	Readifood	Total Restricted Funds
	£	£	£
Balances at 31 December 2019	19,518	-	19,518
2020 Donations from			
Churches	988	10,576	11,564
Organisations	7,000	77,263	84,263
Grants	52,561	6,000	58,561
Individuals	542	38,128	38,670
Other including Interest		30	30
Total Receipts	61,091	131,996	193,087
Contribution towards Staff Costs	42,034	50,887	92,921
Property Costs	8,062	27,260	35,321
Vehicle Costs	340	12,217	12,558
Other Costs	5,103	8,212	13,314
Total Payments	55,538	98,575	154,114
BALANCES at 31 December 2020	25,071	33,421	58,492

3.2 Restricted Funds Details

The **Bed for the Night Restricted Fund** – funds donated towards the cost of running the night shelter each year. Preparation and training costs are incurred in the autumn of each year in preparation for the "B4N" for the following January to March, which means that the costs of each winter's night shelter is reported in two accounting periods.

The **Rent for Boulton Road Premises Fund** – funds donated specifically towards the rental cost of the Offices and Warehouse at Boulton Road.

The **Readifood Restricted Fund** represents funds donated specifically for use for the food parcel service, this year the funds were used for expenses directly related to Readifood including a contribution to salaries for those working for Readifood.

The **Vehicle Restricted Fund** includes a grant from Toyota towards the costs of the van Toyota have leased to the charity.

The **Stepping Stones Restricted Fund** represents donations to support this area of our work, and was used to pay the salaries of staff supporting the needs of our tenants.

3.3 Unrestricted Funds Details

The **General Fund** represents income donated which is not given for a restricted purpose. In the Income and Expenditure Statement any costs that cannot be readily allocated or apportioned to the activities of the Streetwork, Bed for the Night, Readifood or Stepping Stones are shown under General Funds. Any deficits on the activities are funded by transfers from the General Fund.

Note 4 Staff Costs and Numbers

	CIO 2020 £	CIO 2019 £
Gross Wages and Salaries	136,570	119,549
Employer's National Insurance Costs	9,013	8,133
(net of Employment Allowance)	(4,000)	(3,000)
Pension Contributions	3,568	3,082
	145,150	127,764
Number of employees		
Full Time	-	-
Part-time	9	7
Temporary - Part time	10	6
	19	13

No employees received employee benefits for the reporting periods of more than £60,000 per annum.

Note 5 Pension Scheme

The Charity enrols all employees that meet the criteria for automatic enrolment and pays employer's contributions to the workplace pension scheme NEST (National Employment Savings Trust).

Note 6 Tangible fixed assets

	2020 Motor Vehicle £	2019 Motor Vehicle £
Cost or Vauation		
At the beginning of the year	9,094	9,094
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At end of the year	9,094	9,094
Depreciation		
At the beginning of the year	3,600	1,800
Depreciation	1,800	1,800
Disposals		
At end of the year	5,400	3,600
Net book value	3,694	5,494

Basis of depreciation - straight line

The other fixed assets acquired from FAITH Trust with individual values of less than £1,000 are summarised below:

	Estimated original value
Office furniture and equipment	3,000

Note 7 Creditors falling due after one year

On 31 March 2016, the FAITH Christian Group rented 33 Boulton Road under a 5 Year Full Repairing and insuring Lease. The Trustees resolved to provide for the Full Repairing obligation by providing for the repairs through the life of the lease. Advice was taken as to the likely costs of major repairs through the life of the lease, and in 2020 £4,800 was charged as expenditure and credited to this Provision for Building Repairs to cover these costs.

Note 8 Payments to Trustees

No payments were made to trustees or any persons connected with them during this financial period. No other material transaction took place between the organisation and a trustee or any person connected with them. No trustee expenses have been incurred.

Note 9 Fees for examination of the accounts

Fees towards Independent Examination of £800 were accrued for in 2020 (2019 fees were nil).