

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES

England & Wales · Charity number 1180087

Details

Other names	ST MARK'S MK
Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2018-09-26
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	St. Marks MK 11 Drakes Mews Crownhill Milton Keynes MK8 0ER
Phone	01908388156
Email	info@stmarksmk.com
Website	www.stmarksmk.com

Activities

Objects: 4.1. THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE, FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT:- 4.1.1. THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATEMENT OF FAITH, IN MILTON KEYNES AND SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE WORLD AS THE CHARITY TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME DECIDE; AND 4.1.2. THE PREVENTION AND/OR RELIEF OF POVERTY IN PARTICULAR, BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY, BY PROVIDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO INDIVIDUALS IN NEED, AND CHARITIES OR ORGANISATIONS WORKING TO PREVENT OR RELIEVE POVERTY.

Activities: The Objects of the CIO are: the advancement of the Christian faith, hope and love in Milton Keynes and such other parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the Trustees see fit; and the prevention and/or relief of poverty in particular, but not exclusively, by providing financial support to individuals in need, and charities or organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Other Finance, Provides Services
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Milton Keynes

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£172,995	£180,663	-	-
2024-03-31	£155,233	£156,810	-	-
2023-03-31	£137,610	£128,012	-	-
2022-03-31	£142,078	£134,510	-	-
2021-03-31	£158,553	£118,217	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Jonathan Hyde	Chair	2018-09-26
Iain Row		2024-04-01
PAUL OXLEY Reverend		2018-09-26
Vicki Offin		2024-04-01

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES

England & Wales - Charity number 1180087

Accounts

St Mark's Milton Keynes

Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2025

Stewardship 
Active generosity

1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB

www.stewardship.org.uk

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	11 Drakes Mews Crownhill Milton Keynes MK8 0ER
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Constitution dated 13 August 2018 Registered 26 September 2018
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1180087
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	Iain Rowe (Appointed April 2024) Rvd Paul Oxley Jonathan Hyde Vicki Offin (Appointed April 2024)
KEY MANAGEMENT	R Lawrence P Oxley
BANKERS	HSBC UK Bank plc
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Lisa Darby FCA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Formation

St Mark's Milton Keynes was established as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation by a Constitution dated 13th August 2018 and has the Registered Charity Number 1180087.

Trustees

The trustees are the only voting members of the charity. They are not remunerated in any form for their services as trustees.

The existing trustees have the power to appoint new or additional trustees.

Under the terms of the Constitution, the trustees have the power to do anything which is calculated to further the objects of the charity or is conducive or incidental to doing so. The income and property of the charity must be applied solely towards the promotion of its objects.

As trustees, we have several key responsibilities:

1. Preparing financial statements for each accounting year that record the charity's receipts and payments.
2. Keeping proper accounting records that disclose the financial position of the charity accurately and ensure compliance with the Charities Act 2011.
3. Safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps to prevent fraud or other irregularities.

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

Objects of the charity

The objects of the charity are, for the public benefit:

1. The advancement of the Christian faith, in accordance with the Statement of Faith, in Milton Keynes and such other parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the Charity Trustees may from time to time decide; and
2. The prevention and/or relief of poverty in particular, but not exclusively, by providing financial support to individuals in need, and charities or organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.

Introduction

This year has combined major challenges with real progress. Demand for our help continues to rise and the funding climate remains tight, yet we have seen meaningful steps forward that strengthen our response.

A major milestone was selecting, contracting, funding and moving into our first warehouse and dedicated office space at Drakes Mews. Years of careful saving, combined with grant support, allowed us to take this step without compromising our priorities. The new base has already improved stock control, volunteer coordination, delivery routes and everyday team cohesion. It is a place we are proud of and enjoy welcoming people into. It is a practical answer to growing need and a platform for future scale.

Thank you to everyone connected with St Marks, whether you serve weekly or occasionally. Staff, trustees, volunteers, church members, partners and funders have all played a part. What follows is a summary of the year against our charitable objectives.

We continue to report against our two core purposes: advancing the Christian faith and preventing or relieving poverty.

Faith advancement

Faith often grows quietly over time, so we look for signs of health rather than simple metrics. Our regular Sunday gathering pattern has settled well, with steady attendance and strong participation from children and young people. We remain committed to generosity as an expression of faith, supporting local partners through giving, serving and collaboration.

Following a year of acting in the role, Paul Oxley was formally appointed Area Dean of Milton Keynes in addition to his leadership of St Mark's. The trustees continue to ensure clear boundaries, appropriate time management and compliance with all relevant guidance.

At deanery level the Mission and Action Plan work has moved from design into delivery. We have been able to contribute experience from St Marks into wider planning that aims for growth, mission activity and community health over the next decade. As part of this we have begun to develop a strategy to resource similar church plants across the city.

Poverty relief

Our primary programme remains St Marks Meals. We continue to serve nearly 150 locations including schools, NHS GP surgeries, Social Prescribers, Social Enterprises, Alternative Education providers and Community Centres. Schools and partners consistently tell us that the ability to place meals into the hands of families the same day makes a tangible difference.

The move to Drakes Mews has been transformational for operations. Increased storage and racking, safer loading, clearer picking, and better access for volunteers have shortened turnaround times and reduced waste. The new base is also more welcoming for training sessions and partner visits.

Locally, the Milton Keynes Child Poverty Partnership continues to develop. We hosted a cross-sector gathering to align priorities and have supported the development of a local community audit approach that will inform targeted action in the coming period. We also maintained links with the Open University, including the Centre for Voluntary Sector Leadership, and participated in other research and learning initiatives.

Other developments

We sustained our commitment to creating safe spaces for survivors of abuse. Paul hosted and compered the Milton Keynes White Ribbon Vigil, and we continued our work as a White Ribbon supporter organisation. Staff and volunteer training, signposting information and safeguarding practice have been reviewed and strengthened.

Financial review

The year included a planned capital investment to establish the Drakes Mews warehouse and office. This was funded through a mix of grants and designated reserves that we have intentionally built over several years for this purpose. While the move increased costs in the short term, early operational efficiencies and improved coordination are already visible. We will continue to monitor benefits and costs across the next period.

Outside of building expenses, the Meals project saw a small overspend due to the rising costs of food and a small downturn in income. Reserves covered this overspend with no concern and the Trustees have met with the leadership team to assist with planning to increase income to the project.

The wider funding environment remains challenging. Even so, a combination of faithful regular giving, successful grant applications and focused fundraising meant we were able to meet obligations and maintain prudent reserves in line with policy. We remain disciplined about internal controls, risk management and value for money.

During the year income increased by £17,762, to £172,995, and expenditure increased by £24,001, to £180,663. As a result, the cash held by the charity decreased by £7,668 to £75,041, of which £9,218 is unrestricted and can be used for any charitable purpose

Our thanks go to staff, trustees, volunteers, and all supporters who have contributed to this positive outcome. The trustees regularly review and monitor the charity's activities to mitigate risks, with appropriate procedures in place for ongoing evaluation. We are confident in the continued health and success of St Marks over the coming year and do not foresee any significant threats.

Reserves policy

We look to always hold approx £20,000 or 3 months unrestricted expenditure in reserve. As will be clear in this report, and has been clear in our communication as a charity throughout the year, we have not always been able to achieve this, but end the year in a much more positive position than we have been. Deep analysis of giving trends and spending patterns by the trustees has led to new insights and the ability to plan our activity within a 'rebuilding budget' has emerged.

Risk Statement

As trustees we continue to review and monitor the risks to which we consider the charity to be exposed - either currently or in the future. Appropriate procedures and plans are actively engaged with, and reviews regularly take place. We consider the charity's finances to be in a good place and are confident of our financial longevity into 2025, 2006 and beyond.

Closing

We thank all those who dedicate their time and energies to St Marks, those in our staff, volunteers and trustees.

We look ahead with realism and hope. The needs in our city are significant, yet the opening of Drakes Mews gives us new capacity to respond. With God's help, and with the continued partnership of our supporters and friends, we will keep advancing faith and reducing the impact of poverty in Milton Keynes.

