



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

**From: 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022 To: 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**Charity name: Romanian Orthodox Church on Merseyside**

**Charity registration number: 1170197**

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>The Advancement of the Christian religion by the provision of a place of worship on Merseyside.</p> <p>Activities in furtherance of this will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) Provision of financial support and governance to maintain a Romanian Orthodox church parish on Merseyside for use by the public of the region and elsewhere. This will include:</li><li>b) Raising awareness and understanding of the Orthodox Christian church in the local community.</li><li>c) Enabling Orthodox Christian religious devotional acts in the church.</li></ul>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>All church services are free and open to the general public.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity	Para 1.18	<p>The trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit and are complicit with its requirements.</p>

Commission on public benefit		
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### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	We do not provide grants for other organisations
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	We are not involved in any social investment programmes
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Volunteers make a huge difference to the charity's activities and this takes many forms. These include provision of free professional building skills eg plastering and electrical work. Also included are cleaning and transport roles and provision of a Sunday school. They also assist the priest in his many duties.
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The charity has made many contributions to the church fabric, facilities and activities over recent years. Indeed, there are very few improvements which need to be made. Post pandemic, the numbers attending services have steadily risen back to what they were previously. Indeed, our small church is often overwhelmed on Sundays. This is a very good outcome but is becoming an issue due to covid being ever present and because there is no possibility of expansion of our current church. Currently, we are in advanced discussions with the Liverpool Catholic Diocese about moving into a vacant church building in Liverpool, in Bootle and expect to take over this building at the end of 2023. This church will accommodate 150-200 worshippers and the lease will be for 25 years at a peppercorn rent. We will continue to use the Wirral church on alternate Sundays.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	As the Bebbington church fabric is now more or less settled, we have relatively little expenditure beyond running costs
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We have a reserve to replace some poor roof timbers or to cover any emergency. We have been actively fundraising for a new reserve to fund any alterations or improvements required when we take over the new church in Liverpool. We will also have more running costs at the new church
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£50,000
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Principal income is from the parishioners and their donations
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	None
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	Very few issues; our income and planning works very well. The major risk would be loss of priest as we only have one. Any government restrictions on immigration from EU countries could affect numbers of church goers.
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Foundation Model CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Selected from the Church Council and appointed as agreed by chair and secretary. We maintain a 50:50 gender balance.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	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.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	<b>Romanian Orthodox Church On Merseyside (ROCOM)</b>
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1170197
Charity's principal address	4 Victoria Drive, West Kirby, Wirral, 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			
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17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

[illegible]

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

[illegible]

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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## Other optional information

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## Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Dr Stuart David Carter

Position (eg Secretary,  
Chair, etc)

Secretary & Treasurer

Date

25<sup>th</sup> July 2024





CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name <b>Romanian Orthodox Church on Merseyside</b>	No (if any) <b>1170197</b>
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## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 10/20/2022	To	Period end date 10/19/2023
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Starting cash balance	79,868	-	-	79,868	47,194
Church Collections	18,480	-	-	18,480	24,494
Candle/icon sales and donations	68,936	-	-	68,936	56,468
Gift Aid refund	15,014	-	-	15,014	12,100
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b> (Gross income for AR)	182,298	-	-	182,298	140,256
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	182,298	-	-	182,298	140,256
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Insurance	748	-	-	748	646
Religious goods	22,008	-	-	22,008	23,259
Funerals	5,025	-	-	5,025	6,875
Hall/church hire	1,159	-	-	1,159	1,380
Electrical goods	810	-	-	810	698
Running costs	33,488	-	-	33,488	25,735
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	63,238	-	-	63,238	58,593
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total payments</b>	63,238	-	-	63,238	58,593
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	119,060	-	-	119,060	81,663
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	119,060	-	-	119,060	81,663

## 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		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>119,060</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
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 Carter	7/25/2024	



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

Romanian Orthodox Church On Merseyside (ROCOM)

On accounts for the year ended

19 October 2023

Charity no (if any)

1170197

Set out on pages

Separate document

### Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 19/10/2023

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 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:

05/08/2024

Name:

Mrs Ana Oltean

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

Master of Science, Management and Finance

**Address:**

17 Ascot Drive

Ellesmere Port, Cheshire

CH66 2NB

**Section B**

**Disclosure**

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.**