

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM

England & Wales · Charity number 1174422

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2017-08-30

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

Contact

Address 18 Hillmore Grove
London
SE26 5RW

Phone 07983006107

Email info@gracechurchsydenham.org

Website www.gracechurchsydenham.org

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE, FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN SUCH WAYS AS THE CHARITY TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME DECIDE.

Activities: The main weekly Sunday services, prayer meetings, bible study groups..Church sermons are also available to download from the Church's website. The Church also practical and spiritual support including a joining course, marriage and parenting courses, and others as and when needed.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Lewisham

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£97,417	£112,511	-	-
2024-08-31	£144,125	£111,176	-	-
2023-08-31	£73,674	£96,584	-	-
2022-08-31	£88,333	£72,023	-	-
2021-08-31	£83,836	£65,696	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Benedict Cooper		2024-06-04
Benjamin Cook		2024-06-04
Dr RICHARD DOUGLAS PROCTOR		2017-08-30
Helena Talbot-Rice		2022-09-01
Rev TIMOTHY RICHARD ILES		2017-08-30

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM

England & Wales - Charity number 1174422

Accounts

Grace Church Sydenham

Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 August 2025

Stewardship 
Active generosity

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

Grace Church Sydenham
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	18 Hillmore Grove London SE26 5RW
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	CIO - FOUNDATION Registered 30 Aug 2017 and amended on 03 Jun 2025
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1174422
TRUSTEES	Rev Timothy Iles Dr Richard Proctor Miss Helena Talbot-Rice Mr Benjamin Cook (resigned February 2026) Mr Benedict Cooper (appointed June 2024)
BANKERS	Charities Aid Foundation 25 Kings Hill Avenue West Malling ME19 4JQ
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Sarah Crispin ACA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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Page 6	Statement of Assets & Liabilities
Page 7	Notes to the Accounts

Grace Church Sydenham

Report of the Trustees

Year ended 31 August 2025

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year.

Objects of the charity

The objects of the charity are, for the public benefit, the advancement of the Christian faith in such ways as the Trustees may from time to time decide.

Government

The policy and operating decisions of the charity rest with the Trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the charity.

Every Trustee must be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as Charity Trustees, the Charity Trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity. All Charity Trustees must subscribe and adhere to, in belief and lifestyle, the Statement of Faith.

There only change to trustees is Mr Benjamin Cook resigning in February 2026.

Review of activities

The main activities undertaken for the public benefit are teaching from the Bible, the worship of God and the encouragement of the Church at regular Sunday services, weekday small group Bible studies and prayer meetings and other Christian ministry. The mission statement of the church is "Love Jesus, love each other, love the lost".

We believe the good news of Jesus, as revealed in the Bible, transforms lives and we hold out this good news to all. The Friday evening youth group run in collaboration with other local churches (Grace Church Brockley, and Honor Oak Christian Fellowship) has continued meeting all year. Our other group for teenagers (Teens On A Sunday Time - TOAST) has likewise continued to meet throughout the year on a Sunday afternoon and also enjoyed a weekend camping trip over the summer. During the Sunday service, to which all are welcome, we run age appropriate activities for children up to 13 years old. Children gather in crèche or Sunday Club part way through the meeting while the teenagers and adults are hearing God speak through the Bible reading and teaching in the main meeting.

We again shared a weekend away with New Life Church Catford, one of our partner churches, in the spring. This was held at Ashburnham Place in Sussex, with teaching led by Ray Brown from East London Tabernacle Baptist Church. Children and adults were both looked after, with good teaching and fun activities in the Sussex countryside.

Adults have the opportunity for further Bible study and pastoral support in small groups that meet during the week in and around Sydenham. Many also take up the offer of meeting in pairs for mutual support and encouragement, Bible reading and prayer during the week. This provides, among other things, a knowledge of each other's struggles and the opportunity for spiritual and practical support.

A new venture started this year on a Monday afternoon. "Discover Jesus" is an initiative involving street evangelism and inviting people to study an eye-witness account of Jesus' life. This is hosted by Forest Hill Community Church who provide use of their building on the High Street. We also joined them in carol singing at Christmas, and members of both churches attended a men's breakfast together.

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

Safeguarding

An essential part of the way we fulfil our mission statement is our commitment to safeguarding, ensuring that we provide a healthy, safe and spiritually nurturing environment for everyone who engages with our church community. We have a Safeguarding Policy and Procedure which is reviewed annually.

Helena Talbot-Rice remains as the Safeguarding Trustee. Nicola Collett-White was the Designated Safeguarding Lead up to March 2025, after which long-standing church member Heather Dingle took on the role.

In the year under review:

- All volunteers who work with children or adults with care and concern needs were trained (or their training was updated) in Essential Awareness of Safeguarding (provided by Christian Safeguarding Services).
- We had no significant safeguarding concerns or near misses related to our activity which required reporting to regulators.
- Short, regular safeguarding updates for the whole church community were given as part of the Sunday service.

Achievements

As detailed under review of activities, the church has maintained its regular meetings and developed and strengthened links with other local churches.

Financial Review and Reserves Policy

During the year income was £97,417 (2024: £144,125), expenditure was £112,511 (2024: £111,176) and the net cash outflow was £15,094 (2024: a net cash inflow of £32,949). Our cash balances decreased by £15,094 to £83,563 which was all unrestricted.

The Trustees aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than £22,500, which is an estimate of the amount that would be needed to wind down the charity should this ever become necessary. At the year end the charity held unrestricted cash of £83,568 and the Trustees anticipate that some of the excess will be used over the coming year.

Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires 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:

Helena Talbot Rice

Helena Talbot Rice (Feb 26, 2026 16:50:07 GMT)

Miss Helena Talbot-Rice – Trustee

Date: Feb 26, 2026

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF

Grace Church Sydenham

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Grace Church Sydenham ('the charity') for the year ended 31 August 2025 on pages 5 to 7 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.

Sarah Crispin

[Sarah Crispin \(Feb 26, 2026 17:17:48 GMT\)](#)

Sarah Crispin ACA
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Feb 26, 2026

Grace Church Sydenham

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 £	2024 £
Income receipts					
Donations and grants		75,678	-	75,678	108,128
Gift aid receipts		15,913	-	15,913	29,147
Charitable activities (church retreat)		4,875	-	4,875	5,735
Interest		951	-	951	956
Other income		-	-	-	159
Total receipts		<u>97,417</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>97,417</u>	<u>144,125</u>
Payments					
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	108,011	-	108,011	109,676
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	4,500	-	4,500	1,500
Total payments		<u>112,511</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>112,511</u>	<u>111,176</u>
Net of receipts / (payments) before		(15,094)	-	(15,094)	32,949
Transfers between funds	5	425	(425)	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>(14,669)</u>	<u>(425)</u>	<u>(15,094)</u>	<u>32,949</u>
Cash funds as at last year end		98,232	425	98,657	65,708
Cash funds at this year end	A	<u>83,563</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>83,563</u>	<u>98,657</u>

The notes on page 7 form part of these accounts.

Grace Church Sydenham
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS AT THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2025

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2025	2024
Notes	£	£	£	£
A Cash funds				
Cash at bank	83,485	-	83,485	98,579
Petty cash	78	-	78	78
	<u>83,563</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>83,563</u>	<u>98,657</u>
B Other monetary assets				
Gift aid due to charity	3,462	-	3,462	1,561
	<u>3,462</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,462</u>	<u>1,561</u>
C Liabilities				
Falling due within one year				
Pension contributions	103	-	103	130
Fee for Independent Examination	1,200	-	1,200	1,050
Accrued expenses	3,053	-	3,053	-
	<u>4,355</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,355</u>	<u>1,180</u>
D Assets retained for charity's own use				
Computers and IT equipment (at cost)			-	990

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:

Helena Talbot Rice

Helena Talbot Rice (Feb 26, 2026 16:50:07 GMT)

Miss Helena Talbot-Rice Trustee

Feb 26, 2026

Date: _____

The notes on page 7 form part of these accounts.

Grace Church Sydenham

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

	Unrestricted Funds funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 £	2024 £
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly				
Employment costs (see note 4)	78,150	-	78,150	79,033
Venue hire	10,325	-	10,325	10,288
Christians Against Poverty Job Club	-	-	-	560
Safeguarding	562	-	562	572
Church events	4,493	-	4,493	4,845
Ministry training	4,650	-	4,650	4,350
Other ministry expenses including conference expenses	1,563	-	1,563	2,625
Equipment	4,145	-	4,145	432
Insurance	336	-	336	336
Licences and subscriptions	704	-	704	4,766
Accounts preparation and examination	1,320	-	1,320	960
Payroll fees	662	-	662	662
Other costs	1,101	-	1,101	248
	<u>108,011</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>108,011</u>	<u>109,676</u>

3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others

Grants for:				
London City Mission	-	-	-	750
Crosslinks	1,500	-	1,500	750
LCM	1,500	-	1,500	-
UFM	1,500	-	1,500	-
	<u>4,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>

4 Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity paid employment benefits totalling £57,405 (2024: £54,414) to Rev T Iles, who is a trustee. Rev Iles is paid for serving as church Minister and is not remunerated for serving as a trustee; this is permitted by the charity's governing document.

5 Movement in Restricted Funds of funds

	Opening balance £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Closing balance £
Restricted funds					
Ministry training fund	425	-	-	(425)	-
	<u>425</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(425)</u>	<u>-</u>

A transfer was made in the year to offset salary costs paid from the General Fund.

6 Acting as agent

On occasion the charity receives money on behalf of other charities, which it banks and then pays out to these charities. This income is received as agent for these other charities and the income, and the related payments, are excluded from the Receipts and Payments account; any money that has not been distributed by the year end is recognised as a creditor.

During the year the charity acted as agent for UFM and, in that capacity: received £600 (2024: £0) and paid £600 (2024: £0)

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM

England & Wales - Charity number 1174422

Accounts

Grace Church Sydenham

Report and Accounts
Year ended 31 August 2024

Stewardship 
Active generosity

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

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	18 Hillmore Grove London SE26 5RW
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	CIO constitution dated 30 August 2017
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1174422
TRUSTEES	Rev Timothy Iles Dr Richard Proctor Miss Helena Talbot-Rice Mr Benjamin Cook (appointed June 2024) Mr Benedict Cooper (appointed March 2024)
BANKERS	Charities Aid Foundation 25 Kings Hill Avenue West Malling ME19 4JQ
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Ajay Rajani FCIE Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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Grace Church Sydenham

Report of the Trustees

Year ended 31 August 2024

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year.

Objects of the charity

The objects of the charity are, for the public benefit, the advancement of the Christian faith in such ways as the Trustees may from time to time decide.

Government

The policy and operating decisions of the charity rest with the Trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the charity.

Every Trustee must be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as Charity Trustees, the Charity Trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity. All Charity Trustees must subscribe and adhere to, in belief and lifestyle, the Statement of Faith.