Approval

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

Paul Oxley

Paul Oxley (Dec 23, 2025 14:20:09 GMT)

.....
Rev Paul Oxley
Chair of Trustees

Date: Dec 23, 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Mark's Milton Keynes ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025 on pages 7 to 10 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.

Lisa Darby
Lisa Darby (Dec 24, 2025 10:01:16 GMT)

Lisa Darby FCA

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Dec 24, 2025

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

		Unrestricted General Funds	Restricted Funds	2025	2024
Notes		£	£	£	£
Income receipts					
Donations and grants		45,842	5,204	51,046	74,508
Gift aid receipts		11,913	-	11,913	10,941
St Marks Meals		-	80,269	80,269	69,636
Grants towards rental		-	29,741	29,741	-
Other		26	-	26	148
Total receipts		57,781	115,214	172,995	155,233
Payments					
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	54,230	122,233	176,463	152,419
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	4,200	-	4,200	4,243
Total payments		58,430	122,233	180,663	156,662
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers					
		(649)	(7,019)	(7,668)	(1,429)
Transfers between funds		(7)	7	-	-
Net movement in funds		(656)	(7,012)	(7,668)	(1,429)
Cash funds as at last year end	6	9,874	72,835	82,709	84,138
Cash funds at this year end	A	9,218	65,823	75,041	82,709

Closing balances for 2024 have been restated by £148 due to processing issues with a prepayment card in 2024. See note 6.

The notes on pages 9 - 10 form part of these accounts.

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Unrestricted General funds £	Restricted funds £	2025 £	2024 £
A Cash funds				
Cash at bank with immediate access - Co-Op Bank	7,438	65,823	73,260	81,765
Cash at bank with immediate access - Soldo	1,780	-	1,780	944
	9,218	65,823	75,041	82,709
B Other monetary assets				
Deposit on Drakes Mews	7,085	-	7,085	-
	7,085	-	7,085	-
C Debtors & Liabilities				
HMRC payroll debtor	-	-	-	-
Gift aid debtor	1,464	-	1,464	5,406
Fee for Independent Examination (liability)	804	804	1,608	1,250
	2,268	804	3,072	6,656
D 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: Paul Oxley
Paul Oxley (Dec 23, 2025 14:20:09 GMT)

Date: Dec 23, 2025

Rev Paul Oxley
Chair

The notes on pages 9 - 10 form part of these accounts.

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 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 General funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly				
Staff salaries and pensions (Note 4)	26,725	39,366	66,091	70,711
Staff expenses	873	54	926	876
St Marks Meals food & packaging expenses	62	47,120	47,182	41,361
St Marks Meals fundraising expenses	-	1,523	1,523	527
St Marks Meals rent expenses	299	6,089	6,388	5,989
St Marks Meals other expenses	-	10,296	10,296	5,596
Deanery expenses	820	158	979	-
Sanctuary expenses	274	-	274	180
Warehouse expenses (Drakes Mews)	-	16,878	16,878	-
Property costs (Note 2a and 4)	10,831	-	10,831	10,750
Minor equipment	2,212	-	2,212	1,707
Administration expenses	3,685	-	3,685	5,652
Events and outreach activities	7,169	-	7,169	8,198
Work among the young	530	-	530	-
Accounts & independent examination	750	750	1,500	1,020
Gifts	-	-	-	2,000
Other costs	-	-	-	2,243
	<u>54,230</u>	<u>122,233</u>	<u>176,463</u>	<u>156,810</u>
2 (a) Property costs comprise:				
Church of England Parish share Manse	10,831	-	10,831	10,750
	<u>10,831</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,831</u>	<u>10,750</u>
3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others				
Grants for:				
Mission	4,200	-	4,200	4,200
Relief of poverty	-	-	-	43
	<u>4,200</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,200</u>	<u>4,243</u>

4 Transactions with related parties

Paul Oxley, a trustee, was paid a salary of £22,737 (2024: £27,548) and pension contributions of £1,171 (2024: £1,377). These payments were made in the capacity of serving as a member of the charity's staff and not for serving as a trustee; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

In addition the charity incurred expenditure totalling £10,831 (2024: £10,750) in respect of the provision of accommodation (which is customary for ministers) to Paul Oxley, who is a trustee so that they could better perform their duties.

5 Movement on restricted funds

	Balance at 31.03.24	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance at 31.03.25
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	9,874	57,781	(58,430)	(7)	9,218
	<u>9,874</u>	<u>57,781</u>	<u>(58,430)</u>	<u>(7)</u>	<u>9,218</u>
Restricted funds					
St Marks Meals	72,617	80,269	(100,144)	-	52,742
Drakes Mews	-	29,741	(16,878)	-	12,864
Acts of Kindness	39	-	-	-	39
Deanery Salaries and expenses	-	5,204	(5,211)	7	(0)
Hardship	146	-	-	-	146
Sanctuary	33	-	-	-	33
	<u>72,835</u>	<u>115,214</u>	<u>(122,233)</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>65,823</u>
Total funds	<u>82,709</u>	<u>172,995</u>	<u>(180,663)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>75,041</u>

St Marks Meals' provides meals for children and families in schools and children's centres across Milton Keynes who are in need. This is an ongoing project and restricted funds are carried forward.

Drakes Mews is the premises used for St Mark's Meals and payments are for rental.

Hardship Fund and "Acts of Kindness" provides those in need with gifts.

Deanery salaries and expenses provided payments for four hours of admin support weekly.

Sanctuary is a local network of churches seeking to become safe spaces led by safe leaders who respond well to survivors of domestic abuse.

6 Re-stating of opening balances

During the prior year ended 31st March 2024, there were some issues with the church issued SOLDO card, whereby some payments were not synching properly. Trustees addressed this matter directly with the company during 2024 and issues have since been resolved, however the closing balance in 2024 was left with an error of £148.47. Closing balances for 2024 in these accounts have therefore been restated by £148.47 to account for the error.

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES

England & Wales - Charity number 1180087

Accounts

St Mark's Milton Keynes

Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2024

Stewardship 
Active generosity

1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB

www.stewardship.org.uk

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	29 Bradwell Road Bradville Milton Keynes MK13 7AX
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Constitution dated 13 August 2018 Registered 26 September 2018
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1180087
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	Iain Rowe (Appointed April 2024) Rvd Paul Oxley Jonathan Hyde Alexander Jones (Resigned Mar 2024) Vicki Offin (Appointed April 2024)
KEY MANAGEMENT	R Lawrence P Oxley
BANKERS	HSBC UK Bank plc
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Lisa Darby FCA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Formation

St Mark's Milton Keynes was established as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation by a Constitution dated 13th August 2018 and has the Registered Charity Number 1180087.

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Under the terms of the Constitution, the trustees have the power to do anything which is calculated to further the objects of the charity or is conducive or incidental to doing so. The income and property of the charity must be applied solely towards the promotion of its objects.

As trustees, we have several key responsibilities:

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

Objects of the charity

The objects of the charity are, for the public benefit:

1. The advancement of the Christian faith, in accordance with the Statement of Faith, in Milton Keynes and such other parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the Charity Trustees may from time to time decide; and
2. The prevention and/or relief of poverty in particular, but not exclusively, by providing financial support to individuals in need, and charities or organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.

Introduction

Reflecting on the past year fills us with gratitude for the work accomplished while also acknowledging the ongoing challenges faced by us and many other charities.

The funding landscape is the toughest we have ever known, and the levels of need in our communities continue to rise, despite challenges like Covid and the "Winter Fuel Crisis" seemingly having passed. The effects of these challenges still impact many families.

In this context, we extend our sincere thanks to everyone connected to St Marks who has worked tirelessly throughout the year: staff and volunteers, whether regularly or occasionally. Your contributions are deeply appreciated, and none of what we have achieved would have been possible without you.

Faith advancement

Measuring success in developing faith is challenging, as it is often a profound, gradual, and personal journey. Nevertheless, there are activities we hope have contributed to this growth, and certain indicators that we can point to.

We have begun weekly gatherings in a new venue after spending a year meeting in homes, thanks to a grant from the Diocese of Oxford. This predictable gathering pattern has led to increased attendance, especially among children and young people, who often make up nearly 50% of our congregation.

