

# COUNTESS FREE CHURCH, ELY

England & Wales · Charity number 1166937

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2016-05-05

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 10 Chapel Street  
Ely  
CB6 1AD

**Phone** 01353662396

**Email** [hello@countessely.co.uk](mailto:hello@countessely.co.uk)

**Website** [www.countessely.co.uk](http://www.countessely.co.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT ARE TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATEMENT OF BELIEFS APPEARING IN THE SCHEDULE HERETO IN ELY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND IN SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AS THE CHARITY TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT.

**Activities:** Christian worship, witness and service in and around the city of Ely

## Classification

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- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

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- Cambridgeshire

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-06-30	£85,707	£98,387	-	-
2024-06-30	£86,728	£57,384	-	-
2023-06-30	£98,038	£79,588	-	-
2022-06-30	£83,815	£77,011	-	-
2021-06-30	£70,783	£120,324	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Rev Satyajit Vasant Deodhar</b>	Chair	2024-10-16
Dawn Maclure		2023-04-26
Emad Youssef		2022-04-27
GRAHAM JARRETT		2023-04-16
HELEN ATKINSON		2016-05-06
PHILIP MURFITT		2016-05-06
Stanislav Vetoshkin		2025-04-30
Susanne Ruth Jessop		2025-04-30

**COUNTESS FREE CHURCH, ELY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166937

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# Accounts

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# Countess Free Church, Ely

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)



## REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Address: 10 Chapel Street, Ely CB6 1AD

Charity Number: 1166937

Bankers: Lloyds Bank PLC

Independent Examiner: Paul O'Brien

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statement of the trust for the period  
1 July 2024 - 30 June 2025.

### Status

The Charity was incorporated on 5 May 2016 and registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the charity number 1166937. The charity is one of the churches of the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion.

### Trustees

The trustees are recognised by the membership, in roles of Minister, Elder or Deacon. The current trustees are:

Satyajit Deodhar	Minister / Elder	(Started September 2024)
Helen Atkinson	Elder	
Graham Jarrett	Deacon	
Dawn Maclure	Deacon	
Philip Murfitt	Deacon	
Emad Youssef	Deacon	
Susanne Jessop	Deacon	(Started April 2025)
Stas Vetoshkin	Deacon/ Treasurer	(Started April 2025)

### Objectives

The objects of the CIO for the public benefit are to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs appearing in the Schedule hereto in Ely, Cambridgeshire and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the charity trustees may from time to time think fit.

## Activities

Rev. Satyajit Deodhar joined the leadership team as minister mid-August 2024.

During the year the church has continued in its purpose of worshipping God and serving the local community. This works out through the church-based ministries of Two by Two, Rich Tea Community, and Dads n Kidz as well as members' involvement in Ely CAP Debt Centre and the Recovery Cafe. The church has continued to support and host the wider activities of Ely Foodbank. A survey of volunteer hours contributed to the local community revealed that over 50 adults regularly volunteer their time and well over 100 people-hours are invested weekly in serving those in need in Ely as a result.

A new ministry was launched in June 2025 pioneered by Rev Deodhar and a team of church volunteers. A 'Chill and Chat' café was opened weekly on Friday mornings to create a welcoming space for anyone from the local community to drop in, share refreshments and chat. It also hosts IT support, signposts to other services and a prayer room is available. In discussion with members of the local district council, the cafe will develop into one of the designated 'warm space' centres in the autumn term 2025. We pray this will be a place of connection for people which can demonstrate Jesus' love in action.

The membership of the church has remained stable with two new members joining, balanced by others leaving as they moved away. Baptisms have included two young people journeying forward in their faith.

Cate Allen completed her placement (with stipend) for the church in August 2024. We celebrated with her in June 2025 as she was ordained as a Baptist Minister in a service led by the Regional Minister Rev. Dr. Gale Richards. In April 2025, Cate was appointed as Heart and Soul Chaplain at Fulbourn Hospital and ministers there during the week and for 3 in 4 Sundays a month.

Regular free-will giving to our General Fund was maintained across the year. Some savings which accumulated in 2023-24 (when the church did not pay a ministerial stipend during the inter-regnum) were used to support relocation costs for the new minister. Additional costs were budgeted for in the year 2023-24 to allow manse refurbishment – interior decoration – and also external repairs of windows of the manse and church. Payment of these bills in the financial year 2024-2025 led to a reduction of the renovation fund of around £8000. The General Fund closed the year £6,500 lower than 2024 with a balance just over £55,500.

We maintained the same lettings level for the premises (£10,318), which helped us cover maintenance expenses for the manse and church building. Across the year operational costs were well controlled, with the church benefiting from pre-existing fixed-rate energy contracts for both church and manse buildings. These contracts ended in February 2025 and the church will budget for a higher cost going forward.

During the year, there were no significant building works, only minor repairs and modest improvements.

The JM – Pioneer Fund was used for the Minister in Training placement until the end of August 2024. The Church continues with a monthly commitment of £200 from the fund until August 2026 for Karl and Karen's pioneer work on the New Lubbesthorpe development, where they are building community and a new expression of church.

The Communion Fund continues to support those in difficult times or circumstances, with over £1,700 having been spent on 'blessing people' throughout the year. Our support for CAP continued and together with individuals' gifts, the Church transferred over £3,500 to St Marys Church for use in the local CAP Debt Centre. Our support of other charities which share our aim of advancing the gospel in the UK or abroad continued, totalling over £7,720. This represents 12.3% of the regular General Fund giving & linked gift aid, and thus above our target of 11%.

