

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

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1163355

FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

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 Christian 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.

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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



FAITH CHRISTIAN GROUP (READING) CIO

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

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

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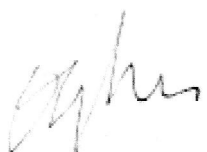
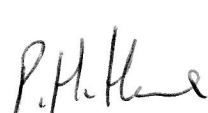
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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

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

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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.

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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.

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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
	<u>145,150</u>	<u>127,764</u>
Number of employees		
Full Time	-	-
Part-time	9	7
Temporary - Part time	10	6
	<u>19</u>	<u>13</u>

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

Note 5 Pension Scheme

The Charity enrolls 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 Valuation		
At the beginning of the year	9,094	9,094
Additions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
At end of the year	<u>9,094</u>	<u>9,094</u>
Depreciation		
At the beginning of the year	3,600	1,800
Depreciation	1,800	1,800
Disposals	-	-
At end of the year	<u>5,400</u>	<u>3,600</u>
Net book value	<u>3,694</u>	<u>5,494</u>

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).