Generosity, as an indicator of living faith, remains a priority for us. We continue to support other local charities through financial donations, volunteering, and other support initiatives.

This year, Rev Oxley has also served as the interim Area Dean of Milton Keynes, providing an opportunity for the accumulated wisdom of St Marks to support strategic planning and encourage positive change. The main project over the year has been creating a Deanery Mission and Action Plan to promote growth, increased mission activity, and overall health over the next decade.

Poverty relief

Our primary focus remains the development and scale of St Marks Meals. We now work with over 100 schools across Milton Keynes, each of whom express deep gratitude for our help in providing immediate meals to families in need. This year, we also expanded our partnerships to include NHS GP surgeries, Social Prescribers, Social Enterprises, Alternative Education Providers, and Community Centres.

We are committed to sharing our knowledge and resources freely to ensure more children are fed. A new national hub opened in Coventry this summer, with more in development.

Locally, our work has fostered the growth of the Milton Keynes Child Poverty Partnership. We held a key event for various agencies across the city, combining efforts from the charity, local government, business, and education sectors. This collaboration has led to the development of a local audit programme for communities, which promises exciting results in the coming period.

We have also been involved with the Open University, particularly its Centre for Voluntary Sector Leadership, as well as other research projects.

Other developments

This year, St Marks became an official White Ribbon Supporter, further demonstrating our commitment to being a safe place for survivors of domestic abuse. This recognition highlights our dedication to ensuring St Marks remains a supportive and safe environment.

Financial review

During the year income increased by £17,623, to £155,233, and expenditure increased by £28,798, to £156,810. As a result, the cash held by the charity decreased by £1577 to £82,561, of which £9726 is unrestricted and can be used for any charitable purpose

Our thanks go to staff, trustees, volunteers, and all supporters who have contributed to this positive outcome. The trustees regularly review and monitor the charity's activities to mitigate risks, with appropriate procedures in place for ongoing evaluation. We are confident in the continued health and success of St Marks over the coming year and do not foresee any significant threats.

Reserves policy

We look to always hold approx £20,000 or 3 months unrestricted expenditure in reserve. As will be clear in this report, and has been clear in our communication as a charity throughout the year, we have not always been able to achieve this, but end the year in a much more positive position than we have been. Deep analysis of giving trends and spending patterns by the trustees has led to new insights and the ability to plan our activity within a 'rebuilding budget' has emerged.

Risk Statement

The trustees continue to review and monitor the risks to which they consider the charity to be exposed currently or in potential future scenarios. Appropriate procedures and plans are in place to continue this identification and monitoring, with reviews taking place regularly.

Closing

In closing, we extend our heartfelt thanks to all who have served St Marks as trustees during this period of transition. We especially thank Alex Jones for his service as treasurer, and we warmly welcome our new trustees. Jonathan Hyde now chairs the board, marking another significant step towards organisational health.

We look forward to writing the next report and to sharing continued progress in all we are called to do in Milton Keynes.

Approval

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


[Paul Oxley \(Jan 20, 2025 15:01 GMT\)](#)

Rev Paul Oxley
Chair of Trustees

Date: Jan 20, 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Mark's Milton Keynes ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024 on pages 6 to 9 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

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

Lisa Darby
Lisa Darby (Jan 22, 2025 16:12 GMT)

Lisa Darby FCA

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Jan 22, 2025

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

		Unrestricted General Funds	Restricted Funds	2024	2023
Notes	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Income receipts</i>					
Donations and grants		53,084	21,424	74,508	132,418
Gift aid receipts		5,892	5,049	10,941	4,600
St Marks Meals		-	69,636	69,636	-
Other		148	-	148	592
<i>Total receipts</i>		59,125	96,108	155,233	137,610
<i>Payments</i>					
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	51,005	101,562	152,567	119,360
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	4,243	-	4,243	8,652
<i>Total payments</i>		55,248	101,562	156,810	128,012
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers					
		3,877	(5,454)	(1,577)	9,598
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		3,877	(5,454)	(1,577)	9,598
Cash funds as at last year end		5,849	78,289	84,138	74,540
Cash funds at this year end	A	9,726	72,835	82,561	84,138

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

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

	Unrestricted General funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 £	2023 £
A Cash funds				
Cash at bank with immediate access - Co-Op Bank	9,726	71,891	81,617	82,770
Cash at bank with immediate access - Soldo	-	944	944	1,368
	9,726	72,835	82,561	84,138
B Debtors & Liabilities				
HMRC payroll debtor	-	-	-	1,312
Gift aid debtor	4,285	1,122	5,406	618
Fee for Independent Examination (liability)	625	625	1,250	1,000
	4,910	1,747	6,656	2,930

C 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: Paul Oxley
Paul Oxley (Jan 20, 2025 15:01 GMT)

Date: Jan 20, 2025

Rev Paul Oxley
Chair

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

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 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.

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 General funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly				
Staff salaries and pensions (Note 4)	26,871	43,841	70,711	61,503
Staff expenses	524	352	876	
St Marks Meals food & packaging expenses	-	41,361	41,361	22,870
St Marks Meals fundraising expenses	-	527	527	1,720
St Marks Meals rent expenses	-	5,989	5,989	2,183
St Marks Meals other expenses	-	5,596	5,596	5,857
Pray-MK expenses	-	-	-	2,655
Sanctuary expenses	180	-	180	187
Property costs (Note 2a and 4)	10,750	-	10,750	9,992
Minor equipment	1,707	-	1,707	831
Pastoral care	-	-	-	1,585
Administration expenses	2,265	3,387	5,652	4,363
Events and outreach activities	8,198	-	8,198	4,315
Work among the young	-	-	-	278
Accounts & independent examination	510	510	1,020	1,021
Gifts	2,000	-	2,000	-
Other costs	2,243	-	2,243	-
	<u>55,248</u>	<u>101,562</u>	<u>156,810</u>	<u>119,360</u>
2 (a) Property costs comprise:				
Church of England Parish share Manse	10,750	-	10,750	9,992
	<u>10,750</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,750</u>	<u>9,992</u>
3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others				
Grants for:				
Mission	4,200	-	4,200	8,012
Relief of poverty	43	-	43	520
Education and training	-	-	-	120
	<u>4,243</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,243</u>	<u>8,652</u>

4 Transactions with related parties

Paul Oxley, a trustee, was paid a salary of £27,548 (2023: £27,548) and pension contributions of £1,377 (2023: £1,377). These payments were made in the capacity of serving as a member of the charity's staff and not for serving as a trustee; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

In addition the charity incurred expenditure totalling £10,750 (2023: £9,992) in respect of the provision of accommodation (which is customary for ministers) to Paul Oxley, who is a trustee so that they could better perform their duties.

5 Movement on restricted funds

	Balance at 31.03.23 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31.03.24 £
General funds	5,849	59,125	(55,248)	-	9,726
	<u>5,849</u>	<u>59,125</u>	<u>(55,248)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,726</u>
Restricted funds					
St Marks Meals	78,071	93,557	(99,010)	-	72,617
Acts of Kindness	39	-	-	-	39
Hardship	146	-	-	-	146
Sanctuary	33	-	-	-	33
Chief Operations Officer Salary Fund	-	2,552	(2,552)	-	-
	<u>78,289</u>	<u>96,108</u>	<u>(101,562)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>72,835</u>
Total funds	<u>84,138</u>	<u>155,233</u>	<u>(156,810)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82,561</u>

St Marks Meals' provides meals for children and families in schools and children's centres across Milton Keynes who are in need.

Hardship Fund and "Acts of Kindness" provides those in need with gifts.

Sanctuary is a local network of churches seeking to become safe spaces led by safe leaders who respond well to survivors of domestic abuse.

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES

England & Wales - Charity number 1180087

Accounts

St Mark's Milton Keynes

Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2023

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	29 Bradwell Road Bradville Milton Keynes MK13 7AX
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Constitution dated 13 August 2018 Registered 26 September 2018
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1180087
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	A M Rosier (resigned 31 March 2023) P Oxley J Hyde A Jones H Bunce (resigned 31 March 2023)
KEY MANAGEMENT	R Lawrence P Oxley
BANKERS	HSBC UK Bank plc
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Lisa Darby FCA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Formation

St Mark's Milton Keynes was established as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation by a Constitution dated 13th August 2018 and has the Registered Charity Number 1180087.