## **Serious Incidents**

The Trustees confirm that there are no serious incidents to report regarding operations in the period 24-25.

## **Risk Analysis and Reserves Policy**

The Trustees confirm that major risks to which the Charity is exposed are reviewed regularly.

The Charity aims to hold unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover between 4 and 8 months of normal ministry expenditure, which at current estimates equates to between £28,000 (4 months) and £56,000 (8 months). This level of reserves also provides the Church with enough money to cover monthly giving and expenditure cash flow variations, and sufficient levels to cover unforeseen additional ministry expenditure. The lower amount would also cover obligations in the event of sudden unplanned closure. Currently, our General Fund amounts to approximately £55,578, comfortably at the upper end of the Charity's need.

Rev. Satyajit Deodhar

Mr Stanislav Vetoshkin

Dr Helen Atkinson

(Minister/Elder)

(Treasurer)

(Elder)

# INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE COUNTESS FREE CHURCH, ELY

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the period ended 30 June 2025, which are set out on page 5 & 6

## Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view, and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

## Independent examiner's statement

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*Paul O'Brien*

Paul O'Brien – Independent Examiner

**Countess Free Church Ely - 1166937**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**For the period from 01 July 2024 to 30 June 2025**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total	Prior year
	funds	funds	funds	funds	total funds
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	69,419	2,044	-	71,464	71,321
Other trading activities	10,318	-	-	10,318	10,981
Investments	1,706	-	-	1,706	1,689
Income from charitable activities	2,219	-	-	2,219	2,692
Other income	-	-	-	-	-
Total income	83,663	2,044	-	85,707	86,683
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	-	-	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities	89,914	8,473	-	98,387	57,384
Other expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure	89,914	8,473	-	98,387	57,384
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	-6,251	-6,429	-	-12,680	29,298
Transfers:					
Gross transfers between funds - in	14,610	9,300	-	23,910	22,450
Gross transfers between funds - out	-22,810	-1,100	-	-23,910	-22,450
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains/losses on investment assets	-	-	-	-	-
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	-14,451	1,771	-	-12,680	29,298
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	77,587	30,4689	-	108,056	78,758
Total funds carried forward	63,136	32,240	-	95,376	108,056

Notes on page 7

**As at**

**As at**

*There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown*

**Countess Free Church Ely - 1166937**

**Balance Sheet (Summary)**

	<b>30/06/2025</b>	<b>30/06/2024</b>
<b>Fixed assets</b>	-	-
<b>Current assets</b>		
Debtors	495	459
Cash At Bank And In Hand	94881	107597
	<b>95376</b>	<b>108056</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	-	-
Net current assets less current liabilities	95376	108056
Total assets less current liabilities	95376	108056
<b>Liabilities</b>	-	-
Total net assets less liabilities	95376	108056
<b>Represented by</b>		
<b>Unrestricted</b>		
Unrestricted - General Funds	55578	62045
<b>Designated</b>		
Designated - Children and Young People	1109	1013
Designated - Renovation	5741	14033
Designated - World Vision	707	497
<b>Restricted</b>		
Restricted - Christians against poverty	524	735
Restricted - Communion	759	(249)
Restricted - JM Pioneer	30593	29434
Restricted - Rich Tea Community	364	549
<b>Fund Totals</b>	<b>95376</b>	<b>108055.79</b>

Notes

1. Debtors – represents one lettings invoice not yet paid from the financial year (24-25) and three lettings in credit.
2. Cash at Bank and in hand – there were no uncleared cheques as of 30th June.

**Countess Free Church Ely - 1166937**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**For the period from 01 July 2024 to 30 June 2025**

Notes for Statement of financial activities:

1. There were no special grants received by the Church during this year
2. Expenditure on charitable activities includes £27388 on stipend costs and £1,678 on manse utilities. These costs are for the employment of the Satyajit Deodhar as a paid trustee as per the provisions of the Charity constitution.
3. Expenditure on charitable activities includes £7873 on material & labour supplied for redecoration manse, window repair, new curtain and carpet fitting, £7150 on material & labour supplied for church redecoration.
4. Relocation expenses: £5773 includes relocation and labour fee, new furniture for the manse

*There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown*

**COUNTESS FREE CHURCH, ELY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166937

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# Accounts

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# Countess Free Church, Ely

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)



## REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

Address: 10 Chapel Street, Ely CB6 1AD

Charity Number: 1166937

Bankers: Lloyds Bank PLC

Independent Examiner: Paul O'Brien

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statement of the trust for the period  
1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024.

### Status

The Charity was incorporated on 5 May 2016 and registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the charity number 1166937. The charity is one of the churches of the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion.

### Trustees

The trustees are recognised by the membership, in roles of Minister, Elder or Deacon. The current trustees are:

Helen Atkinson	Elder	
Paula Gregory	Deacon	
Graham Jarrett	Deacon	(Started April 2023)
Dawn Maclure	Deacon	(Started April 2023)
Philip Murfitt	Deacon	
Emad Youssef	Deacon	

## Objectives

The objects of the CIO for the public benefit are to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs appearing in the Schedule hereto in Ely, Cambridgeshire and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the charity trustees may from time to time think fit.