In the past year we appointed two new trustees. The first of these was Ben Cooper who became an elder of the church and also a trustee at the beginning of 2024. The second was Benji Cook, who became a trustee in June. Benji is an assistant minister at a local church, and his appointment is in line with the Anglican Mission in England (AMiE) guidance for each AMiE church to have an external trustee who provides a more objective view of charity activities. We welcome both of them to our team.

Review of activities

The main activities undertaken for the public benefit are teaching from the Bible, the worship of God and the encouragement of the Church at regular Sunday services, weekday small group Bible studies and prayer meetings and other Christian ministry. The mission statement of the church was refreshed this year and is now "Love Jesus, love each other, love the lost".

We believe the good news of Jesus, as revealed in the Bible, transforms lives and we hold out this good news to all. Our new Friday evening youth group in collaboration with other local churches (Grace Church Brockley, New Life Church Catford, and Honor Oak Christian Fellowship) has been meeting all year with good attendance from each church. Our other group for teenagers (Teens On A Sunday Time - TOAST) has continued to meet throughout the year on a Sunday afternoon. This is attended by children from the church and their friends. They also enjoyed a weekend camping trip over the summer. During the Sunday service, to which all are welcome, we run age appropriate activities for children up to 13 years old. Children gather in crèche or Sunday Club part way through the meeting while the teenagers and adults are hearing God speak through the explanation of Bible teaching in the main meeting.

We were also able to share a weekend away with New Life Church Catford, one of our partner churches, in the spring. This was held at Ashburnham Place in Sussex, with teaching led by Andrew Sach from Grace Church Greenwich. Children and adults were both looked after, with good teaching and fun activities in the Sussex countryside - despite the wind trying to flatten the marquee.

Adults have the opportunity for further Bible study and pastoral support in small groups that meet during the week in and around Sydenham. Many also take up the offer of meeting in pairs for mutual support and encouragement, Bible reading and prayer during the week. This provides, among other things, a knowledge of each other's struggles and the opportunity for spiritual and practical support.

After three years of regular courses, the Christians Against Poverty Job Club closed in December 2023. We had enjoyed running these courses which encouraged and equipped those who attended to succeed in their search for a job and linked them to other support agencies. Attendance at the group was often low and so the decision not to continue was taken when the funding we initially received ran out.

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

Safeguarding

An essential part of the way we fulfil our mission statement is our commitment to safeguarding, ensuring that we provide a healthy, safe and spiritually nurturing environment for everyone who engages with our church community.

Nicola Collett-White is the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Helena Talbot-Rice is the Safeguarding Trustee. We have a Safeguarding Policy and Procedure which is reviewed annually.

In the year under review:

- All volunteers who work with children or adults with care and concern needs were trained (or their training was updated) in Essential Awareness of Safeguarding (provided by Christian Safeguarding Services).
- The DSL updated the Safeguarding Policy in line with the latest statutory guidance and in order to more accurately to reflect our practice. The policy was discussed and approved by the Church Council.
- We had no significant safeguarding concerns or near misses related to our activity which required reporting to regulators.
- The Safeguarding Lead has attended Safeguarding Forums put on by Anglican Mission in England (AMiE) at which best practice is shared.
- Short, regular safeguarding updates for the whole church community were given as part of the Sunday service.

Achievements

Each year, as well as celebrating the main church festivals of Christmas and Easter, we have celebrated someone's baptism and this year again we had a baptism to celebrate.

The church is slowly growing, and remains thankful to God for His ongoing provision. We have grown the youth work further, maintained the regular activities of the church, and continued to have regular visitors join us on a Sunday morning.

Financial Review and Reserves Policy

During the year income was £144,125 (2023: £73,674), expenditure was £111,176 (2023: £96,584) and the net cash inflow was £32,949 (2023: a net cash outflow of £22,910). Our cash balances increased by £32,949 to £98,657 of which £98,232 was unrestricted and £425 was restricted.

The Trustees aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than £22,500, which an estimate of the amount that would be needed to wind down the charity should this ever become necessary. At the year end the charity held unrestricted cash of £98,232. The Trustees anticipate that income will revert back to normal levels and some of the excess will be used over the coming year.

Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires 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:

Helena Talbot Rice

[Helena Talbot Rice \(Mar 17, 2025 10:01 GMT\)](#)

Miss Helena Talbot-Rice – Trustee

Date: Mar 17, 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Grace Church Sydenham (the charity) for the year ended 31 August 2024 on pages 6 to 8 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 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 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 respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Ajay Rajani
Ajay Rajani (Mar 17, 2025 11:34 GMT)

Ajay Rajani FCIE
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Mar 17, 2025

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 £	2023 £
<i>Income receipts</i>					
Donations and grants		104,068	4,060	108,128	60,266
Gift aid received		28,432	715	29,147	11,924
Charitable activities (church retreat)		5,735	-	5,735	500
Interest		956	-	956	469
Other income		159	-	159	515
<i>Total receipts</i>		<u>139,350</u>	<u>4,775</u>	<u>144,125</u>	<u>73,674</u>
<i>Payments</i>					
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	104,766	4,910	109,676	95,084
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	1,500	-	1,500	1,500
<i>Total payments</i>		<u>106,266</u>	<u>4,910</u>	<u>111,176</u>	<u>96,584</u>
Net receipts before transfers		<u>33,084</u>	<u>(135)</u>	<u>32,949</u>	<u>(22,910)</u>
Transfers between funds	5	107	(107)	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>33,191</u>	<u>(242)</u>	<u>32,949</u>	<u>(22,910)</u>
Cash funds at last year end		65,041	667	65,708	88,618
Cash funds at this year end	A	<u>98,232</u>	<u>425</u>	<u>98,657</u>	<u>65,708</u>

The notes on page 8 form part of these accounts.