Trustees

The trustees are the only voting members of the charity. They are not remunerated in any form for their services as trustees.

The existing trustees have the power to appoint new or additional trustees.

Under the terms of the Constitution, the trustees have the power to do anything which is calculated to further the objects of the charity or is conducive or incidental to doing so. The income and property of the charity must be applied solely towards the promotion of its objects.

Objects of the charity

The objects of the charity are, for the public benefit:

1. The advancement of the Christian faith, in accordance with the Statement of Faith, in Milton Keynes and such other parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the Charity Trustees may from time to time decide; and
2. The prevention and/or relief of poverty in particular, but not exclusively, by providing financial support to individuals in need, and charities or organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.

Summary of the charity's main activities and achievements

Throughout the period on which this report reflects, the country went through several seismic changes and events. All church ministry is done best when done with full awareness of the contexts and the times in which it is done. Those who read this report will quickly see that the activity of St Marks continued to be informed and inspired by the context and times about which we write.

There were events which affected us all, over which we of course had neither control nor influence. The death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth immediately springs to mind as an example of a single event which effected each community across the UK. So too did the invasion of Ukraine and the immediate arrival of many Ukrainian refugees to the city. And of course the worsening economic situation of the country continued to take its toll on people throughout Milton Keynes as the political decisions taken in Westminster, the invasive actions taken in Moscow and numerous other factors combined to create a Cost of Living Crisis of huge proportion which pushed us and many other charities to new levels of response, ingenuity and need.

While all this is change, none of which we hope will be permanent, there remains three foundations stones on which we hope to consistently build as a church. Faith, Hope and Love. As in previous years, the remainder of this report will be grouped around these themes.

And while Faith, Hope and Love remain a consistent theme each year, so also remains our gratitude to the people who make St Marks.

St Marks is not primarily an organisation or legal entity. It is foremost a group of individual disciples of Jesus who dedicate their time, energy, creativity and resources to the work of the Church. As trustees we know that nothing would happen were it not for their commitment and effort. We are thankful for them and keen that they take credit for all that is commended in this report.

In particular we would like to thank both Hannah Bunch and Alice Rosier for their service as trustees. Alice in particular, having served for ten years, deserves special thanks. Both however gave freely of immense wisdom and reflective leadership. As they step down from the board at the end of this financial year we await for replacements who might be their equal.

Faith

St Marks celebrated its 10th anniversary in summer 2022. The survival of any start-up organisation for a decade is statistically unlikely, and the arrival of this anniversary, especially following a pandemic and several periods of lockdown, is no mean feat! It was a joy to celebrate this milestone, and to be able to do so together in person.

Gathering has remained tricky throughout this year. We began this reporting period meeting publicly, though Covid remained a live issue for people, with many struggling still to meet indoors.

A combination of financial pressures and organisational pragmatism led us to spend the second half of 2022 and first half of 2023 meeting weekly for church in the homes of St Marks members. Despite this being problematic for growth and the ability of new people to seek out the church gatherings, this pattern of meeting was wonderful for relationship, discipleship, developing deep friendships and replenishing much of what was lost throughout the pandemic lockdowns.

Throughout this time we also continued to produce resources for both our church and the wider church in Milton Keynes, funded largely through a Diocese of Oxford grant. We produced and published a book of prayers and poems, created a “pop-up prayer space” for any local church group to use, and a series of “Prayer Boxes” for families and small groups in collaboration with an acclaimed illustrator. These resources will continue to be available and to assist disciples long after the ending of this grant.

Our partnership with Open Doors continued to grow, with Rev Oxley being invited to their Head Office to speak to a full staff meeting, as well as becoming a national ambassador for the organisation, speaking on behalf of persecuted Christians around the world.

This level of partnership continued also more locally with Toybox, again, with Rev Oxley invited to lead a staff day of Prayer and team training.

Both these partnerships remain important to us as a church as expressions of care for those beyond our immediate reach.

Hope

One of our strategic aims is to combat the causes and effects of child poverty within the City of Milton Keynes. St Marks Meals has continued to do this through the provision of Meals Boxes in over 100 local schools, while the establishment and growth of the Milton Keynes Child Poverty Partnership (MKCPP) has helped to advocate for children at a more strategic and preventative level.

St Mark's Meals

There have been many highlights in our work this year. The Winter Fuel Crisis, the Cost of Living Crisis and other factors have resulted in an increasing level of need. We continue to partner with more schools who do a wonderful job in ensuring that local children are assured of dinner each evening.

This year we have seen the growth of a number of local partnerships with organisations other than schools. Four local businesses have made St Marks Meals their 'charity of the year' resulting in fundraising, awareness and practical support as well as expertise sharing. We have also had some incredible fund-raisers who have run marathons, held coral events, hosted concerts and much more in support of us for which we are incredibly grateful.

We have also hosted visiting dignitaries, including King Charles at the warehouse, which has been an honour.

The year culminated in the appointment of an operations assistant to help us cope with increased demand. This new position, made possible by our wonderful supporters, has enabled us to continue delivering meals boxes to those who need them.

MKCPP

Our hope was always that we would be able to tackle child poverty in a preventative way as well as direct emergency support. The MKCPP was established by Rev Oxley in response to several national and local studies and consultations. This year the MKCPP hosted two learning and collaboration events attended by over 50 different organisations from multiple sectors, all seeking to help eradicate child poverty in the City.

As well as this, a Winter Fuel emergency group was convened to advocate for children and petition for emergency support during the crisis period.

These events, and our advocacy work has led to multiple media appearances on local and regional TV & radio for Rev Oxley, speaking on behalf of children in MK.

These efforts have begun to effect policy decisions taken in MK and we hope will continue as we develop the "One Gen" initiative, seeing to eradicate child poverty within a generation.

Sanctuary

The second area in which we seek to bring hope to others is in the area of Domestic Abuse. As well as our continued support of MK-Act, we have developed, with the help of a diocesan grant, the Sanctuary Learning Communities. This year we were able to hold three communities: learning events for leaders of churches to discover together how to grow as safe leaders, leading safe churches for survivors.

Although the grant has now concluded, we hope to be able to continue these learning communities and know that the web-based resources and videoed seminars will be of use to local churches long after the ending of the financial support.

Love

Our final foundation value is Love, which is perhaps the more tricky to measure and on which to report.

However, while the work of St Marks is wide and varied, it is only ever able to be as strong, as deep or as effective as it is, because of the foundation on which it is built. The community of St Marks, rooted and established in love remains committed to providing care and showing love to each other in countless ways, both large and small and many of which remain unseen.

From providing meals to mothers of new-borns, continued care of refugee families, hospital visits, care of children, sharing of resources and many other tiny acts of sharing and community building, St Marks continues to grow as a community who know and care for one another deeply. This is a church not based on attendance but on participation, where acts of love are more important than statements of theology and relationship remains at the core of what we do, for it is who we are.

Financial review

A closing remark must be given as always to the finances and sustainability of the charity. These are, it is clear, testing times. Like other churches and charities we have faced the twin challenge of increased costs and decreased income. This has been a real challenge and at times has demanded high levels of faith, work and planning. This reality of course was built on the foundation of the challenging years of the Covid pandemic. Much work, analysis, planning and preparation has been done: the church has increased their generous financial support and the staff & trustees have worked diligently to ensure that we end the year financially stable with plans to build reserves again and continue well into the future.

Reserves policy

We look to always hold approx £20,000 or 3 months unrestricted expenditure in reserve. As will be clear in this report, and has been clear in our communication as a charity throughout the year, we have not always been able to achieve this, but end the year in a much more positive position than we have been. Deep analysis of giving trends and spending patterns by the trustees has led to new insights and the ability to plan our activity within a 'rebuilding budget' has emerged.

Risk Statement

The trustees continue to review and monitor the risks to which they consider the charity to be exposed currently or in potential future scenarios. Appropriate procedures and plans are in place to continue this identification and monitoring, with reviews taking place regularly.