## Activities

Karl and Karen Relton moved to Leicestershire to pioneer new work in August 2023. Karl had led the church for 12 years and many people joined together to celebrate his ministry across Ely in July 2023. We were also able to support Karl and Karen's new ministry by setting up a monthly donation from the Pioneer fund as a 3 year commitment. The church then entered a period of pastoral vacancy, with Rev. John Smith appointed as Moderator to guide the church in seeking a new minister through the Baptists Together settlement process.

Church members and friends joined in a week of prayer in November culminating in a Saturday morning Vision Day where we listened to God, together, for the direction of the church in a new season of ministry. From the ideas shared, the Leadership team were able to frame a 'church profile' document which was sent to Baptists Together after discussion and approval by the Church Meeting. By the end of the year, we were delighted to be in a position to invite Rev. Sat Deodhar to join us as a new minister commencing mid-August 2024.

During the year the church has continued in its purpose of worshipping God and serving the local community. A new reflective space called 'Sanctuary' has been added for Sunday evening worship once a month. People are invited to spend time in God's presence through simple sung worship, meditation and creative reflection using art. Our Mission Activities of Two by Two, Rich Tea Community, and Dads n Kidz have continued with a particular highlight being a Christmas meal hosted by the men's group for Dads from 'Dads n Kidz'. The church has continued to support and host the wider activities of Ely Foodbank, Ely CAP Debt Centre and the Recovery Cafe. The church passed the leadership of Ely College Chaplaincy to another church.

The membership of the church has remained stable with three new members joining, balanced by others leaving as they moved away. Baptisms have included people journeying forward in their faith, and a young person who came into contact with us through our mission activities.

Across the year, Cate Allen continued with her Minister in Training placement through Rich Tea Community (RTC) and developed this further as RTC Xtra which brought mid-week discipleship opportunities to individuals with learning needs. Cate also pioneered ministry into care homes for adults with learning disabilities. This work was commended by the Mayor of Ely in the Civic Ceremony in Ely Cathedral in April where he commented on how Rich Tea Community demonstrated Jesus' love and compassion for all people. Cate completed her training and graduated during July 2024.

Regular free-will giving to our General Fund was maintained across the year, and the level of funds in the General Fund increased as the church was not paying a ministerial stipend at this time. Additional costs were budgeted for to allow manse refurbishment – interior decoration – and also external repairs of windows. Most of this expenditure will fall in the financial year 2024-2025 as refurbishment was ongoing through July 2024.

We maintain the same lettings level for the premises (£10,981), which helps us cover our expenses for maintaining the manse and the church building. Across the year operational costs were well controlled, with the church benefiting from pre-existing fixed rate energy contracts for both church and manse buildings. This, combined with a lack of ministerial costs, has led to an increase in the General Fund balance to a year end amount of over £62,000.

During the year, there were no significant building works, only minor repairs and modest improvements.

The JM – Pioneer Fund was used for the Minister in Training placement until the end of August 2024 and the Church has additionally made a monthly commitment of £200 from the fund until August 2026 for Karl and Karen's pioneer work.

The Communion Fund continues to support those in difficult times or circumstances, with over £1,700 having been spent on 'blessing people' throughout the year. Our support for CAP continued and together with individuals' gifts, the Church transferred over £3,500 to St Marys for use in the local CAP Debt Centre.

Our support of other UK and international charities continued, totalling over £7,720. This represents 12.3% of the regular General Fund giving & linked gift aid, and thus above our target of 11%.

## **Serious Incidents**

The Trustees confirm that there are no serious incidents to report regarding operations in the period 23-24.

## **Risk Analysis and Reserves Policy**

The Trustees confirm that major risks to which the Charity is exposed are reviewed regularly.

The Charity aims to hold unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover between 4 and 8 months of normal ministry expenditure, which at current estimates equates to between £13,000 (4 months) and £25,000 (8 months). This level of reserves also provides the Church with enough money to cover monthly giving and expenditure cash flow variations, and sufficient levels to cover unforeseen additional ministry expenditure. The lower amount would also cover obligations in the event of sudden unplanned closure. Currently, our General Fund amounts to approximately £62,000, comfortably in excess of the Charity's need.

Mr Stanislav Vetoshkin  
(Treasurer)

Dr Helen Atkinson  
(Elder)

# INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE COUNTESS FREE CHURCH, ELY

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the period ended 30 June, 2024, which are set out on page 5 & 6

## Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

## Independent examiner's statement

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

*Paul O'Brien*

Paul O'Brien – Independent Examiner

**Countess Free Church Ely - 1166937**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**For the period from 01 July 2023 to 30 June 2024**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	68317	3003	-	71321	84597
Other trading activities	10981	-	-	10981	10648
Investments	1689	-	-	1689	543
Income from charitable activities	2276	461	-	2737	2250
Other income	-	-	-	-	-
Total income	83264	3464	-	86728	98038
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	-	-	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities	40550	16834	-	57384	79588
Other expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure	40550	16834	-	57384	79588
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	42713	(13370)	-	29343	18450
Transfers:					
Gross transfers between funds - in	14050	8400	-	22450	38142
Gross transfers between funds - out	(22450)	0	-	(22450)	(38142)
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains/losses on investment assets	-	-	-	-	-
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	34313	-4970	-	29343	18450
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	43319	35439	-	78758	60307
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>77632</b>	<b>30469</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>108101</b>	<b>78758</b>

Notes

1. There were no special grants received by the Church during this year
2. *Expenditure on charitable activities* includes £3279 on stipend costs and £1,560 on manse utilities. These costs are for the employment of the Rev. Karl Relton as a paid trustee as per the provisions of the Charity constitution. And visiting speakers £706 John Smith as a moderator.
3. *Expenditure on charitable activities* includes £1,985.98 on material & labour supplied by different companies for small repairs across the year.

