

Thanet Community Churches

(Formerly Community Church
Ramsgate)

Report and Accounts
Year ended 31 August 2021

Stewardship 
Active generosity

1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB
www.stewardship.org.uk

**THANET COMMUNITY CHURCHES
(FORMERLY COMMUNITY CHURCH RAMSGATE)**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	Mr Craig Prentice The Corner 60 Whitehall Road Ramsgate Kent CT12 6DF
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	CIO - registered 04 September 2015
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1163414
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	Paul Gammans Aaron Wish - appointed 14/09/20, stood down 24/05/22 Heather Prentice - stood down 31/08/21 Brian Lamberton - appointed 31/08/21 Edward Mussett - appointed 13/06/22
Banker	Lloyds Bank plc
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Jacob Farley ACA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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**THANET COMMUNITY CHURCHES
(FORMERLY COMMUNITY CHURCH RAMSGATE)**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 August 2021.

Objects of the charity

The objects of the church are to advance the Christian Religion, in particular by seeking to be a community that loves God, loves each other and loves Ramsgate, to advance education and relieve poverty and hardship.

Summary of the charity's main activities and achievements

To further the above objects and vision, the charity's main activities and achievements were as follows:

August 2020 – December 2021 (Terms 1 & 2)

The impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic remained the main feature through this term, as we made every effort to respond and adapt to the changes in the various government imposed-restrictions.

In August our various community groups made efforts to enjoy the summer weather and engage with new people. The growing work in Broadstairs saw particular fruit from a partnership with a local youth centre in the town. Our 'Covid-response projects' remained relatively busy including our topUP project, JAM project, CAP Debt Help and CAP Money work.

In September, we were very pleased to be able to reopen The Corner Coffee House, and welcome back a number of groups to the Corner. Though there were necessary limitations to the project (including closing the food menu, introducing an on-line booking system for the play area, and limiting the maximum number of people in the building) it quickly became busy again.

Also in September, a number of new projects and posts began:

- 'Their first 1000days in Ramsgate' is a small Kent County Council funded project, in partnership with Fegans, seeking to provide advice, information, support and inspiration to local parents with young children. It uses social media to engage with young local parents. It seeks to support parents who have experienced their own 'adverse childhood experiences'.
- As part of Community Church Margate, the work of Amy Shatliff as our 'Church Community Worker' began. Funded by the Laing Family Trusts, Mr. Willat's Trust and our own savings for this project, Amy began by getting trained in CAP Debt Help, as well as delivering CAP Job Club, CAP Kick Start, CAP Fresh Start and a group for women who have experienced domestic abuse.
- The 'CAP Job Club' began on-line in late September.
- As part of the Broadstairs work, we employed Kate Grant to work a few hours on the Westover Estate promoting our projects to local residents and enabling her to build relationships.
- With funding from the Town and Country housing association, and Kent Community Foundation, we employed a project worker for 7 months to deliver the CAP Kick Start project, and an on-line friendship group to local vulnerable folk.

Also in September, the church family resumed face to face gatherings on Sundays. We used the Corner as a venue and invited in small groups from the wider congregation to congregate as we couldn't safely fit everyone in together. The services were also broadcast onto YouTube for those at home. We celebrated a baptism in this season. September also gave us our first opportunity to gather those interested in Community Church Broadstairs. Disappointingly these gatherings needed to stop in November due to another local lock-down.

Frustratingly, this new lock-down in November led to the re-closure of the Corner and the Coffee House. The building was only able to be used by the Preschool, and a few counsellors and support groups in line with the government guidance at that time.

In December we collected a great number of Christmas gifts for vulnerable families and delivered them along with a 'hope of hope'. Though we made extra effort with our online Christmas celebrations, it all felt rather understated compared to previous years.

Also in December we officially changed the name of the charity from 'Community Church Ramsgate' to 'Thanet Community Churches'. This now better reflects our vision and mission with congregations in Ramsgate, Margate and Broadstairs.

January 2021 – April 2021 (Terms 3 & 4)

We continued in lock-down through these terms. The negative emotional and spiritual effects of the lock-down appeared to peak in this time with a number of service users, members of the church family and staff, all significantly struggling with their mental health. That being said our work in the community continued and grew in some areas.