Trustees' Responsibilities

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

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

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

What follows are a few snapshot highlights, they could never convey a full sense of all that has taken place in the past 12 months, nor, we suspect, that which might follow in the next!

Approval

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

Paul Oxley

.....
Rev Paul Oxley
Chair of Trustees

Date: 21 January 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Mark's Milton Keynes ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023 on pages 9 to 10 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.

Lisa Darby

Lisa Darby FCA

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 22nd January 2024

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

		Unrestricted General Funds	Restricted Funds	2023	2022
Notes	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Income receipts</i>					
Donations and grants		46,049	86,369	132,418	138,702
Gift aid receipts		861	3,739	4,600	3,376
Other		592	-	592	-
		<u>47,502</u>	<u>90,108</u>	<u>137,610</u>	<u>142,078</u>
<i>Total receipts</i>		<u>47,502</u>	<u>90,108</u>	<u>137,610</u>	<u>142,078</u>
<i>Payments</i>					
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	48,932	70,428	119,360	115,206
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	4,320	4,332	8,652	19,304
		<u>53,252</u>	<u>74,760</u>	<u>128,012</u>	<u>134,510</u>
<i>Total payments</i>		<u>53,252</u>	<u>74,760</u>	<u>128,012</u>	<u>134,510</u>
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers		(5,750)	15,348	9,598	7,568
Transfers between funds		(1,996)	1,996	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>(7,746)</u>	<u>17,344</u>	<u>9,598</u>	<u>7,568</u>
Cash funds as at last year end		13,595	60,945	74,540	66,972
Cash funds at this year end	A	<u>5,849</u>	<u>78,289</u>	<u>84,138</u>	<u>74,540</u>

The notes on pages 9-10 form part of these accounts.

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	Unrestricted General funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 £	2022 £
A Cash funds				
Cash at bank with immediate access - Co-Op Bank	5,849	76,921	82,770	73,507
Cash at bank with immediate access - Soldo	-	1,368	1,368	1,033
	5,849	78,289	84,138	74,540
B Debtors & Liabilities				
HMRC payroll debtor	1,089	223	1,312	-
Gift aid debtor	116	502	618	1,200
Fee for Independent Examination (liability)	1,000	-	1,000	1,200
Accrued expenses (liability)	-	-	-	702
	2,205	725	2,930	3,102
C 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 *Paul Oxley* date: 21 January 2024

Rev Paul Oxley

Chair

The notes on pages 9-10 form part of these accounts.

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 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.

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 General funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly				
Employment costs (Note 4)	29,404	32,098	61,503	72,623
St Marks Meals food & packaging expenses	-	22,870	22,870	12,062
St Marks Meals fundraising expenses		1,720	1,720	907
St Marks Meals rent expenses		2,183	2,183	1,151
St Marks Meals other expenses		5,857	5,857	3,089
Pray-MK expenses	-	2,655	2,655	5,999
Sanctuary expenses	141	46	187	-
Property costs (Note 2a and 4)	9,992	-	9,992	9,084
Minor equipment	831	-	831	416
Pastoral care	1,585	-	1,585	1,002
Administration expenses	2,032	2,331	4,363	3,178
Events and outreach activities	4,315	-	4,315	4,347
Conferences and training	-	-	-	-
Work among the young	120	158	278	357
Accounts & independent examination	511	510	1,021	990
	<u>48,932</u>	<u>70,428</u>	<u>119,360</u>	<u>115,205</u>
2 (a) Property costs comprise:				
Church of England Parish share Manse	9,992	-	9,992	9,084
	<u>9,992</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,992</u>	<u>9,084</u>
3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others				
Grants for:				
Mission	4,200	3,812	8,012	18,321
Relief of poverty	-	520	520	743
Education and training	120	-	120	240
	<u>4,320</u>	<u>4,332</u>	<u>8,652</u>	<u>19,304</u>

4 Transactions with related parties

Paul Oxley, a trustee, was paid a salary of £27,548 (2022: £22,209) and pension contributions of £1,377 (2022: £1,263). These payments were made in the capacity of serving as a member of the charity's staff and not for serving as a trustee; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

In addition the charity incurred expenditure totalling £9,992 (2022: £9,084) in respect of the provision of accommodation (which is customary for ministers) to Paul Oxley, who is a trustee so that they could better perform their duties.

5 Movement on restricted funds

	Balance at 31.03.22	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance at 31.03.23
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	13,596	47,501	(53,252)	(1,996)	5,849
	<u>13,596</u>	<u>47,501</u>	<u>(53,252)</u>	<u>(1,996)</u>	<u>5,849</u>
Restricted funds					
St Marks Meals	57,817	84,763	(64,508)	-	78,071
Work to help Syrian Refugees	48	284	(1,061)	729	-
Acts of Kindness	39	-	-	-	39
Youthwork+	-	2,909	(2,909)	(0)	-
Hardship	666	-	(520)	-	146
Pray-MK	1,256	179	(2,655)	1,221	-
MKCPP	-	-	(46)	46	-
Sanctuary	1,119	1,245	(2,331)	-	33
Chief Operations Officer Salary	-	729	(729)	-	-
	<u>60,944</u>	<u>90,109</u>	<u>(74,760)</u>	<u>1,996</u>	<u>78,289</u>
Total funds	<u>74,540</u>	<u>137,610</u>	<u>(128,012)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>84,138</u>

St Marks Meals' provides meals for children and families in schools and children's centres across Milton Keynes who are in need.

Hardship Fund and 'Acts of Kindness' provides those in need with gifts.

Youthwork+ is a project with young people

Pray-MK is a gathering of churches from across Milton Keynes who meet to worship and pray for the city.

The Milton Keynes Child Poverty Partnership (MKCPP) brings together many different charities from across Milton Keynes to ensure good working, sharing of resources and to advocate with a united voice on behalf of the children of MK.

Sanctuary is a local network of churches seeking to become safe spaces led by safe leaders who respond well to survivors of domestic abuse.

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES

England & Wales - Charity number 1180087

Accounts

St Mark's Milton Keynes

Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2022

Stewardship 
Active generosity

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

St MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	29 Bradwell Road Bradville Milton Keynes MK13 7AX
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KEY MANAGEMENT	R Lawrence P Oxley
BANKERS	HSBC UK Bank plc
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Lisa Darby ACA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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St MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

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St Mark's Milton Keynes was established as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation by a Constitution dated 13th August 2018 and has the Registered Charity Number 1180087.

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1. The advancement of the Christian faith, in accordance with the Statement of Faith, in Milton Keynes and such other parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the Charity Trustees may from time to time decide; and
2. The prevention and/or relief of poverty in particular, but not exclusively, by providing financial support to individuals in need, and charities or organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.

Summary of the charity's main activities and achievements

Our last annual report was written in the immediate aftermath of Covid 19. This subsequent report demonstrates that the effects of the virus, lockdowns and altered practices of gathering and working have continued to have a profound effect on St Marks.

There have of course been many challenges. While we continued to prioritise safety, meeting online and at outdoor locations proved increasing difficult as screen fatigue made zoom church less enjoyable and the winter weather made outdoor gatherings less survivable! Our finances were impacted by decreased giving and some additional costs. And our ability to grow as a community of faithful people was also impacted.

All that said, as the rest of this report demonstrates, we were able to achieve a great deal over this time, and we are impressed by the continued creativity that the church continued to show in meeting challenges and continuing the work of the church in Milton Keynes and beyond.

As always, we remain thankful to all the people of our small church for their incredible joyfulness, tenacity and creativity. None of what is outlined below would be possible without them.

1. Village Life

This year, throughout various phases of the covid response, has seen us gather as church in a variety of ways. We began the year continuing to meet online. We then moved towards a term of highly relational events, mostly outdoors, seeking to re-connect after such a long period without much face-to-face time. The year ended with a three month long experience of "Car Park Church", gathering each week in a car park, sitting in open boots and sharing fellowship in a covid-secure way.

Safety remained a priority for us as we gathered. Of course physical safety from the virus, but also gathering in a way which promoted mental well-being as people began to cope with the after-effects of the lockdowns and re-entering "normal" life.

Throughout this time, it became obvious that some people had moved away from the church throughout the past 18 months or so. We hope many will return or find a good and safe home elsewhere.

2. St. Marks Meals

St Marks Meals has continued to grow at considerable pace throughout the year, adding more school and community partners from across the city.

We remain based in a warehouse with other sector charities and enjoy working in partnership with MK Foodbank especially.

Advice gained from our Natwest business coaching has been invaluable and helped us think through working practices as we 'scale-up'.

A major transition of the year has been to switch our fundraising and giving platform, enabling us to offer many more giving options and to make efficiency savings in the process. This has born immediate fruit with a number of new regular givers and runners fundraising for us through the MK marathon especially.

As well as increasing the number of local schools benefitting from St Marks Meals, we have connected with four churches in other parts of the country and enabled them to start their own, contextually branded version of St Marks Meals. This means that more children are going to bed with a full tummy.

3. Pray-MK

In our final year of grant funding for this project we were determined to create resources which would outlive the project when the funding came to an end.

To this end we are overjoyed with some of the products and resources which we have been able to create.

Of special note is the book produced by local author Deborah Fielding, "Opening" which is a series of prayers, poems and spaces. The book has been well received and will continue to be sold long after the project has come to an end.

We have also worked with a local agency to produce a pop-up-prayer-tent for local churches to borrow, and some family, table-based prayer resources with artist Andy Smith.

As this project now closes, we believe it to have been vital in galvanising prayer in many people across Milton Keynes, and are sure that the creative response to this years constraints means that the resources produced will continue to serve people long into the future as they remain available for purchase or hire.

4. Sanctuary Network

Thanks to a grant from Oxford Diocese we were able to begin our long-awaited "Sanctuary Network". Through advice and input from local Women's Refuge services as well as national experts, we have created a local network of churches seeking to become safe spaces led by safe leaders who respond well to survivors of domestic abuse.

Special thanks to Gail Foot for her leadership in this area.

A series of Learning Community events will be held throughout the year for local church leaders, as well as the production of a website, resources and a video-course for churches.

We are proud of this work and believe it to be important, challenging abuse and being involved in healthy spiritual leadership and restoration of both health and safety for survivors.

5. Milton Keynes Child Poverty Partnership

The Milton Keynes Child Poverty Partnership has come into fruition, founded and chaired by Rev Oxley.

The partnership is bringing together many different charities from across Milton Keynes to ensure good working, sharing of resources and to advocate with a united voice on behalf of the children of MK.

In its early days the partnership has already succeeded in building a web-based directory of local services, joined a task force concerned with Period Poverty and initiated Roundtable discussions with local government and charity leaders concerned about the looming energy crisis.

6. Governance and finance

This year required hard work on the part of trustees and staff as we emerged from Covid while overseeing several growing projects, delivering grant-funded ministries and navigating the complex demands of sustainability.

We entered this financial year having drawn significantly upon our reserves. A priority therefore became the financial management of the charity to rebuild those reserve funds. By the end of the year we had done so to a level of £10,000, which though not quite to the level stated in our policy, is much more healthy than this time last year.

Our thanks go to the staff of the church and to our treasurer for hard work in this area.

While there of course remains uncertainty regarding the future, with war and other factors affecting prices, stability and confidence...we remain committed to the mission of St Marks and confident that the charity is in a healthy and viable position to meet the challenges of the future with creativity and kindness.

Financial review

Having ended our previous financial year in a slight deficit, the primary task of this year, as well as fulfilling the function and vision of the church and charity, was to rebuild our reserves and restore a greater level of financial health. This has been done, through hard work by the staff and trustees and as this report shows, we end this financial year with reserves which, though not at our desired level, are much more healthy than previously.

This has been another hard year to raise money, and so particular thanks must go to our COO and the Meals Team for showing tenacity and creativity in raising money and managing it well.

With the general health of the charity, the activity planned and the snapshot of this report, the trustees are happy to report that we are confident of the ongoing financial health and viability of St Marks MK.

Reserves policy

Overall, the trustees look to hold £20,000 in reserves, or three months unrestricted expenditure. As this report evidences, we are not currently at this level, though through a combination of organisational changes, cost-savings, efficiency savings and budget control, we are confident that we will continue to be able to build the reserves while fulfilling the role and function of the charity.

Risk Statement

The Trustees continue to review the risks to which they consider the charity is exposed. Appropriate procedures are in place to identify, monitor, and review these risks on a regular basis.

Trustees' Responsibilities

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

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

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

Approval

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

Paul Oxley

.....
Rev Paul Oxley
Chair

Date: 12/1/23

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
St MARK'S MILTON KEYNES

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Mark's Milton Keynes ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2022 on pages 7 to 10 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.

Lisa Darby ACA

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 23rd January 2023

St MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted General Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 £	2021 £
Income receipts					
Donations and grants		68,069	74,009	142,078	155,010
Government Job Retention Scheme Grants		-	-	-	3,200
Other		-	-	-	343
		<u>68,069</u>	<u>74,009</u>	<u>142,078</u>	<u>158,553</u>
Total receipts		<u>68,069</u>	<u>74,009</u>	<u>142,078</u>	<u>158,553</u>
Payments					
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	47,314	67,892	115,206	112,123
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	4,560	14,744	19,304	6,094
		<u>51,874</u>	<u>82,636</u>	<u>134,510</u>	<u>118,217</u>
Total payments		<u>51,874</u>	<u>82,636</u>	<u>134,510</u>	<u>118,217</u>
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers		16,195	(8,627)	7,568	40,336
Transfers between funds		(1,238)	1,238	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>14,957</u>	<u>(7,389)</u>	<u>7,568</u>	<u>40,336</u>
Cash funds as at last year end		(1,362)	68,334	66,972	26,636
Cash funds at this year end	A	<u>13,595</u>	<u>60,945</u>	<u>74,540</u>	<u>66,972</u>

The notes on pages 9-10 form part of these accounts.

St MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Unrestricted General funds	Restricted funds	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
A Cash funds				
Cash at bank with immediate access - HSBC	13,595	59,912	73,507	66,972
Cash at bank with immediate access - Soldo	-	1,033	1,033	-
	<u>13,595</u>	<u>60,945</u>	<u>74,540</u>	<u>66,972</u>
B Other monetary assets				
Gift aid due to charity	1,200	-	1,200	-
	<u>1,200</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,200</u>	<u>-</u>
C Liabilities				
Fee for Independent Examination	1,200	-	1,200	1,440
Accrued expenses	-	702	702	292
	<u>1,200</u>	<u>702</u>	<u>1,902</u>	<u>1,732</u>
D 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 Paul Oxley date 12/1/23

Rev Paul Oxley
Chair

The notes on pages 9-10 form part of these accounts.

St MARK'S MILTON KEYNES

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 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.

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 General funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly				
Employment costs (Note 4)	27,940	44,683	72,623	66,566
St Mark's Meals expenses	-	17,210	17,210	27,938
Pray-MK expenses	-	5,899	5,899	1,706
Property costs (Note 2a and 4)	9,084	-	9,084	8,430
Minor equipment	416	-	416	884
Pastoral care	1,002	-	1,002	161
Administration expenses	3,178	-	3,178	4,662
Events and outreach activities	4,347	-	4,347	1,626
Conferences and training	-	-	-	(2,110)
Work among the young	357	-	357	819
Accounts & independent examination	990	-	990	1,440
	<u>47,314</u>	<u>67,892</u>	<u>115,205</u>	<u>112,123</u>
2 (a) Property costs comprise:				
Church of England Parish share Manse	9,084	-	9,084	8,430
	<u>9,084</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,084</u>	<u>8,430</u>
3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others				
Grants for:				
Mission	4,320	14,001	18,321	4,241
Relief of poverty	-	743	743	1,613
Education and training	240	-	240	240
	<u>4,560</u>	<u>14,744</u>	<u>19,304</u>	<u>6,094</u>
4 Transactions with related parties				

Paul Oxley, a trustee, was paid a salary of £26,025 (2021: £25,600) and pension contributions of £1,299 (2021: £1,280). These payments were made in the capacity of serving as a member of the charity's staff and not for serving as a trustee; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

In addition the charity incurred expenditure totalling £9,084 (2020: £8,340) in respect of the provision of accommodation (which is customary for ministers) to Paul Oxley, who is a trustee so that they could better perform their duties.