*There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown*

Countess Free Church Ely - 1166937

Balance sheet (Summary)

As at: 30 June 2024

	As at 30/06/2024	As at 30/06/2023
<b>Fixed assets</b>	-	-
<b>Current assets</b>		
Debtors	504	745
Cash At Bank And In Hand	107597	78012
	108101	78757
<b>Liabilities</b>	-	-
Net current assets less current liabilities	108101	78757
Total assets less current liabilities	108101	78757
<b>Liabilities</b>	-	-
Total net assets less liabilities	108101	78757
<b>Represented by</b>		
<b>Unrestricted</b>		
Unrestricted - General Funds	62090	33057
<b>Designated</b>		
Designated - Children and Young People	1013	(11)
Designated - Renovation	14033	10019
Designated - World Vision	497	252
<b>Restricted</b>		
Restricted - Christians against poverty	735	0
Restricted - Communion	(249)	348
Restricted - Ely College Chaplaincy	-	-
Restricted - JM Pioneer	29434	34678
Restricted - Rich Tea Community	549	411
<b>Fund Totals</b>	<b>108101</b>	<b>78757</b>

Notes

1. *Debtors* – represents three lettings invoices not yet paid from financial year (23-24).
2. *Cash at Bank and in hand* – there were no uncleared cheques as of 30<sup>th</sup> June.

*There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown*

**COUNTESS FREE CHURCH, ELY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166937

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# Accounts

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# Countess Free Church, Ely

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)



## REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Address: 10 Chapel Street, Ely CB6 1AD

Charity Number: 1166937

Bankers: Lloyds Bank PLC

Independent Examiner: Matthew Lavis

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statement of the trust for the period  
1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023.

### Status

The Charity was incorporated on 5 May 2016 and registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the charity number 1166937. The charity is one of the churches of the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion.

### Trustees

The trustees are recognised by the membership, in roles of Minister, Elder or Deacon. The current trustees are:

Karl Relton	Minister	(Paid Position as permitted in the constitution)
Helen Atkinson	Elder	
Paula Gregory	Deacon	
Graham Jarrett	Deacon	(Started April 2023)
Dawn Maclure	Deacon	(Started April 2023)
Philip Murfitt	Deacon	
Emad Youssef	Deacon	

## Objectives

The objects of the CIO for the public benefit are to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs appearing in the Schedule hereto in Ely, Cambridgeshire and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the charity trustees may from time to time think fit.

## Activities

During this year the church has continued to build momentum through in-person activities resumed after the pandemic. This has included our Mission Activities of Two by Two, Rich Tea Community, and Dads n Kidz, plus working with young people and ministering to various people through our whole church gatherings. The church has continued to support and host the wider activities of Ely Foodbank, Ely CAP Debt Centre, the Recovery Cafe and Ely College Chaplaincy – all of which have seen extensive activity through the year.

The membership of the church has grown, with ten new people joining through the year. Baptisms have included people journeying forward in their faith, and a young person who came into contact with us through our mission activities.

Grass-roots initiatives have continued to be encouraged, with the coronation celebrations affording another natural opportunity with friends and neighbours. Our collaborative work amongst young people has grown through the 'Revive' and 'Awaken' special youth days. Some of our young people attended a summer festival, with more planning to attend in summer 2023.

This year we continued to encourage individuals pursuing their sense of God-given calling for ministry, supporting an individual working as a chaplain in a prison, and commending another individual as a lay preacher transferring their recognition from another denomination. In addition the church continued to support Cate Allen as a Minister in Training, and after a process of discernment became her 'placement church' for part of her training. From March Cate therefore came on staff with a one day per week fixed term appointment, with an assignment that dovetails with the pioneering work of the Rich Tea Community that Cate and the mission activity team were already leading, providing scope to take our work with those with adult learning disabilities into the community, working constructively with care homes to minister to both individuals and their carers.

In March this year Rev Karl Relton announced that he and his wife are moving to a fresh calling of pioneer work in Leicestershire, finishing in Ely in July. The latter part of this year has therefore included handover and preparations to move into a 'pastoral vacancy'.

Regular free-will giving to our General Fund marginally increased this year, despite the tough economic conditions for individuals. The church General Fund was also blessed with a substantial legacy (around £14,000) from an individual who worshipped with us into the final stages of their life. The individual, having no next of kin, asked the church to make necessary arrangements as they entered palliative care – for which they made an additional gift of £2,000 to cover expenses incurred. The members of the church decided to transfer the legacy to the Pioneer Fund at the close of the financial year.

Lettings income is the highest ever (over £10,600), reflecting a building used near capacity throughout the week by different groups. Again this year operational costs were well controlled, with the church benefiting from pre-existing fixed rate energy contracts for both church and manse buildings. This has again led to a further modest increase in the General Fund balance to a year end amount of over £32,900.

During the year there were no significant building works, only minor repairs and modest improvements. The next year will include a significant amount of exterior painting (expected circa £3,000) and attention to degradation of the flat roof over the vestry room to the rear of the church buildings.