We ran an on-line CAP Money course as well as completing the CAP Job Club and continuing to run the CAP Kick Start courses. The Food Bank in Westover became increasingly busy.

Together with a number of other churches across Thanet we helped run an on-line Alpha course which saw us develop significant relationships with a number of local people.

In these terms we formally began an online small group for those becoming connected with the work in Broadstairs. We also began meeting with a small leadership team to pray and plan each week as the work with people on the Westover estate developed.

In April we celebrated Easter. We baptised a new believer (whilst keeping to Covid-guidelines) and made extra efforts with our on-line content. That all being said, without our normal community celebrations it felt a little underwhelming.

May 2021 – August 2021 (Terms 5 & 6)

We were able to reopen the Corner and Coffee House on the 17th May which was wonderful. We had brought our building manager and Coffee House supervisor back from furlough in late April in order to reopen well. We brought the whole staff team together in early May for a prayer and vision day, in order to refocus and relaunch our work together. The easing of restrictions meant that little by little, more of our work was able to be face-to-face as it should be.

We received good news from Kent County Council about them wanting to continue funding for 'Their first 1000days in Ramsgate' project. We expanded the work to include a second group in Broadstairs during this time.

With regards to Sunday church gatherings, we returned to face-to-face gatherings in May, but used just one venue (the Corner) and invited small congregation groups to attend in person as we need to limit to safe numbers. We encouraged the rest of the church family to gather in each other's homes on Sundays, and we uploaded video content to YouTube to serve these small groups.

In July we implemented our new Sunday gathering structure and rhythm, and formally launched 'Community Church Broadstairs' as our third small congregation. On Sundays 1 and 3 in a month, we now have the 3 congregations gathering across Thanet in 3 locations. In the morning, CCR gather at the Corner, and at the same time CCM gather at the Margate Caves Community Rooms. In the afternoon on these Sundays CCB now gather at the Baptist Church St. Peters building. This is a significant step of progress. On the 2nd Sunday of the month all three congregations gather together for a 'Together Sunday'. From September we will be using a central Thanet school as a venue. On the 4th Sundays of the month the church will gather in homes as 'Home Groups' across Thanet – for fellowship, local mission and prayer.

On these 4th Sundays, some Home Groups will choose to run outreach projects together. For example, one home group has started 'Sunday Connections' a 'church service for older adults and those with dementia'. Likewise, another Home Group is planning a monthly 'Messy Church' event.

This year may have been the most challenging year we have had since planting the church 10 years ago. However, we are so pleased that despite the many pressures and restrictions presented by the pandemic, the church family has continued to adapt, serve and grow in this season. We are so grateful for all the support we have received from funders and supporters that has enabled this.

Particularly pleasing is the birth of Community Church Broadstairs this year, and the fruitful work that this small congregation is already doing in the deprived Westover community. Linked to this is the strengthening of our structures and rhythms that we believe will enable us to continue to grow and thrive in the coming years.

In planning the activities the Trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

Financial review

During the year overall income decreased by £16,378 to £216,545 and expenditure increased by £15,815 to £208,339. Cash held by the charity increased by £8,206, to £98,384, of which £54,951 is unrestricted and can be used for any charitable purpose. The trustees have designated £5,860 of the unrestricted funds for use by Mission Partners.

Reserves policy

The trustees aim to maintain reserves equivalent to at least three months' operating expenses which equates to approximately £40,000. At the year end, the charity held unrestricted, undesignated, cash of £49,091 and were complying with the Policy.

Covid-19

As outlined above, in March 2020 the charity took steps (in line with government advice) to help contain the outbreak of Covid-19. This included the temporary suspension of all physical gatherings and the charity has had to curtail, or change, how it operates; the charity has been able to continue some of its activities using on-line media. The trustees are monitoring income and expenditure and, if it becomes necessary, will take measures to mitigate the impact of Covid-19 on the charity's unrestricted cash.

Governance

The policy and operating decisions of the charity rest with the Trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the Trust. New trustees are appointed by the existing trustees and are provided with appropriate training to undertake the role they occupy within the church.

Responsibilities of trustees

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.