5 Movement on restricted funds

	Balance at 31.03.21	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance at 31.03.22
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	(1,361)	68,069	(51,874)	(1,238)	13,596
	<u>(1,361)</u>	<u>68,069</u>	<u>(51,874)</u>	<u>(1,238)</u>	<u>13,596</u>
Restricted funds					
St Marks Meals	57,024	46,829	(46,036)	-	57,817
Work to help Syrian Refugees	121	-	(73)	-	48
Acts of Kindness	275	434	(670)	-	39
Youthwork+	1,010	4,373	(5,389)	7	-
Hardship	424	241	-	-	665
Pray-MK	9,480	9,390	(17,614)	-	1,256
MKCPP	-	3,000	(4,231)	1,231	-
Sanctuary	-	5,500	(4,381)	-	1,119
Chief Operations Officer Salary	-	4,242	(4,242)	-	-
	<u>68,333</u>	<u>74,009</u>	<u>(82,635)</u>	<u>1,238</u>	<u>60,944</u>
Total funds	<u>66,972</u>	<u>142,078</u>	<u>(134,509)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>74,541</u>

St Marks Meals' provides meals for children and families in schools and children's centres across Milton Keynes who are in need.

Hardship Fund and 'Acts of Kindness' provides those in need with gifts.

Youthwork+ is a project with young people

Pray-MK is a gathering of churches from across Milton Keynes who meet to worship and pray for the city.

The Milton Keynes Child Poverty Partnership (MKCPP) brings together many different charities from across Milton Keynes to ensure good working, sharing of resources and to advocate with a united voice on behalf of the children of MK.

Sanctuary is a local network of churches seeking to become safe spaces led by safe leaders who respond well to survivors of domestic abuse.

ST MARK'S MILTON KEYNES

England & Wales - Charity number 1180087

Accounts

St Mark's Milton Keynes

Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 March 2021

Stewardship 
Active generosity

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

St MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	29 Bradwell Road Bradville Milton Keynes MK13 7AX
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Constitution dated 13 August 2018 registered 26 April 2018
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1180087
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	A M Rosier P Oxley J Hyde A Jones H Bunce - appointed 01 May 2020
KEY MANAGEMENT	R Lawrence P Oxley
BANKERS	HSBC UK Bank plc
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Jacob Farley ACA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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St MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Formation

St Mark's Milton Keynes was established as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation by a Constitution dated 13th August 2018 and has the Registered Charity Number 1180087.

Trustees

The trustees are the only voting members of the charity. They are not remunerated in any form for their services as trustees.

The existing trustees have the power to appoint new or additional trustees.

Under the terms of the Constitution, the trustees have the power to do anything which is calculated to further the objects of the charity or is conducive or incidental to doing so. The income and property of the charity must be applied solely towards the promotion of its objects.

Objects of the charity

The objects of the charity are, for the public benefit:

1. The advancement of the Christian faith, in accordance with the Statement of Faith, in Milton Keynes and such other parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the Charity Trustees may from time to time decide; and
2. The prevention and/or relief of poverty in particular, but not exclusively, by providing financial support to individuals in need, and charities or organisations working to prevent or relieve poverty.

Summary of the charity's main activities and achievements

The following report attempts to describe the life of St Mark's throughout the year of Covid: a famously unprecedented time for the world, the nation, our community, our church and all of our projects. Like many others, we find ourselves still reflecting on the year and all the change which was immediately required. We also find ourselves deeply grateful to be in a position to write this report: there are many other churches, charities and comparably sized businesses who were not able to survive 2020/21.

St Mark's finds itself, despite all of the challenges of the past year, in a remarkably healthy and typically active place.

The following report reflects briefly on the headlines, but in no way could it ever capture the depth of community, the endless creativity or tenacious love displayed by so many of the St Mark's community. None of what we have been able to achieve would have been possible without them, and for each of them we are incredibly grateful.

1. Village Life

This year began in a national lock-down. Our church community, usually established around tables and with personal proximity as a core part of our practice, was severely disrupted. Like others, we immediately began to meet thought out each week on Zoom. The level of engagement, creative involvement, and community ownership of our weekly gatherings actually increased from the norm during this time.

We are particularly thankful to those who led groups each week on zoom for children and young people, and who facilitated digital hangouts to maintain the closeness of the church community.

An unanticipated benefit of gathering online was that we were also able to welcome and include people from outside of the immediate Milton Keynes geographical area. We were also able to help host an Open Doors online event, focussing on the persecuted church in areas of extreme poverty, host weekly church leader gatherings throughout the first lockdown and share some of our learning and created resources with other churches locally and nationally.

2. St. Marks Meals

The start of the first lockdown saw an immediate and massive local effort to provide food to local households. It also saw the closure of most MK schools. Given this, we took the decision to work with MK Foodbank, and ensure that our efforts supported them rather than detracted or disrupted their work.

We gave an immediate donation of food and finances on the very first day of the lockdown.

With the closing of the schools, it also became apparent that making use of the government's furlough scheme for our St Mark's Meals project leader was the wisest thing to do. We would like to note the work of Stewardship in helping us to do this, and thank them for their help in administering this process.

With the 'opening up' of schools and society after the summer of 2020, we said goodbye to our first 'Meals Head Chef' who had built up St Mark's Meals from conception to nearly 30 partner schools. Her work in building this project from scratch, scaling the operations on a shoe-string and building the brand into one which is recognised and trusted by schools across MK is quite remarkable and we remain ever grateful for her and the foundation which she was able to lay.

As part of the resulting recruitment process, and given the demands of the project and the increased levels of need across MK, the trustees decided to double our staffing commitment, hiring two new employees to take on St Marks Meals.

This decision has borne immediate fruit. We have been able to almost double the number of local partner schools, increase delivery capacity, forge a working partnership with MK Council and MK Foodbank and have had by far our most successful fundraising period to date.

The team were runners up in a national competition initiated by NatWest, and as such have received 6 months business coaching.

We also managed to secure a grant from Oxford Diocese which paid for a new van, used for deliveries to schools. Following the scrapping of the old van for general un-road-worthiness, this has been an incredible operational capacity boost.

Throughout this time the team have also begun to work on the possibility of helping other churches across the country to establish a project along the lines of St Mark's Meals. This is in a trial phase currently with a church in north London, and could potentially lead to the ability to feed many more children each day.

3. Pray-MK

The Pray-MK project, which initially revolved mostly around gathered prayer events was also immediately impacted by the Covid-19 lockdown.

Moving almost exclusively online, we have been able to facilitate a city-wide prayer event, several guided hours of prayer accessed by several local churches, build a website which hosts various prayer resources (video, audio and printable) and created monthly prayer videos given freely to MK churches to use within their online services.

Once again, though this was not the model which we had ever envisaged, the decentralised nature of the prayer we have been able to facilitate, and the creative answers imagined by Debbie Fielding in particular mean that we have been able to resource more people in prayer through this year than we otherwise might have expected to.

4. Milton Keynes Child Poverty Partnership

Due to the success of St Mark's Meals, Rev Oxley was invited to participate in a Community Foundation Vital Thinking event around Child Poverty in the city. From this, an emerging coalition provisionally named the "Milton Keynes Child Poverty Partnership", is taking shape under his leadership. This partnership will bring many charities together and offer combined advocacy on behalf of the children trapped in poverty.

While still at a formational stage of development, we are proud to be at the spearhead of this effort, bringing multiple agencies together and promoting collaboration which will hopefully lead to increased beneficial impact.

5. Overall

As always, as trustees we are aware that the life and impact of St Marks is only made possible due to the activity and effort of the members of our community. We get to oversee in a particular way, but by no means do we take all the credit.

Particular thanks this year must go to our COO who has worked tirelessly to facilitate church gatherings as well as implementing a streamlining overhaul of financial record-keeping, grant applications, HR policies and practices and insurance purchases. This work makes us a much smarter and more sustainable organisation.