The JM – Pioneer Fund is now in part being used to support training costs for a member in ministerial training, and in part being used to fund the Minister in Training placement / pioneer initiative. The latter part commenced in March and represents a commitment from the Pioneer Fund of just over £6,000 per year for 18 months – which can be met by the regular transfers made from the General Fund.

The Communion Fund continues to support those in difficult times or circumstances, with over £1,700 of 'blessing people' spent through the year. Our support for CAP as a church increased to respect inflationary pressure, and combined with individuals' gifts, forwarded over £3,700 to St Marys for use in the local CAP Debt centre.

Our support of other UK and international charities continued, totalling over £8,900. This represents 11.5% of the regular General Fund giving & lettings fees, and thus above our target of 11%.

This year the church brought its handling of finances to support Ely College Chaplaincy to a close, with the church making its own modest final transfer to zero out this restricted fund.

## **Serious Incidents**

The Trustees confirm that there are no serious incidents to report regarding operations in the period 22-23.

## **Risk Analysis and Reserves Policy**

The Trustees confirm that major risks to which the Charity is exposed are reviewed regularly.

The Charity aims to hold unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover between 4 and 8 months of normal ministry expenditure, which at current estimates equates to between £18,000 (4 months) and £36,000 (8 months). This reserves level also gives sufficient cash to cover monthly giving and expenditure cash flow variations, and sufficient levels to cover unforeseen additional ministry expenditure. The lower amount would also cover obligations in the event of sudden unplanned closure. Currently our General Fund amounts to approximately £32,900, comfortably above the mid-range point.

Rev Karl Relton  
(Minister)

Dr Helen Atkinson  
(Elder)

# INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE COUNTRESS FREE CHURCH, ELY

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the period ended 30 June, 2023, which are set out on page 5 & 6

## Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

## Independent examiner's statement

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Matthew Lavis – Independent Examiner

**Countess Free Church Ely - 1166937**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**For the period from 01 July 2022 to 30 June 2023**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	80979	3616	-	84596	69273
Other trading activities	10648	-	-	10648	8197
Investments	543	-	-	543	6
Income from charitable activities	2250	-	-	2250	2258
Other income	-	-	-	-	4078
Total income	94421	3616	-	98038	83814
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	-	-	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities	68106	11481	-	79588	77011
Other expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure	68106	11481	-	79588	77011
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	26315	(7,865)	-	18450	6803
Transfers:					
Gross transfers between funds - in	15762	22380	-	38142	22100
Gross transfers between funds - out	(37,343)	(800)	-	(38,143)	(22,100)
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains/losses on investment assets	-	-	-	-	-
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	4735	13715	-	18450	6803
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	38583	21723	-	60307	53503
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>43319</b>	<b>35438</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>78757</b>	<b>60307</b>

Notes

1. There were no special grants received by the church through this year
2. *Expenditure on charitable activities* includes £28,092 on stipend costs and £1,745 on manse utilities. These costs are for the employment of the Rev. Karl Relton as a paid trustee as per the provisions of charity constitution.
3. A legacy of just over £14,000 was received, together with a gift of £2,000 to cover expenses. The expenses were met from General Funds, and totalled approx £2,000.

*There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown*

Countess Free Church Ely - 1166937

Balance sheet (Summary)

As at: 30 June 2023

	As at 30/06/2023	As at 30/06/2022
<b>Fixed assets</b>	-	-
<b>Current assets</b>		
Debtors	745	220
Cash At Bank And In Hand	78012	60087
	78757	60307
<b>Liabilities</b>	-	-
Net current assets less current liabilities	78757	60307
Total assets less current liabilities	78757	60307
<b>Liabilities</b>	-	-
Total net assets less liabilities	78757	60307
<b>Represented by</b>		
<b>Unrestricted</b>		
Unrestricted - General Funds	33057	30980
<b>Designated</b>		
Designated - Children and Young People	(11)	559
Designated - Renovation	10019	7044
Designated - World Vision	252	(1)
<b>Restricted</b>		
Restricted - Christians against poverty	0	158
Restricted - Communion	348	551
Restricted - Ely College Chaplaincy	-	128
Restricted - JM Pioneer	34678	20139
Restricted - Rich Tea Community	411	745
<b>Fund Totals</b>	<b>78757</b>	<b>60307</b>

Notes

1. *Debtors* – represents four lettings invoices not yet paid from financial year (22-23).
2. *Cash at Bank and in hand* – there were no uncleared cheques as of 30<sup>th</sup> June.

*There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown*

**COUNTESS FREE CHURCH, ELY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166937

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# Accounts

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# Countess Free Church, Ely

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)



## REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

Address: 10 Chapel Street, Ely CB6 1AD  
Charity Number: 1166937  
Bankers: Barclays Bank Plc, High Street, Ely  
Independent Examiner: Matthew Lavis

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statement of the trust for the period  
1 July 2021 - 30 June 2022.

### Status

The Charity was incorporated on 5 May 2016 and registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the charity number 1166937. The charity is one of the churches of the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion.