We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

Approval

This report was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Brian Lamberton

Brian Lamberton - Trustees

Date: 29 June 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THANET COMMUNITY CHURCHES
(FORMERLY COMMUNITY CHURCH RAMSGATE)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Thanet Community Churches (formerly Community Church Ramsgate) ('the charity') for the year ended 31 August 2021 on pages 6 to 9 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

Jacob Farley ACA

For and on behalf of:
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 29 June 2022

THANET COMMUNITY CHURCHES (FORMERLY COMMUNITY CHURCH RAMSGATE)

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted Funds	2021	2020
		General Funds	Designated Funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Donations		47,917	-	248	48,165	49,002
Grants		32,000	-	82,459	114,459	76,788
Gift aid receipts		-	-	-	-	18,856
Income from coffee shop		14,934	-	-	14,934	44,752
Building hire		26,833	-	-	26,833	28,042
Government Furlough Grants		11,228	-	-	11,228	13,372
Other		927	-	-	927	2,111
Total receipts		<u>133,839</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,707</u>	<u>216,545</u>	<u>232,923</u>
Payments						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	136,559	526	67,135	204,219	187,474
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	4,120	-	-	4,120	5,051
Total payments		<u>140,679</u>	<u>526</u>	<u>67,135</u>	<u>208,339</u>	<u>192,524</u>
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers		(6,840)	(526)	15,572	8,206	40,398
Transfers between funds		2,079	-	(2,079)	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>(4,762)</u>	<u>(526)</u>	<u>13,493</u>	<u>8,206</u>	<u>40,398</u>
Cash funds as at last year end		53,853	6,386	29,940	90,179	49,780
Cash funds at this year end	A	<u>49,091</u>	<u>5,860</u>	<u>43,433</u>	<u>98,384</u>	<u>90,178</u>

The notes on pages 8-9 form part of these accounts.

THANET COMMUNITY CHURCHES (FORMERLY COMMUNITY CHURCH RAMSGATE)

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted funds	2021	2020
	General funds	Designated funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
A Cash funds					
Cash at bank with immediate access	48,961	5,860	43,434	98,254	90,022
Petty cash	-	-	-	-	26
Coffee shop float	110	-	-	110	110
Kiddies Corner Float	20	-	-	20	20
	<u>49,091</u>	<u>5,860</u>	<u>43,434</u>	<u>98,384</u>	<u>90,178</u>
B Other monetary assets					
Gift aid due to charity	19,568	-	-	19,568	10,199
Other monetary assets	12,418	-	-	12,418	32,279
Stock	500	-	-	500	500
	<u>32,486</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,486</u>	<u>42,978</u>
C Liabilities					
Fee for 2020 Independent Examination	1,440	-	-	1,440	1,440
Fee for 2021 Independent Examination	1,470	-	-	1,470	-
PAYE/NIC/Pension Payments due	-	-	-	-	493
	<u>2,910</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,910</u>	<u>1,933</u>
D Assets retained for charity's own use					Insurance value
					£
Building - 60 Whitehall Road					1,322,735
Soft Play Equipment					40,000
Equipment					34,024
					<u>1,396,759</u>

The building is leased to the charity at a peppercorn rate of £1 per annum. The lease is for 5 years and expires in 2026.

The 'Soft Play' equipment came with the building and does not belong to the Charity.

The trustees have used insurance values as the trustees are unable to reliably estimate current values; insurance values may differ materially from current values

E Guarantees and secured debts

The charity has not given any guarantees and has not provided its assets as security for any liabilities.

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf

by Brian Lamberton date 29 June 2022
 Brian Lamberton - Trustee

The notes on pages 8-9 form part of these accounts.

THANET COMMUNITY CHURCHES (FORMERLY COMMUNITY CHURCH RAMSGATE)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. Accounting standards are not (and cannot) be used in the preparation of receipts and payments accounts and so they do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted Funds	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
	General funds £	Designated funds £			
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly					
Employment costs (see note 4)	91,013	526	53,205	144,744	118,009
Training	3,176	-	-	3,176	3,894
Property costs (see note 2(a))	19,978	-	3,455	23,433	30,273
Equipment and resources	3,782	-	610	4,392	5,524
Coffee shop expenditure	6,102	-	-	6,102	16,532
Ministry activities	698	-	-	698	965
Insurance	3,654	-	547	4,200	3,505
Admin and support costs	6,321	-	9,317	15,638	2,384
Accounts preparation and examination	90	-	-	90	1,200
Other costs	1,746	-	-	1,746	5,188
	<u>136,559</u>	<u>526</u>	<u>67,135</u>	<u>204,219</u>	<u>187,474</u>