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 £	2023 £
A Cash funds				
Held at bank	98,154	425	98,579	65,680
Cash in hand	78	-	78	28
	<u>98,232</u>	<u>425</u>	<u>98,657</u>	<u>65,708</u>
B Other monetary assets				
Gift aid due to charity	1,561	-	1,561	4,701
Deposit paid for 2024 church retreat	-	-	-	1,400
	<u>1,561</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,561</u>	<u>6,101</u>
C Liabilities				
Independent examination fee for preparing and examining the accounts	1,050	-	1,050	960
Pension contributions	130	-	130	609
Money received for 2024 church retreat	-	-	-	500
Annual contribution payable to AMiE	-	-	-	1,800
	<u>1,180</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,180</u>	<u>3,869</u>
D Assets retained for charity's own use				
Computers and IT equipment (at cost)	990	-	990	990

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 Helena Talbot Rice
[Helena Talbot Rice \(Mar 17, 2025 10:01 GMT\)](#)
Miss Helena Talbot-Rice Trustee

date Mar 17, 2025

The notes on page 8 form part of these accounts.

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly				
Employment costs (note 4)	79,033	-	79,033	75,314
Venue hire	10,288	-	10,288	9,663
Christians Against Poverty Job Club	-	560	560	1,380
Safeguarding	572	-	572	371
Church events	4,845	-	4,845	1,650
Ministry training	-	4,350	4,350	-
Other ministry expenses including conference expenses	2,625	-	2,625	3,747
Equipment	432	-	432	127
Insurance	336	-	336	322
Licences and subscriptions	4,766	-	4,766	447
Accounts preparation and examination	960	-	960	888
Payroll fees	662	-	662	584
Other costs	248	-	248	591
	<u>104,766</u>	<u>4,910</u>	<u>109,676</u>	<u>95,084</u>

3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others

London City Mission	750	-	750	750
Project Timothy	750	-	750	-
Crosslinks	-	-	-	750
	<u>1,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>

4 Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity paid employment benefits totalling £54,414 (2023: £52,268) to Rev T Isles, who is a trustee. Rev Isles is paid for serving as church Minister and is not remunerated for serving as a trustee; this is permitted by the charity's governing document.

5 Movement in restricted funds

	Balance at 1.9.23 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31.8.24 £
Christians Against Poverty fund	667	-	(560)	(107)	-
Ministry training fund	-	4,775	(4,350)	-	425
	<u>667</u>	<u>4,775</u>	<u>(4,910)</u>	<u>(107)</u>	<u>425</u>

The restricted **Christians Against Poverty** fund was created from donations received to help support a Job Club operated in partnership with Christians Against Poverty.

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM

England & Wales - Charity number 1174422

Accounts

Grace Church Sydenham

Report and Accounts
Year ended 31 August 2023

Stewardship 
Active generosity

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

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	18 Hillmore Grove London SE26 5RW
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	CIO constitution dated 30 August 2017
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1174422
TRUSTEES	Rev Timothy Iles Dr Richard Proctor Mrs Helena Talbot-Rice (appointed 1 September 2022)
BANKERS	Charities Aid Foundation 25 Kings Hill Avenue West Malling ME19 4JQ
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Ajay Rajani FCIE Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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Page 6	Receipts and Payments Account
Page 7	Statement of Assets and Liabilities
Page 8	Notes to the Accounts

Grace Church Sydenham

Report of the Trustees

Year ended 31 August 2023

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year.

Objects of the charity

The objects of the charity are, for the public benefit, the advancement of the Christian faith in such ways as the Trustees may from time to time decide.

Government

The policy and operating decisions of the charity rest with the Trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the charity.

Every Trustee must be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as Charity Trustees, the Charity Trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity. All Charity Trustees must subscribe and adhere to, in belief and lifestyle, the Statement of Faith.

Review of activities

The main activities undertaken for the public benefit are teaching from the Bible, the worship of God and the encouragement of the Church at regular Sunday services, weekday small group Bible studies and prayer meetings and other Christian ministry. The mission statement of the church is "to proclaim and live out the good news of Jesus Christ to the glory of God".

We believe the good news of Jesus, as revealed in the Bible, transforms lives and we hold out this good news to all. We are starting a new youth group in collaboration with other local churches (Grace Church Brockley, New Life Church Catford, and Honor Oak Christian Fellowship). This will meet on a Friday evening every other week at the Honor Oak Christian Fellowship building. Our other group for teenagers (Teens On A Sunday Time - TOAST) has continued to meet throughout the year on a Sunday afternoon. This is attended by children from the church and their friends. They also enjoyed a weekend camping trip over the summer. During the Sunday service, to which all are welcome, we run age appropriate activities for children up to 13 years old. Children gather in crèche or Sunday Club part way through the meeting while the teenagers and adults are hearing God speak through the explanation of Bible teaching in the main meeting.

Adults have the opportunity for further Bible study and pastoral support in small groups that meet during the week in and around Sydenham. Many also take up the offer of meeting in pairs for mutual support and encouragement, Bible reading and prayer during the week. This provides, among other things, a knowledge of each other's struggles and the opportunity for spiritual and practical support. We have run a Christianity Explored course for those looking into the Christian faith, and a week of events in partnership with Cornhill Bible School.

The Christians Against Poverty Job Club has continued, running three Job Club courses this year. These have encouraged and equipped those who have attended to succeed in their search for a job. This Job Club has run at the Forest Hill Community Church building where on other days there are drop in sessions which those attending the Job Club have also been able to attend.

This year was also GAFCON 2023 and the church was pleased to send Rev Tim Iles to Rwanda to join with the global Anglican community meeting there.