### Trustees

The trustees are recognised by the membership, in roles of Minister, Elder or Deacon. The current trustees are:

Karl Relton	Minister	(Paid Position as permitted in the constitution)
Helen Atkinson	Elder	
Carol Fernandez	Deacon	(Retired April 2022)
Paula Gregory	Deacon	
Jonathan Jessop	Deacon	(Retired April 2022)
Philip Murfitt	Deacon	
Natalie Youssef	Deacon	(Retired January 2022)
Emad Youssef	Deacon	(Commenced April 2022)

## Objectives

The objects of the CIO for the public benefit are to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs appearing in the Schedule hereto in Ely, Cambridgeshire and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the charity trustees may from time to time think fit.

## Activities

As a church we have continued to *Seek to Worship, Seek to Serve* as we gradually let pandemic restrictions subside. Different format outdoor events gave way to gathering in our Chapel Street premises on a weekly basis. This included our mission activity teams restarting indoor activities: Two by Two, Rich Tea Club, and Dads n Kidz. Recognising the value & importance of in-person face-to-face interaction for us as a church, no parallel live streaming has been offered for whole church gatherings. Some groups have continued using either online, hybrid, or a mixture of formats, however, tailoring their approach to their particular needs and aims.

Fuelled by lessons learnt in the pandemic, members of the church have been encouraged to take grass-roots initiative with neighbours, colleagues and friends. Strategically the church now takes a 'de-centralised' approach to events, favouring grass-roots initiatives over central events for its outreach. The Queen's platinum jubilee celebrations enabled us to put this strategy into practice, with over 7 different initiatives taken by ordinary members across the city – each representing ground level community activity.

The church has continued to invest in families, purchasing and producing its own family discipleship resources. This emphasis on home and family discipleship is now part of the strategic direction of the church. Work has continued with our young people, including in-person activities and the re-branding of the Shine day to become 'Revive' (for younger youth) and a planned new 'Awaken' (for older youth), together with the change from girls only to girls and boys. Furthermore our participation in the district YFC 'Pulse' initiative into Ely College, combined with the chaplaincy project into the college, gave the impetus needed to run a Youth Alpha course engaging the majority of our own young people plus two guests.

Amongst our membership we have been able to commend two members to the Eastern Baptist Association for ministerial training and lay accreditation respectively. We were also able to support two of our young adults on a 6 month 'Discipleship Training School', travelling to Uganda and Dominican Republic respectively. Coming out of the pandemic there has been some movement in membership, but with new members roughly matching those moving on so that we remain at 80 members.

We are grateful that the majority (over 80%) of the free-will giving to the charity is through donor regular standing orders and bank transfers which have remained stable despite growing pressure on household budgets. Sunday collections have increased this year, and our lettings income has exceeded all previous years (the use of our building is now pretty much at capacity). This year we planned for a modest deficit, but again through careful control of expenses our general fund actually increased slightly.

During the year we had the planned bi-fold doors installed in the sanctuary, which with other adjustments gave a project cost of circa £15,700. This has been met by the grants we applied for, plus the regular transfer of funds to our Renovation fund. The fund has finished with about £7,000 of funds which are ready for future planned repairs & upgrades to our buildings.

The JM – Pioneer Fund is now in part being used to support training costs for a member in ministerial training. However it also continues to intentionally accumulate funds to provision for future pioneer work, bringing its total to just over £20K. This is now at a level where allocation to a part-time temporary worker can seriously be considered.

Our Children & Young People's fund has continued to support our activities with children, families and young people. The Communion Fund started the year at its lowest level for a long time, but the generosity of members has restored it to good levels to enable us to bless people in hardship or difficulty. Again this year we gave away 11% of our General Fund income to other works in the UK and around the World. This is on top of our giving to the local CAP Debt centre, which we continue to support at generous levels.

With the receipt of grants for our Rich Tea Club (working with adults with learning disabilities) we have opened a restricted fund, which finishes the year with approx. £800.

## **Serious Incidents**

The Trustees confirm that there are no serious incidents to report regarding operations in the period 20-21.

## **Risk Analysis and Reserves Policy**

The Trustees confirm that major risks to which the Charity is exposed are reviewed regularly.

The Charity aims to hold unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover between 4 and 8 months of normal ministry expenditure, which at current estimates equates to between £17,500 (4 months) and £35,000 (8 months). This reserves level also gives sufficient cash to cover monthly giving and expenditure cash flow variations, and sufficient levels to cover unforeseen additional ministry expenditure. The lower amount would also cover obligations in the event of sudden unplanned closure. Currently our General Fund amounts to approximately £31,000, comfortable above the mid-range point.

Rev Karl Relton  
(Minister)

Dr Helen Atkinson  
(Elder)

# INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE COUNTESS FREE CHURCH, ELY

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the period ended 30 June, 2022, which are set out on page 5 & 6

## Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

## Independent examiner's statement

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Matthew Lavis – Independent Examiner

**Countess Free Church Ely - 1166937**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**For the period from 01 July 2021 to 30 June 2022**

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b>Endowment funds</b>	<b>Total funds</b>	<b>Prior year total funds</b>
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	65398	3876	0	69274	65072
Other trading activities	8198	0	0	8198	3671
Investments	7	0	0	7	15
Income from charitable activities	2235	24	0	2259	525
Other income	3210	868	0	4078	1500
<b>Total income</b>	<b>79047</b>	<b>4768</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>83815</b>	<b>70783</b>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	0	0	0	0	0
Expenditure on charitable activities	66898	10114	0	77011	120324
Other expenditure	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>66898</b>	<b>10114</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>77011</b>	<b>120324</b>
Gains/losses on investment assets	0	0	0	0	0
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	12149	(5,346)	0	6803	(49,541)
Transfers:					
Gross transfers between funds - in	13952	8148	0	22100	22499
Gross transfers between funds - out	(22,090)	(10)	0	(22,100)	(22,499)
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	0	0	0	0	0
Net movement in funds	4011	2792	0	6803	(49,541)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	34573	18931	0	53504	103045
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>38584</b>	<b>21723</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>60307</b>	<b>53504</b>