2 (a) Property costs comprise:

Rent	-	-	3,455	3,455	1,015
Maintenance	12,986	-	-	12,986	16,582
Utilities	6,992	-	-	6,992	12,676
	<u>19,978</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,455</u>	<u>23,433</u>	<u>30,273</u>

3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others

Christians Against Poverty [CAP]	3,000	-	-	3,000	3,000
Other organisations under £1,000	1,120	-	-	1,120	1,760
Individuals	-	-	-	-	291
	<u>4,120</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,120</u>	<u>5,051</u>

4 Transactions with related parties

The charity had 12 employees [2020: 14].

Craig Prentice and Emma Prentice, related parties to Heather Prentice, a trustee, were paid £27,281 (2020: £26,514 plus a pension contribution of £631 (2020: £610) and £21,509 (2020: £20,922) plus a pension contribution of £458 (2020: £442), respectively in their roles as Team Leader and Top-up Project Manager.

Aaron Prentice who is a relative of Heather Prentice runs 'Beardy Baker' who were paid £2,418 (2020: £3,643) for the supplying the charity with cakes for the coffee house.

Joy Jars were paid £225 (2020: £1,332) for supplies of food items for the coffee house. Joy Jars is run by Pamela Fane who has moved out of the country and has passed the day-to-day running of the business to Adam Prentice who is a relative of Heather Prentice.

THANET COMMUNITY CHURCHES (FORMERLY COMMUNITY CHURCH RAMSGATE)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

5 Movement of funds

	Balance at 31 Aug 2020 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 Aug 2021 £
Designated funds					
Mission Partners	6,386	-	(526)	-	5,860
	<u>6,386</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(526)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,860</u>
Restricted funds					
Church Planting	27,447	-	-	4,133	31,579
Top-UP project	(6,060)	41,834	(36,714)		(940)
Connections at the Corner	2,712	-	-	(2,712)	-
The Corner (St Ben's)	1,108	2,500	-	-	3,608
Biblical Counselling	150	-	-	-	150
FCSS (JAM)	(402)	23,125	(14,853)	-	7,869
Town & Country	4,985	248	(1,981)	(3,499)	(248)
Their First 1000 days in Ramsgate	-	15,000	(13,586)	-	1,414
	<u>29,940</u>	<u>82,707</u>	<u>(67,135)</u>	<u>(2,079)</u>	<u>43,433</u>
General funds	53,853	133,839	(140,679)	2,079	49,091
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>90,178</u>	<u>216,545</u>	<u>(208,339)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>98,384</u>

The Church planting fund is a fund that the church members tithe specifically to see and resource churches to be planted.

The Top-UP project is funded by Orbit Housing and seeks to relieve poverty for older adults. The project focuses on Orbit customers who are over 55, informing them of the benefits they are entitled to and empowering them to apply. The fund is in deficit at the year end due to a timing delay on funding received after the year end.

Connections at the Corner is a project that is funded by People's Health Trust and has two main aims: one to gather, support and empower the socially isolated in our community; two to gather, support and empower families who have children on the autistic spectrum.

The Corner Fund relates to giving specifically for The Corner and its development.

The Biblical counselling fund has been set up for the benefit of those seeking counselling.

The FCSS Fund is funded by Orbit to deliver the Financial Capability Support Service. They later renamed this JAM (Just About Managing). This is a project to help Orbit residents understand and manage their money more effectively.

The Town & Country Fund is funded by the housing association for the delivery of 'CAP Money' and 'TopUp' programmes.

Their first 1000 days in Ramsgate' is a small Kent County Council funded project, in partnership with Fegans, seeking to provide advice, information, support and inspiration to local parents with young children. It uses social media to engage with young local parents. It seeks to support parents who have experienced their own 'adverse childhood experiences'.

The transfers out of the 'Connections at the Corner' and the 'Town & Country' Restricted Funds reflect the cost of room hire relating to courses run by these activities.