We welcomed Hannah Bunce onto the trustee team this year, who again has begun in the most bizarre of times, by adding immediate value and insight into the management and governance of the church.

6. Conclusion

In closing, we remain thankful for all that has passed, and excited that there remain adventures for us to experience in the future. One of the grants awarded to us will allow us to finally build and launch the Sanctuary Network, helping churches across MK become safe spaces for survivors of abuse. The Meals network will hopefully be launched in the coming months, and church will be able to move off zoom and back towards gathering around tables once more.

With a commitment to the safety and love and flourishing of one another, and of our neighbourhood, we look forward with anticipation to all that is to come.

Financial review

This has of course been a remarkably stretching time on the finances of our church and is perhaps a tale of two halves. Our justice projects such as St Marks Meals, Sanctuary and work with young people have all benefitted from high levels of generosity and successful grant application. Grants awarded by the Diocese of Oxford and the Milton Keynes Community Foundation in particular have been helpful and ensure that our restricted accounts remain healthy and sustainable.

The general finances of the church have been tested this year. The final snapshot presented in these accounts show that our general fund closed in a small deficit. While this is of course not ideal, it is thankfully, not the complete picture. Responding to the situation the staff and trustees have acted to build up the general account and the charity reserves subsequently.

Given this, at time of writing this report we are in a more healthy position and confident of the ongoing healthy and viability of the charity.

Reserves policy

The Trustees look to hold £20,000 in reserve covering around 3 months unrestricted expenditure. Given a combination of deliberate overspend (primarily on St Mark's Meals) and changes in income levels throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, no reserves were held at the financial year end. The trustees are aware of this and are monitoring the situation and are confident of their ability to build reserves back to the desired level. As of the end of November 2021 reserves stood at circa £10k. Savings will of course be made in some areas, and much of the over-spend was calculated in order to grow the Meals Network. The increased fundraising ability already experienced as a result, the higher levels of grants awarded and the designated ability of the COO to secure future funding all give us confidence that re-establishing reserves to previous levels is possible.

Risk Statement

The Trustees continue to review the risks to which they consider the charity is exposed. Appropriate procedures are in place to identify, monitor, and review these risks on a regular basis.

Trustees' Responsibilities

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

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

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

Approval

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

Rev Paul Oxley
Chair

Date: 19 January 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF

St MARK'S MILTON KEYNES

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Mark's Milton Keynes ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2021 on pages 9 to 10 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

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

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

Jacob Farley ACA

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 25 January 2022

St MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted General Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 £	2020 £
<i>Income receipts</i>					
Donations and grants		59,247	95,762	155,010	98,359
Income from charitable activities		-	-	-	1,157
Government Job Retention Scheme Grants		1,286	1,914	3,200	-
Other		343	-	343	250
		<u>60,876</u>	<u>97,676</u>	<u>158,553</u>	<u>99,766</u>
<i>Total receipts</i>		<u><u>60,876</u></u>	<u><u>97,676</u></u>	<u><u>158,553</u></u>	<u><u>99,766</u></u>
<i>Payments</i>					
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	57,991	54,131	112,123	100,941
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	5,653	442	6,094	7,401
		<u>63,644</u>	<u>54,573</u>	<u>118,217</u>	<u>108,342</u>
<i>Total payments</i>		<u><u>63,644</u></u>	<u><u>54,573</u></u>	<u><u>118,217</u></u>	<u><u>108,342</u></u>
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers		(2,768)	43,104	40,336	(8,576)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>(2,768)</u>	<u>43,104</u>	<u>40,336</u>	<u>(8,576)</u>
Cash funds as at last year end		1,406	25,230	26,636	35,212
Cash funds at this year end	A	<u><u>(1,362)</u></u>	<u><u>68,334</u></u>	<u><u>66,972</u></u>	<u><u>26,636</u></u>

The notes on pages 9-10 form part of these accounts.

St MARK'S MILTON KEYNES
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Unrestricted General funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 £	2020 £
A Cash funds				
Cash at bank with immediate access	(1,362)	65,610	66,972	26,636
Petty cash	-	-	-	-
	<u>(1,362)</u>	<u>65,610</u>	<u>66,972</u>	<u>26,636</u>
B Liabilities				
Loans	-	-	-	-
Trade creditors	-	-	-	-
Taxes due	-	-	-	-
Fee for Independent Examination	1,440	-	1,440	-
Accrued expenses	292	-	292	-
	<u>1,732</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,732</u>	<u>-</u>

C 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 date: 19 January 2022

Rev Paul Oxley
Chair

The notes on pages 9-10 form part of these accounts.

St MARK'S MILTON KEYNES

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 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.

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 General funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly				
Employment costs (Note 4)	42,079	24,487	66,566	50,464
St Mark's Meals expenses	-	27,938	27,938	13,085
Pray-MK expenses	-	1,706	1,706	2,070
Property costs (Note 2a and 4)	8,430	-	8,430	7,299
Minor equipment	884	-	884	1,320
Pastoral care	161	-	161	2,083
Administration expenses	4,662	-	4,662	4,303
Events and outreach activities	1,626	-	1,626	15,187
Conferences and training	(2,110)	-	(2,110)	2,767
Work among the young	819	-	819	1,403
Accounts & independent examination	1,440	-	1,440	960
	<u>57,991</u>	<u>54,131</u>	<u>112,123</u>	<u>100,941</u>

The negative value in 'Venue Hire Conferences' is as result of refunds received for cancelled events where deposits had been paid in a previous year.

2 (a) Property costs comprise:

Church of England Parish share Manse	8,430	-	8,430	7,299
	<u>8,430</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,430</u>	<u>7,299</u>

3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others

Grants for:				
Mission	4,241	-	4,241	4,786
Relief of poverty	1,172	442	1,613	1,725
Education and training	240	-	240	890
	<u>5,653</u>	<u>442</u>	<u>6,094</u>	<u>7,401</u>

4 Transactions with related parties

Paul Oxley, a trustee, was paid a salary of £25,600 (2020: £25,600) and pension contributions of £1,280 (2020: £1,067). These payments were made in the capacity of serving as a member of the charity's staff and not for serving as a trustee; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document. Suzanna Jones, wife of Alex Jones, Charity Treasurer, served as a children's worker and was paid a salary of £1,300 (2020: £1,820) for serving in that capacity; this payment is permitted by the charity's governing document.

In addition the charity incurred expenditure totalling £8,430 (2020: £7,299) in respect of the provision of accommodation (which is customary for ministers) to Paul Oxley, who is a trustee so that they could better perform their duties.

5 Movement on restricted funds

	Balance at 31.03.20	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance at 31.03.21
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	1,407	60,876	(63,644)	-	(1,361)
	<u>1,407</u>	<u>60,876</u>	<u>(63,644)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,361)</u>
Restricted funds					
St Marks Meals	23,087	66,811	(32,874)	-	57,024
Work to help Syrian Refugees	-	133	(13)	-	121
Acts of Kindness	-	704	(429)	-	275
Youthwork+	-	1,010	-	-	1,010
Hardship	-	424	-	-	424
Pray-MK	2,142	14,504	(7,166)	-	9,480
Van Replacement	-	13,042	(13,042)	-	-
Chief Operations Officer Salary	-	1,049	(1,049)	-	-
	<u>25,229</u>	<u>97,676</u>	<u>(54,573)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>68,333</u>
Total funds	<u>26,636</u>	<u>158,552</u>	<u>(118,217)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>66,972</u>

St Marks Meals' provides meals for children and families in schools and children's centres across Milton Keynes who are in need. This was previously known as 'Make Lunch'.

Hardship Fund and 'Acts of Kindness' provides those in need with gifts.

Youthwork+ is a project with young people

Pray-MK is a gathering of churches from across Milton Keynes who meet to worship and pray for the city.

6 Funds in Deficit

As described in the Financial Review and the Reserves Policy, while the General Fund was in deficit at the year end it has since returned to a positive balance held. While we did not plan to have the General Fund in deficit the negative balance at the year-end does not reflect a material uncertainty in the going concern status of the Charity.