Notes

- Other Income* includes the substantial grant of £2,700 received from the Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust for the sanctuary bi-fold doors project, a £320 Covid Rapid-Support Grant from East Cambs District Council, and two grants totalling £868 for Rich Tea Club (Waitrose and Mayor's Charity)
- Expenditure on charitable activities* includes £27,464 on stipend costs and £2,157 on manse utilities. These costs are for the employment of the Rev. Karl Relton as a paid trustee as per the provisions of charity constitution.

*There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown*

Countess Free Church Ely - 1166937

Balance sheet (Summary)

As at: 30 June 2022

	As at 30/06/2022	As at 30/06/2021
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
	0	0
<b>Current assets</b>		
Debtors	220	0
Cash At Bank And In Hand	60087	53504
	60307	53504
<b>Liabilities</b>		
	0	0
Net current assets less current liabilities	60307	53504
Total assets less current liabilities	60307	53504
<b>Liabilities</b>		
	0	0
<b>Total net assets less liabilities</b>	<b>60307</b>	<b>53504</b>
<b>Represented by</b>		
<b>Unrestricted</b>		
Unrestricted - General Funds	30980	28887
<b>Designated</b>		
Designated - Children and Young People	560	820
Designated - Renovation	7045	4866
Designated - World Vision	(1)	(0)
<b>Restricted</b>		
Restricted - Christians against poverty	159	89
Restricted - Communion	551	324
Restricted - Ely College Chaplaincy	128	138
Restricted - JM Pioneer	20140	18380
Restricted - Rich Tea Club	745	0
<b>Fund Totals</b>	<b>60307</b>	<b>53504</b>

Notes

1. *Debtors* – represents a two lettings invoices not yet paid from financial year (21-22).
2. *Cash at Bank and in hand* – there were no uncleared cheques as of 30<sup>th</sup> June.

*There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown*

**COUNTESS FREE CHURCH, ELY**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166937

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# Accounts

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# Countess Free Church, Ely

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)



## REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

Address: 10 Chapel Street, Ely CB6 1AD  
Charity Number: 1166937  
Bankers: Barclays Bank Plc, High Street, Ely  
Independent Examiner: Matthew Lavis

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statement of the trust for the period  
1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021.

### Status

The Charity was incorporated on 5 May 2016 and registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the charity number 1166937. The charity is one of the churches of the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion.

### Trustees

The trustees are recognised by the membership, in roles of Minister, Elder or Deacon. The current trustees are:

Karl Relton	Minister	(Paid Position as permitted in the constitution)
Helen Atkinson	Elder	
Carol Fernandez	Deacon	
Paula Gregory	Deacon	(Commenced June 2021)
Jonathan Jessop	Deacon	
Philip Murfitt	Deacon	
Natalie Youssef	Deacon	
Graham Jarrett	Deacon	(Retired July 2020)

## Objectives

The objects of the CIO for the public benefit are to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs appearing in the Schedule hereto in Ely, Cambridgeshire and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the charity trustees may from time to time think fit.

## Activities

As a church we have lived through the pandemic with a diversity of approaches and initiatives that has enabled us to continue in our lives of active worship, and continue serving the local community. Whole church physical gatherings have not been possible at any time, but many different gatherings have nonetheless taken place. These have included Zoom (plus YouTube Livestream), physical but with limited capacity and restrictions, and multi-venue outdoor gatherings (staying within legal limits).

Members of the church have been encouraged to take grass-roots initiative with neighbours, colleagues and friends. The church has supported and funded some of these, for example sending gift boxes with chocolate brownies to the staff at a local school. There have also been some initiatives seeded by the church centrally for all to take part in, for example bags of blessing given out at Easter. The church has invested in families, purchasing and producing its own family discipleship resources. The pandemic has brought an emphasis on home and family discipleship to the fore, which resonates with the strategic direction of the church.

Although the building has not been used to its full potential, it has never been shut with some kind of activity appropriately using the building through every week of the pandemic. As well as the Foodbank it has hosted support groups and activities for people in recovery from drug and alcohol dependency, as well as small church groups and their related initiatives.

Amongst Ely churches we were the first to be able to re-open, albeit with limitations, our parent and toddler group – providing a much needed lifeline to parents and their little ones. In some cases, this was the first socialisation the children had ever experienced, because of the pandemic. Our new 'Rich Tea Club' initiative, with a focus on people with Adult Learning Disabilities, has been able to take place on a few occasions by good liaison with local supported living staff – again providing a much needed outlet amongst difficult conditions.

The church has continued to work with people of all ages and from all backgrounds. We have maintained our youth work with both Zoom meetings as well as live socially distanced pizza and film nights. Maintaining continuity with younger children, and with our older members has proved much harder. Naturally the prolonged inability for us all to gather has impacted our sense of cohesion and togetherness as a church.

