

St Francis Community Projects

England & Wales · Charity number 1181105

Details

Other names ST FRANCIS' COMMUNITY CHURCH

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2018-12-11

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

Contact

Address C/o Cvs
Burgess Well House
Coval Lane
Chelmsford
CM1 1FW

Phone 07790558579

Email dan@stfranciscommunity.church

Website www.stfranciscommunity.church

Activities

Objects: WITHIN THE FOUR ECCLESIASTICAL PARISHES OF BOREHAM, BROOMFIELD, NORTH SPRINGFIELD, AND GREAT AND LITTLE LEIGHS AND LITTLE WALTHAM, IN THE CITY OF CHELMSFORD IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX:(1)TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BELIEFS, DOCTRINES AND PRACTICES OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND, (A)BY MEANS OF BROADCASTING MESSAGES OF AN EVANGELISTIC AND TEACHING NATURE, AND(B)THROUGH THE HOLDING OF PUBLIC WORSHIP, PRAYER MEETINGS, LECTURES, PRODUCING AND/OR DISTRIBUTING LITERATURE, HOLDING AND FACILITATING CHURCH AND COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES TO ENLIGHTEN OTHERS ABOUT THE CHRISTIAN FAITH;(2)TO DEVELOP THE CAPACITY AND SKILLS OF THE COMMUNITY IN SUCH A WAY THAT THEY ARE BETTER ABLE TO IDENTIFY, AND HELP MEET, THEIR NEEDS AND TO PARTICIPATE MORE FULLY IN SOCIETY.

Activities: i) advancing the Christian Faith: growing a new worshipping Christian community within the new housing areas of Beaulieu and The Channels supported by a Lead Minister.ii) developing the capacity and skills of the community: helping to open and run the new Beaulieu community centre, and meeting the needs of the community we serve, especially those suffering injustice or who are disadvantaged.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Religious Activities, Economic/community Development/employment

Geography

- Essex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£93,915	£63,799	-	-
2023-12-31	£86,000	£48,000	-	-
2022-12-31	£6,586	£1,113	-	-
2021-12-31	£16,333	£19,465	-	-
2020-12-31	£1,706	£3,065	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Andrew Drake		2023-02-04
Edwina Louise Lawless		2024-12-11
Katharine Gauden		2023-02-09
Rev Daniel Charles Pierce		2018-06-28

St Francis Community Projects

England & Wales - Charity number 1181105

Accounts

STFRANCIS

St Francis' Community Church
(a Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2024

St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2024

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Report of the Trustees 3-6

St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2024
Report of the Trustees

The Trustees present their Trustee Annual Report and financial statements for the charity's year ended 31 December 2024.

This Trustee Annual Report and financial statements comply with the current statutory requirements under the Charities Act 2011 for a smaller CIO (i.e. with gross income less than £250,000) and The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 as specified under Charity Commission Guidance on charity accounting and reporting (CC15d) and the charity's constitution.

Reference and administrative details

Charity Name: St Francis' Community Church

Charity Registration number: 1181105

Operational address: 2, Fairway Drive,
Chelmsford,
Essex,
CM3 4FH

Trustees: Trustees who served during the period of this report were as follows:

Revd Daniel Pierce (Chair from 31 October 2022)

Mr Andrew Drake (appointed 9 February 2023)

Ms Katie Gauden (appointed 9 February 2023)

Bankers:

CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ

Exemptions from disclosure

There are no exemptions from disclosure.

Objectives and Activities

a) Purposes

The objects of the charity as outlined in our Constitution are:

Within the four ecclesiastical parishes of Boreham, Broomfield, North Springfield, and Great and Little Leighs and Little Waltham, in Chelmsford Essex:

(1) to advance the Christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the beliefs, doctrines and practices of the Church of England,

(a) by means of broadcasting messages of an evangelistic and teaching nature, and
(b) through the holding of public worship, prayer meetings, lectures, producing and/or distributing literature, holding and facilitating church and community events and activities to enlighten others about the Christian faith;

(2) to develop the capacity and skills of the community in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society.

b) Main activities undertaken to further the charities purposes to the public benefit:

i) advancing the Christian Faith:

- growing a new worshipping Christian community within the new housing areas of Beaulieu and The Channels supported by a Lead Minister
- creating a daily opportunity to gather, for either prayer together, learning together, friendship or community action
- collaborating with the churches of the North Chelmsford Mission and Ministry Partnership (NCMMP) in relation to mission, ministry and pastoral care ii) developing the capacity and skills of the community
- providing activities, advocacy and support to benefit social cohesion and community capacity
- providing opportunities for individual members of the community to engage in activities with other community members and work together as a community
- helping to open and run the new Beaulieu community centre
- looking out for ways to grow neighbourliness, empower those in the community to effect positive change, engage those who are socially and economically disadvantaged, and create a culture of kindness on our estates
- developing a prominent and active social media presence to support our community capacity building activities.
- engaging with the whole of the community we serve and in meeting their needs as we find them, helping and enabling people to help themselves with a particular focus on those who are suffering injustice, or who are economically or socially disadvantaged.

c) Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit (specifically the public benefit guides PB1, PB2 and PB3) when making decisions they are relevant to.

Achievements and performance

i) Advancing the Christian faith

St Francis is now purely the work of our growing Popup Food Store. We are Chelmsford areas first and only mobile social supermarket. That this is the case is a powerful witness. We believe that according to Christian teaching we are compelled to undertake this work.

Isaiah 58:10 "If you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday."

Matthew 25:40, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me."

Nevertheless we feel we could do so much more by way of proclaiming the good news of Jesus and making clear that the love of God and neighbour fuels our work.

ii) Developing the capacity and skills of the community:

With continual rising fuel and food costs prolonging the cost-of-living crisis we still look to meet the growing needs. We continue to enjoy a very productive partnership with Chelmsford City Council, Essex County Council and Feeding Britain to help sustain our work as well as drawing volunteers and trustees from across churches in the area.

Our two staff are maxed out simply delivering the bare bones of the project which makes it very hard to grow and to expand into some of the areas we would like to expand.

During 2024 we had changes of venue for our Popup. This is the advantage of being mobile in that we can go where we are most needed. The project continues to offer food at cost or greatly reduced prices. This is aimed to be a helping hand with people's weekly shop giving them the dignity of choosing and buying their own food. We now have a dedicated storage, a permanent base for our van, goods and office space.

This project specifically meets our charitable objectives in the following ways. As a support to benefit social cohesion and community capacity through a social space run alongside the Popup inviting customers to stay and chat with each other and volunteers. We meet food needs as we find them, helping and enabling people to help themselves with a particular focus on those who are suffering injustice, or who are economically or socially disadvantaged.

By the end of 2024 we are helping almost 320 households (Almost 800 people) who struggle with food poverty.

Financial review

As Popup grows it continues to be well supported by local government and other funders. The primary sources of income for the CIO during the period were grant funding towards staffing and stock and running costs. Essex county council supported us with approx £10k. Essex Community Foundation £5k. Feeding Britain £7k. Chelmsford City Council £6k. Planned Giving (through the Parish Giving Scheme) of unrestricted donations approx £4k

The Church Commissioners' funding from its Strategic Development Fund carried us through to complete 2024 before it ceased. This enabled us to employ our two members of staff. The funding of these roles continued to be implemented through Essex ymca payroll and amounted to approx £30k

The Trustees aim to retain sufficient free reserves to satisfy the modest levels of assets and liabilities of the charity. The outlook for the CIO is positive in the short term and in the opinion of the Trustees it remains a going concern. Options and plans to ensure the longer-term sustainability of St Francis' continue to be actively considered.

January to 31st December 2024

Receipts and Payments

Notes	2024			2023 (full year)
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total	Total £
Receipts				
Funding from Chelmsford Diocese	-	28,724	28,724	19,012
PGS giving (incl GA)	4,496	-	4,496	4,969
Donations	-	-	-	7,418
Grants Social Supermarket	-	43,927	43,927	50,100
Sum up and cash payments for Social S'mkt	-	16,658	16,658	3,658
Funeral fees	-	-	-	-
Bank interest	110	-	110	77
Refund re admin fee	-	-	-	-
	4,606	89,309	93,915	85,234
Payments				
YMCA for salaries re Sunday Kitchen	-	30,726	30,726	19,012
Insurance	2,800	55	2,800	445
Halloween Hidden Saints Trail	-	-	-	399
Administration	-	150	150	98
Domain renewal	-	-	-	-
Printer	-	55	55	17
Social Supermarket	-	29,927	29,927	-
Winter Warmer	-	-	-	27,207
Bank Charges	86	-	86	956
	2,886	60,913	63,799	60
Surplus (Deficit)	1,720	28,396	30,116	37,040
Opening balance	17,557	33,078	50,635	12,595
Closing balance	19,277	61,474	80,751	49,635

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Represented by

Bank balance	19,277	61,474	80,751	50,635
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Restricted (balances)

Website	2,000	2,000
Social Supermarket	58,569	30,019
Winter Warmer	-	44
Sunday Kitchen	905	1,015



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

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

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

St Francis Community Church

ST FRANCIS COMMUNITY CHURCH

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 December 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1181105

Set out on pages

5 + 6

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

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

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

**Independent
examiner's statement**

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

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

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

Signed:

Date:

27/10/2025

Name:

Neil Spooner

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

FCCA

Address:

Wentworth House

West Square

Maldon, Essex. CM9 6HD

Key Risks section

The key risks identified are:

- Withdrawal of church commissioners funding in early 2025.
- Securing longterm funding for staff is a huge pressure.

Funds held as custodian Trustee on behalf of others

The charity and its Trustees are not acting as custodian Trustees on behalf of others.