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

Safeguarding

An essential part of the way we fulfil our mission statement is our commitment to safeguarding, ensuring that we provide a healthy, safe and spiritually nurturing environment for everyone who engages with our church community.

Nicola Collett-White is the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Helena Talbot-Rice is the Safeguarding Trustee. We have a Safeguarding Policy and Procedure which is reviewed annually.

In the year under review:

The DSL updated the Safeguarding Policy in line with the latest statutory guidance and in order to more accurately to reflect our practice. The policy was discussed and approved by the Church Council.

The DSL and Deputy DSL worked with the safeguarding leads of three other local churches in order together to agree the safeguarding practices and procedures to be followed in a joint youth venture between the four churches.

The DSL and Deputy DSL undertook Safeguarding Lead and Co-ordinator Training with Christian Safeguarding Services.

The Trustees undertook training in the Leadership, Oversight and Strategic Management of Safeguarding with Christian Safeguarding Services.

The DSL took advice from Christian Safeguarding Services and Southwark Children's Services in relation to one significant safeguarding concern and followed that advice.

Achievements

Each year, as well as celebrating the main church festivals of Christmas and Easter, we have celebrated someone's baptism and this year again we had a baptism to celebrate.

The church is slowly growing, and remains thankful to God for His ongoing provision. We have grown the youth work further, maintained the regular activities of the church, and continued to have regular visitors join us on a Sunday morning.

Financial Review and Reserves Policy

During the year income was £73,674 (2022: £88,333), which included restricted income of £1,425 (2022: £nil). Expenditure was £96,584 (2022: £73,989), which included restricted expenditure of £2,178 (2022: £1,966). Therefore, overall, there was a net cash outflow of £22,910 (2022: a cash inflow of £14,344) and the cash held by the charity fell by this amount to £65,708. This comprised unrestricted cash of £65,041 and restricted cash of £667 held by the CAP fund.

The Trustees aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than £22,500, which an estimate of the amount that would be needed to wind down the charity should this ever become necessary. The Trustees are holding additional cash reserves to help meet the cost of employing the Children's and Youth worker and the trustees expect the charity to use some of the excess over the coming year.

Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires 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:

Helena Talbot-Rice

.....
Helena Talbot-Rice – Trustee

Date: 20 February 2024

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Grace Church Sydenham (the charity) for the year ended 31 August 2023 on pages 6 to 8 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 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 respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Ajay Rajani

Ajay Rajani FCIE
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 18 March 2024

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 £	2022 £
<i>Income receipts</i>					
Donations and grants		59,066	1,200	60,266	71,391
Gift Aid		11,699	225	11,924	16,818
Interest		469	-	469	74
Other income		1,015	-	1,015	50
<i>Total receipts</i>		<u>72,249</u>	<u>1,425</u>	<u>73,674</u>	<u>88,333</u>
<i>Payments</i>					
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	92,906	2,178	95,084	72,489
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	1,500	-	1,500	1,500
<i>Total payments</i>		<u>94,406</u>	<u>2,178</u>	<u>96,584</u>	<u>73,989</u>
Net receipts before transfers		<u>(22,157)</u>	<u>(753)</u>	<u>(22,910)</u>	<u>14,344</u>
Transfers between funds	5	627	(627)	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>(21,530)</u>	<u>(1,380)</u>	<u>(22,910)</u>	<u>14,344</u>
Cash funds at last year end		86,571	2,047	88,618	74,274
Cash funds at this year end	A	<u>65,041</u>	<u>667</u>	<u>65,708</u>	<u>88,618</u>

The notes on page 8 form part of these accounts.

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 £	2022 £
A Cash funds				
Held at bank	65,013	667	65,680	88,590
Cash in hand	28	-	28	28
	<u>65,041</u>	<u>667</u>	<u>65,708</u>	<u>88,618</u>
B Other monetary assets				
Gift aid due to charity	4,701	-	4,701	1,983
Deposit paid for 2024 church retreat	1,400	-	1,400	-
	<u>6,101</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,101</u>	<u>1,983</u>
C Liabilities				
Independent examination fee for preparing and examining the accounts	960	-	960	888
Pension contributions	609	-	609	-
Money received for 2024 church retreat	500	-	500	-
Annual contribution payable to AMiE	1,800	-	1,800	-
Other amounts payable	-	-	-	89
	<u>3,869</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,869</u>	<u>977</u>
D Assets retained for charity's own use				
Computers and IT equipment (at cost)	<u>528</u>	<u>462</u>	<u>990</u>	<u>990</u>

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 Helena Talbot-Rice
Mrs Helena Talbot-Rice
Trustee

date 20 February 2024

The notes on page 8 form part of these accounts.

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly				
Employment costs (note 4)	75,314	-	75,314	53,201
Venue hire	9,663	-	9,663	10,650
Christians Against Poverty Job Club	-	1,380	1,380	1,966
Safeguarding	371	-	371	148
Events	1,650	-	1,650	286
Other ministry expenses including conference expenses	2,949	798	3,747	1,796
Equipment	127	-	127	72
Insurance	322	-	322	320
Licences and subscriptions	447	-	447	1,938
Accounts preparation and examination	888	-	888	864
Payroll fees	584	-	584	473
Other costs	591	-	591	775
	92,906	2,178	95,084	72,489

3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others

London City Mission (previously paid to an individual supported directly)	750	-	750	750
Crosslinks	750	-	750	750
	1,500	-	1,500	1,500

4 Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity paid employment benefits totalling £52,268 (2022 : £50,499) to Rev T Isles, who is a trustee. Rev Isles is paid for serving as church Minister and is not remunerated for serving as a trustee; this is permitted by the charity's governing document.

5 Movement in restricted funds

	Balance at 1.9.22 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31.8.23 £
Christians Against Poverty fund	2,047	-	(1,380)	-	667
Conference fund	-	1,425	(798)	(627)	-
	2,047	1,425	(2,178)	(627)	667

The restricted **Christians Against Poverty** fund was created from donations received to help support a Job Club operated in partnership with Christians Against Poverty.

The restricted **Conference** fund was created this year from donations received to help a minister attend a GAFCOM conference in Rwanda. With the agreement of donors, the unspent balance on the fund was transferred to unrestricted funds.

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM

England & Wales - Charity number 1174422

Accounts

Grace Church Sydenham

Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 August 2022

Stewardship 
Active generosity

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

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	5 Burghill Road London SE26 4HJ
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	CIO constitution dated 30 August 2017
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1174422
TRUSTEES	Rev Timothy Iles Dr Richard Proctor Mr Matthew Wagstaff (resigned 20 July 2022) Mrs Helena Talbot-Rice (appointed 1 September 2022)
BANKERS	Charities Aid Foundation 25 Kings Hill Avenue West Malling ME19 4JQ
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Ajay Rajani FCIE Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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Grace Church Sydenham

Report of the Trustees

Year ended 31 August 2022

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year.

Objects of the charity

The objects of the charity are, for the public benefit, the advancement of the Christian faith in such ways as the Trustees may from time to time decide.

Government

The policy and operating decisions of the charity rest with the Trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the charity.

Every Trustee must be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as Charity Trustees, the Charity Trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity. All Charity Trustees must subscribe and adhere to, in belief and lifestyle, the Statement of Faith.

During the past year there has been a change in trustees. Matthew Wagstaff has stepped down and Helena Talbot-Rice has been appointed in his place. Helena brings her experience as part of the management of a local hospice and she has a masters degree in Charity Management. We are delighted she has joined the team.

Review of activities

The main activities undertaken for the public benefit are teaching from the Bible, the worship of God and the encouragement of the Church at regular Sunday services, weekday small group Bible studies and prayer meetings and other Christian ministry. The mission statement of the church is "to proclaim and live out the good news of Jesus Christ to the glory of God".

We believe the good news of Jesus, as revealed in the Bible, transforms lives and we hold out this good news to all. We have appointed a new part-time Children's and Youth Worker who started in August 2022. He will have specific responsibility for overseeing the work with youth and children. Our group for teenagers (Teens On A Sunday Time - TOAST) has continued to meet throughout the year on a Sunday afternoon. This is attended by children from the church and their friends. They also enjoyed a weekend camping trip over the summer. During the Sunday service, to which all are welcome, we run age appropriate activities for children up to 13 years old. Children gather in crèche or Sunday Club part way through the meeting while the teenagers and adults are hearing God speak through the explanation of Bible teaching in the main meeting.

Adults have the opportunity for further Bible study and pastoral support in small groups that meet during the week in and around Sydenham. Many also take up the offer of meeting in pairs for mutual support and encouragement, Bible reading and prayer during the week. This provides, among other things, a knowledge of each other's struggles and the opportunity for spiritual and practical support.

The Christians Against Poverty Job Club has continued, running three Job Club courses this year. These have been attended by a small number of clients, but have been well received and we are aware of one person who has found work following the course.

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

Safeguarding

An essential part of the way we fulfil our mission statement is our commitment to safeguarding, ensuring that we provide a healthy, safe and spiritually nurturing environment for everyone who engages with our church community.

Nicola Collett-White is the Designated Safeguarding Lead and Helena Talbot-Rice is the Safeguarding Trustee. We have a Safeguarding Policy and Procedure which is reviewed annually.

In the year under review we:

- Rewrote the Safeguarding Policy in line with the latest statutory guidance and to acknowledge our move from using the safeguarding services of Thirty One: Eight to those of Christian Safeguarding Services.
- Appointed a Children's and Youth worker who completed all necessary safeguarding checks (including DBS) before commencement of the role.
- We had no significant safeguarding concerns or near misses related to our activity which required reporting to regulators.
- In the year ahead we will be writing a risk assessment for the care of an adult member of our church community with care and support needs for whom a small team provide practical help.
- Essential Awareness of Safeguarding Children and Adults training (provided by Christian Safeguarding Services) will be undertaken by those whose training needs updating.

Achievements

In September 2021 we ran a joint church weekend away with our partner churches Grace Church Brockley and New Life Church Catford. This was well attended and provided an opportunity for us to support and pray for one another as we learned from Paul's letter to the Philippian church about Joyful Contentment. We hope to be able to have similar events in the future.

As in previous years, there has been training for lay members in leading Bible study groups and some of the men in the congregation have prepared talks for our congregation and our partner church Grace Church Brockley (GCB).

The church remains small in number, but thankful to God for His ongoing provision. We have employed a second worker, maintained the regular activities of the church, grown the youth work and continued to have regular visitors join us on a Sunday morning.

Financial Review and Reserves Policy

During the year income was £88,333 (2021: £83,836) including some generous one off gifts. Expenditure was £73,989 (2021: £65,696), including £1,966 (2021: £1,687) of restricted funds relating to CAP expenditure. Net receipts were £14,344 (2021: £18,139).

Hence unrestricted cash increased to £86,571 from £70,261 the previous year end. Restricted funds of £2,047 are held for the CAP job club.

The Trustees aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than £19,000, which equates to about three months' budgeted costs, to help ensure that the charity could continue to operate should income and / or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The Trustees are holding additional cash reserves to help meet the cost of employing the new Children's and Youth worker and the trustees expect the charity to use some of the excess over the coming year.

Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires 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:

Helena Talbot-Rice

.....
Helena Talbot-Rice

Date: 21 February 2023

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Grace Church Sydenham (the charity) for the year ended 31 August 2022 on pages 6 to 8 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 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 respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Ajay Rajani

Ajay Rajani FCIE
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 24 March 2023

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022	2021
Notes	£	£	£	£
<i>Income receipts</i>				
Donations and grants	71,391	-	71,391	67,117
Gift Aid	16,818	-	16,818	16,562
Interest	74	-	74	156
Other income	50	-	50	1
<i>Total receipts</i>	<u>88,333</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>88,333</u>	<u>83,836</u>
<i>Payments</i>				
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2 70,523	1,966	72,489	64,796
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3 1,500	-	1,500	900
<i>Total payments</i>	<u>72,023</u>	<u>1,966</u>	<u>73,989</u>	<u>65,696</u>
<i>Net receipts</i>	<u>16,310</u>	<u>(1,966)</u>	<u>14,344</u>	<u>18,139</u>
Cash funds at last year end	70,261	4,013	74,274	56,135
<i>Cash funds at this year end</i>	A <u>86,571</u>	<u>2,047</u>	<u>88,618</u>	<u>74,274</u>

The notes on page 8 form part of these accounts.

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 £	2021 £
A Cash funds				
Held at bank	86,543	2,047	88,590	74,224
Cash in hand	28	-	28	50
	<u>86,571</u>	<u>2,047</u>	<u>88,618</u>	<u>74,274</u>
B Other monetary assets				
Gift aid due to charity	<u>1,983</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,983</u>	<u>1,252</u>
C Liabilities				
Independent examination fee for preparing and examining the accounts	888	-	888	864
Venue rent payable	-	-	-	1,000
Pension contributions	-	-	-	262
Other amounts payable	89	-	89	-
	<u>888</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>977</u>	<u>2,126</u>
D Assets retained for charity's own use				
Computers and IT equipment (at cost)	<u>528</u>	<u>462</u>	<u>990</u>	<u>990</u>

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 *Helena Talbot-Rice*

 Mrs Helena Talbot-Rice
 Trustee

date
 21 February 2023

The notes on page 8 form part of these accounts.

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly				
Employment costs (note 4)	53,201	-	53,201	51,429
Venue hire	10,650	-	10,650	4,760
Licences and subscriptions	1,938	-	1,938	1,913
Minister's expenses	1,115	-	1,115	667
Safeguarding	148	-	148	903
Other ministry expenses	682	-	682	352
Equipment	72	-	72	528
Insurance	320	-	320	317
Events	286	-	286	150
Accounts preparation and examination	864	-	864	780
Payroll fees	473	-	473	459
Christians Against Poverty Job Club	-	1,966	1,966	1,687
Other costs	775	-	775	851
	<u>70,523</u>	<u>1,966</u>	<u>72,489</u>	<u>64,796</u>

3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others

Individual mission partners	750	-	750	450
Institutions	750	-	750	450
	<u>1,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>900</u>

4 Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity paid employment benefits totalling £50,499 to Rev T Isles, who is a trustee. Rev Isles is paid for serving as church Minister and is not remunerated for serving as a trustee; this is permitted by the charity's governing document.

5 Movement on restricted funds

	Balance at 1.9.21	Receipts	Payments	Balance at 31.8.22
	£	£	£	£
Christians Against Poverty fund	4,013	-	(1,966)	2,047
	<u>4,013</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,966)</u>	<u>2,047</u>

The Christians Against Poverty restricted fund holds donations received towards the Job Club operated in partnership with Christians Against Poverty.

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM

England & Wales - Charity number 1174422

Accounts

Grace Church Sydenham

Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 August 2021

Stewardship 
Active generosity

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

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	5 Burghill Road London SE26 4HJ
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	CIO constitution dated 30 August 2017
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1174422
TRUSTEES	Rev Timothy Iles Dr Richard Proctor Mr Matthew Wagstaff
BANKERS	Charities Aid Foundation 25 Kings Hill Avenue West Malling ME19 4JQ
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Ajay Rajani FCIE Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year.

Objects of the charity

The objects of the charity are, for the public benefit, the advancement of the Christian faith in such ways as the Trustees may from time to time decide.

Government

The policy and operating decisions of the charity rest with the Trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the charity.

Every Trustee must be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment as Charity Trustees, the Charity Trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity. All Charity Trustees must subscribe and adhere to, in belief and lifestyle, the Statement of Faith.

During the past year the trustees have taken steps to strengthen governance through reviewing recommended policies and implementing a formal appraisal process for Reverend Iles. We have also reviewed our safeguarding policies in light of the Jonathan Fletcher report and this report was discussed at church council and with the wider church.

Review of activities

The main activities undertaken for the public benefit are teaching from the Bible, the worship of God and the encouragement of the Church at regular Sunday services, weekday small group Bible studies and prayer meetings and other Christian ministry. The mission statement of the church is "to proclaim and live out the good news of Jesus Christ to the glory of God".

We believe the good news of Jesus, as revealed in the Bible, transforms lives and we hold out this good news to all. During the Sunday service, to which all are welcome, this includes running age appropriate activities for children up to 13 years old. Children gather in crèche or Sunday Club part way through the meeting while the teenagers and adults are hearing God speak through the explanation of Bible teaching in the main meeting. This year we have also provided a youth group for teenagers that meets weekly on a Sunday afternoon.