During the year our membership has remained stable at 79 members, but despite lockdown we have been able to welcome new people. During the year a number of newcomers have made contact and started engaging in different ways, including both Zoom and physical formats. We have seen people come to faith or closer to a living faith in Jesus – mostly through working alongside people in one to one or new small group settings.

We are grateful that the majority (over 80%) of the free-will giving to the charity is through donor regular standing orders and bank transfers which have increased slightly during the year. Many donors who would normally give via a Sunday collection have kindly sent in one-off donations in lieu of their traditional giving patterns. Our lettings income has partially recovered, but is still only 50% of pre-covid levels. This year we planned for a potential significant deficit, but through careful control of expenses the deficit has been contained to modest levels. This has enabled to give more away than planned through our World Vision fund, and do transfers to our Children and Young People fund and Renovation fund in anticipation of future activities.

During the year the builders started and completed the manse refurbishment project. Including the new kitchen and various fittings this project totalled over £60K, but all the funds were already in place. This enabled us to turn our attention to the next project – to install bifold doors in the sanctuary area. This allows for an in-service creche area, as well as creating another meeting room for mid-week use. Listed Building Consent has been obtained, as well as commitments to grants totalling £3,250 to contribute to the expected cost of circa £15K for the project. We hope this project can go ahead in the early autumn of 2021.

We continue to save into our JM – Pioneer Fund to provision for future pioneer work, bringing its total to just over £18K. We continue to consider and pray about what these pioneer opportunities might look like as we go forward.

In the year ahead we anticipate another tight budget for the general fund, with possibly a modest deficit, but still leaving us with comfortable operating reserves.

## **Serious Incidents**

The Trustees confirm that there are no serious incidents to report regarding operations in the period 20-21.

## **Risk Analysis and Reserves Policy**

The Trustees confirm that major risks to which the Charity is exposed are reviewed regularly.

The Charity aims to hold unrestricted reserves sufficient to cover between 4 and 8 months of normal ministry expenditure, which at current estimates equates to between £17,500 (4 months) and £35,000 (8 months). This reserves level also gives sufficient cash to cover monthly giving and expenditure cash flow variations, and sufficient levels to cover unforeseen additional ministry expenditure. The lower amount would also cover obligations in the event of sudden unplanned closure. Currently our General Fund amounts to approximately £29,000, comfortable above the mid-range point.

Rev Karl Relton  
(Minister)

Dr Helen Atkinson  
(Elder)

# INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE COUNTESS FREE CHURCH, ELY

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the period ended 30 June, 2021, which are set out on page 5 & 6

## Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

## Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

## Independent examiner's statement

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

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Matthew Lavis – Independent Examiner

**Countess Free Church Ely - 1166937**

**Statement of Financial Activities**

**For the period from 01 July 2020 to 30 June 2021**

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b>Endowment funds</b>	<b>Total funds</b>	<b>Prior year total funds</b>
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	62,936	2,136	-	65,072	64,980
Other trading activities	3,671	-	-	3,671	6,197
Investments	15	-	-	15	134
Income from charitable activities	525	-	-	525	1,687
Other income	1,500	-	-	1,500	15,370
Total income	68,647	2,136	-	70,783	88,368
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	-	-	-	-	-
Expenditure on charitable activities	115,698	4,627	-	120,324	74,492
Other expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure	115,698	4,627	-	120,324	74,492
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer	(47,050)	(2,490)	-	(49,541)	13,876
Transfers:					
Gross transfers between funds - in	15,948	6,551	-	22,499	18,242
Gross transfers between funds - out	(22,499)	-	-	(22,499)	(18,242)
Other recognised gains / losses					
Gains/losses on investment assets	-	-	-	-	-
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	(53,601)	4,060	-	(49,541)	13,876
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	88,175	14,870	-	103,045	89,169
Total funds carried forward	34,573	18,931	-	53,504	103,045

Notes

- Other Income* includes the substantial grant of £1,500 received from the All Churches Trust for the sanctuary bi-fold doors project.
- Expenditure on charitable activities* includes £27,072 on stipend costs and £1,450 on manse utilities. These costs are for the employment of the Rev. Karl Relton as a paid trustee as per the provisions of charity constitution.

*There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown*

Countess Free Church Ely - 1166937

Balance sheet (Summary)

As at: 30 June 20201

	As at 30/06/2021	As at 30/06/2020
<b>Fixed assets</b>	-	-
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash At Bank And In Hand	53504	103085
Debtors	-	(40.00)
	53504	103045
<b>Liabilities</b>	-	-
Net current assets less current liabilities	53504	103045
Total assets less current liabilities	53504	103045
<b>Liabilities</b>	-	-
Total net assets less liabilities	53504	103045
<b>Represented by</b>		
<b>Unrestricted</b>		
General (Unrestricted)	28887	35066
<b>Designated</b>		
Designated - Children and Young People	820	684
Designated - World Vision	0	0
Designated - Renovation	4866	52424
<b>Restricted</b>		
Restricted - JM Pioneer	18380	14226
Restricted - Communion	324	506
Restricted - Christians against poverty	89	0
Restricted - Ely College Chaplaincy	138	138
Funds of the church	53504	103045

Notes

1. *Debtors* – for the previous financial period represents a single pre-payment for a lettings invoices falling in the this financial year (20-21).
2. *Cash at Bank and in hand* – includes a no uncleared cheques as of 30<sup>th</sup> June.

*There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown*