



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	20	October	2019		19	Oct	2020

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name Romanian Orthodox Church On Merseyside

Other names charity is known by ROCOM

Registered charity number (if any) 1170197

Charity's principal address 4 Victoria Drive, West Kirby,

Wirral

Merseyside

CH48 0QT

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Fr Florin Voinea	Chair		Church Council appoints all
2	Prof Stuart Carter	Secretary/Treasurer		
3	Ms Cristiana Andrada Pintrijel			
4	Dr Dorina Carter-Timofte			
5	Ms Ana Oltean			
6	Mr Daniel Cobel			
7				
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15				
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17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
N/A	

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Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
N/A		

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

N/A

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Foundation Model CIO
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed agreed by chair and secretary

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The charity is a key part of the church organisation and reports to the church council whose main purpose is ecclesiastical matters in the parish. The charity maintains governance of church finances.

The charity has in place written policies for protection of children and vulnerable adults

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The Advancement of the Christian religion by the provision of a place of worship on Merseyside.

Activities in furtherance of this will include:

- Provision of financial support and governance to maintain a Romanian Orthodox church parish on

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Merseyside for use by the public of the region and elsewhere. This will include:

- b) Raising awareness and understanding of the Orthodox Christian church in the local community.
- c) Enabling Orthodox Christian religious devotional acts in the church.

Provision of a functioning church which itself provides regular services of the orthodox Christian faith in its own church building. Wirral Council have provided the church building (it was previously derelict) and the charity was established (under a legal framework) to raise and manage funds for the repair, improvement and maintenance of the church.

The charity considers that it been successful so far and that the church is continually improving as a Christian and cultural support facility for Romanians living in the NW of England and North Wales.

All church services are free and open to the general public.

The trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit and are complicit with its requirements.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Volunteers make a huge difference to the charity's activities and this takes many forms but centred primarily on provision of free professional building skills eg plastering and electrical work. This means that the funds we raise for the church fabric go much further.

We do not provide funds (grants) for other activities and have no investment plans or proposals.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

This year was very difficult as the church was closed from 24th March 2020 through the summer months due to the COVID pandemic. There was a partial reopening, with limited attendance from July 2020 and no weddings or baptisms occurred during the spring or summer. No singing was allowed and social distancing and other related measures were employed and enforced. Inevitably, donated income fell during this period as did sales of religious artefacts. However, our website attracted some donations.

Despite all the above, as in previous years, the main achievements of ROCOM during the year have been the maintenance of the church, the continual improvement of the church fabric and support for the priest. This has been achieved by two means a) generation of funds from the congregation and others and b) the unpaid work of volunteers to make significant improvements. The volunteers have made a big difference as they provide skills and a labour force to enable success of the project at no cost to the church or charity.

A considerable amount of work on improving the fabric was done in the previous reported years and we continued that activity throughout this year. Indeed we achieved a great deal as the church was closed most weekends in the spring and summer months. The new heating system is now fully installed and the main floor of the church raised and waterproofing and insulation installed below. The church stays warm in winter now. The main body of the church is now carpeted and the ground drainage further improved. The priest now has a functioning office space. All of these were possible due to fund raising efforts in the church community and our use of our website to sell religious items

The size of the congregation was inevitably reduced from the 50-70 each Sunday due to rules which only allow 20 people to attend services. This has been managed during the pandemic by an on-line booking system to ensure all families had a chance to attend services.

As well as the regular church services, there would normally be regular social events, primarily based around the church building and church special days and anniversaries. We would also use a local hall for educational seminars (mainly involving outside speakers) relating to the Orthodox church and Romanian culture. These have all been placed on hold during the year.

Financially, we have made a small loss this year but are still secure and hope that the pandemic will soon be a thing of the past, not primarily for funding but due to the strong community spirit we normally enjoy.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

No formal trustee policy except maintaining a bank account containing at least £2,000 at any one time. There are some ring-fenced reserves for capital expenditure on the church fabric and we regularly prioritise use of other funds as required.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Principal income is from the parishioners and their donations

Church fabric is continuously improving

Section F

Other optional information

As in previous years, our future plans mainly relate to improving the church fabric. The main targets for next year are better waterproofing, insulation and replacement of rotten timbers. We intend to approach (again) the few church and cultural charities for which we are eligible.

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Stuart David Carter

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Secretary/Treasurer

Date 10th August 2021



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Romanian Orthodox Church On Merseyside

No (if any)
1170197

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
20/10/2019

To


Period end date
19/10/2020

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Starting cash balance	23,412	-	-	23,412	15,486
church collections	8,370	-	-	8,370	13,334
Web/Bank Donations & church sales	27,896	-	-	27,896	6,404
Gift Aid Refund (HMRC)	7,692	-	-	7,692	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	67,370	-	-	67,370	35,224
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	67,370	-	-	67,370	35,224
A3 Payments					
Insurance	543	-	-	543	515
New Carpets	2,836	-	-	2,836	723
Heating system	12,400	-	-	12,400	961
Smartwater protection	400	-	-	400	400
Building improvements	6,295	-	-	6,295	9,213
Covid costs	333	-	-	333	-
Maintenance & running costs	22,711	-	-	22,711	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	45,518	-	-	45,518	11,812
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	45,518	-	-	45,518	11,812
Net of receipts/(payments)	21,852	-	-	21,852	23,412
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	21,852	-	-	21,852	23,412

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		-	-	-
	Bank Account	21,852	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	21,852	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		Dr Stuart David Carter	10th August 2021



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Independent examiner's
report on the accounts**

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

ROCOM – Romanian Orthodox Church On Merseyside

**On accounts for the year
ended**

19th October 2020

**Charity no
(if any)**

1170197

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- 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.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

19/08/2021

Name:

Ana Oltean

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

MSc Finance and Management (University of Chester,2019) BA (Hons) Economics (Academy of Economic Studies, 2008)

Address:

26 Cross Hey
Chester
CH4 7BE

Section B	Disclosure
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Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.