Adults have the opportunity for further Bible study and pastoral support in small groups that meet during the week in and around Sydenham. Many also take up the offer of meeting in pairs for mutual support and encouragement, Bible reading and prayer during the week. This provides, among other things, a knowledge of each other's struggles and the opportunity for spiritual and practical support.

The Covid 19 pandemic has affected the way that these activities were provided for part of this review period. We ran church online through the Zoom platform when meeting in person was not possible, and have met in a Covid-safe way once meeting in person became possible again.

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

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES CONTINUED

Achievements

A Covid 19 risk assessment allowed us to start meeting face-to-face soon after this was allowed in government guidance. We needed to use a different building temporarily, but were able to quickly make this transition and continue to provide services from this new location. This included running services at Christmas time with online booking and having extra services to allow social distancing. These were also available online for those who were unable to attend. We are now back meeting in our usual building with our full range of meetings occurring.

As in previous years, there has been training for lay members in leading Bible study groups and some of the men in the congregation have prepared talks for our congregation and our partner church Grace Church Brockley (GCB). We have also welcomed some from GCB to preach at Grace Church Sydenham and from our partner church New Life Church Catford.

In partnership with Christians Against Poverty, Grace Church Sydenham has started a Job Club. This is an initiative which helps the unemployed with skills that are useful for their job search and which introduces people to the church community and the good news of Jesus. Running the club has developed links with other local community organisations and with churches running other Christians Against Poverty services.

Financial Review and Reserves Policy

During the year income was £83,836 (2020: £88,135). Expenditure was £65,696 (2020: £62,476) so that net receipts were £18,139 (2020: £25,639). Hence unrestricted cash increased to £70,261 from £50,435 at the previous year end. Restricted cash for the CAP activity was £4,013 at year-end (2020: £5,700)

The Trustees aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than £19,000, which equates to about three months' budgeted costs, to help ensure that the charity could continue to operate should income and / or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The Trustees are holding additional cash reserves with the intention of employing a second member of staff in due course.

Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires 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:

Matthew Wagstaff

Date: 19 January 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Grace Church Sydenham (the charity) for the year ended 31 August 2021 on pages 5 to 7 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 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 respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Ajay Rajani FCIE
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 20 January 2022

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 £	2020 £
<i>Income receipts</i>					
Donations and grants		67,117	-	67,117	71,645
Gift Aid		16,562	-	16,562	16,299
Interest		156	-	156	172
Other income		1	-	1	20
<i>Total receipts</i>		<u>83,836</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>83,836</u>	<u>88,135</u>
<i>Payments</i>					
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	63,110	1,687	64,796	62,026
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	900	-	900	450
<i>Total payments</i>		<u>64,010</u>	<u>1,687</u>	<u>65,696</u>	<u>62,476</u>
<i>Net receipts</i>		<u>19,826</u>	<u>(1,687)</u>	<u>18,139</u>	<u>25,659</u>
Cash funds at last year end		50,435	5,700	56,135	30,476
<i>Cash funds at this year end</i>	A	<u>70,261</u>	<u>4,013</u>	<u>74,274</u>	<u>56,135</u>

The notes on page 7 form part of these accounts.

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 £	2020 £
A Cash funds				
Held at bank	70,211	4,013	74,225	56,086
Cash in hand	50	-	50	50
	<u>70,261</u>	<u>4,013</u>	<u>74,274</u>	<u>56,135</u>
B Other monetary assets				
Gift aid due to charity	<u>1,252</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,252</u>	<u>1,180</u>
C Liabilities				
Independent examination fee for preparing and examining the accounts	864	-	864	780
Venue rent payable	1,000	-	1,000	-
Pension contributions	262	-	262	262
Other amounts payable	-	-	-	88
	<u>2,126</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,126</u>	<u>1,130</u>
D Assets retained for charity's own use				
Computers and IT equipment (at cost in 2021)	<u>528</u>	<u>462</u>	<u>990</u>	<u>-</u>

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
 Matthew Wagstaff
 Trustee

date: 19 January 2022

The notes on page 7 form part of these accounts.

GRACE CHURCH SYDENHAM
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
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. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

Unrestricted funds are funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly				
Employment costs (note 4)	51,429	-	51,429	51,814
Venue hire	4,760	-	4,760	5,800
Licences and subscriptions	1,913	-	1,913	1,101
Minister's expenses	667	-	667	680
Safeguarding	903	-	903	240
Equipment	528	-	528	-
Insurance	317	-	317	324
COVID related costs	206	-	206	-
Marketing	48	-	48	167
Mission costs	99	-	99	13
Events	150	-	150	-
Accounts preparation and examination	780	-	780	672
Payroll fees	459	-	459	454
Christians Against Poverty Job Club	-	1,687	1,687	-
Other costs	851	-	851	760
	<u>63,110</u>	<u>1,687</u>	<u>64,796</u>	<u>62,026</u>

3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others

Individual mission partners	450	-	450	450
Institutions	450	-	450	-
	<u>900</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>900</u>	<u>450</u>

4 Transactions with related parties

The employment costs disclosed in note 2 above are in respect of the employment of Rev T Isles, who is a trustee. Rev Isles is paid for serving as church Minister and is not remunerated for serving as a trustee; this is permitted by the charity's governing document.

Except for the reimbursement of expenses, no other amounts were paid or are payable to any trustee or to any person connected to them.

5 Movement on restricted funds

	Balance at 1.9.20 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Balance at 31.8.21 £
Christians Against Poverty fund	<u>5,700</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,687)</u>	<u>4,013</u>

The Christians Against Poverty restricted fund holds donations received towards the Job Club operated in partnership with Christians Against Poverty.