Structure, governance and management

St Francis' Community Church is a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO), and was entered onto the Register of Charities on 11 December 2018. Its governing document is its CIO Constitution (foundation model).

Regarding recruitment and appointment of new charity trustees, the Constitution provides that there shall be not less than four and no more than eleven appointed trustees and one ex officio trustee, being the Lead Minister of St Francis' Community Church. New trustees shall be appointed by resolution at a properly convened meeting of trustees for a term of three years. Retiring trustees are eligible for reappointment unless they have already served for three consecutive terms. They may then be reappointed after an interval of at least one year.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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Approved on 28th October 2025, and signed on behalf of the Trustees by:

Trustee

Name: Andy Drake
Date: 28th October, 2025

St Francis Community Projects

England & Wales - Charity number 1181105

Accounts



ST FRANCIS

**St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2023**

Accounting Policies

1. St Francis' Community Church is a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales. (Register number 1181105)
2. Accounting convention
As the income level is below £250,000, these financial statements are prepared on a receipts and payments basis under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the rules applicable to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation under the Charities Act 2011.
3. Assets
Purchases of items of fixtures, fittings, or equipment costing more than £1,000 are capitalised and depreciated on a straight line basis over 4 years. Items costing less than £1,000 are written off in the year of purchase.
4. As a charity, St Francis' Community Church is not liable for Corporation Tax, but has no VAT status and must bear this as charged.

St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2023
Receipts and Payments

	Notes	2023		2022
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
		£	£	Total £
Receipts				
Funding from Chelmsford Diocese		-	19,012	19,012
PGS giving (incl GA)		4,969	-	4,969
Donations		750	6,668	7,418
Grants Social Supermarket		-	50,100	50,100
Sum up and cash payments for Social S'mkt		-	3,658	3,658
Grant Winter Warmer		-	1,000	1,000
Funeral fees		-	-	-
Bank interest		77	-	77
Refund re admin fee		-	-	-
		<u>5,796</u>	<u>80,438</u>	<u>86,234</u>
Payments				
Beaulieu CC/YMCA for salaries		-	19,012	19,012
Social Supermarket		-	27,207	27,207
Winter Warmer		-	956	956
re Sunday Kitchen		-	445	445
Insurance		399	-	399
Halloween Hidden Saints Trail		98	-	98
Administration		-	-	-
Domain renewal		17	-	17
Printer		-	-	-
Bank Charges		60	-	60
		<u>574</u>	<u>47,620</u>	<u>48,194</u>
Surplus (Deficit)		5,222	32,818	38,040
Opening balance		12,335	260	12,595
Closing balance		<u>17,557</u>	<u>33,078</u>	<u>50,635</u>
Statement of Assets and Liabilities				
Represented by				
Bank balance		<u>17,557</u>	<u>33,078</u>	<u>50,635</u>

St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2023


Notes to the accounts

1. There were no guarantees given by St Francis' Community Church.
2. There were no outstanding debts at the accounting date, secured on any asset of St Francis' Community Church.
3. There were no transactions between related parties during the year.



St Francis Community Church (CIO) 1181105

YEAR END INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT
2023

	CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Independent examiner's report on the accounts
Section A Independent Examiner's Report		
Report to the trustees	Charity Name ST FRANCIS COMMUNITY CHURCH CIO	
On accounts for the year ended	31 DECEMBER 2023	Charity no (if any) 1181105
Set out on pages	8 <small>(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)</small>	
	I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 12 / 2023 .	
Responsibilities and basis of report	As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). I report in respect of my examination of the Trust'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 Act.	
Independent examiner's statement	[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable. I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect: <ul style="list-style-type: none">the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; orthe accounts did not accord with the accounting records; orthe accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination. I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached. * Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.	
Signed:	NSP	Date: 11/11/2024
Name:	NEW ROBERT SPONGER	
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body	FCCA	
IER	1	Oct 2018

(if any):

Address:

WESTWORTH HOUSE
WEST SQUARE, MACKON
GSSGN, CMA QLD

Section B

Disclosure

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

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



ST FRANCIS

St Francis' Community Church
(a Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2023

St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2023

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Report of the Trustees 3-6

St Francis' Community Church CIO
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Reference and administrative details

Charity Name: St Francis' Community Church

Charity Registration number: 1181105

Operational address: 2, Fairway Drive,
Chelmsford,
Essex,
CM3 4FH

Trustees: Trustees who served during the period of this report were as follows:

Revd Daniel Pierce (Chair from 31 October 2022)
Mr Andy Butt (appointed 21 June 2022 and Secretary from 30 September 2022 until December 2023)
Mr Joel Gowen
Revd Jacqui Pearson
Revd Emma Wylie
Mr Andrew Drake (appointed 9 February 2023)
Ms Katie Gauden (appointed 9 February 2023)

Bankers: CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ

Exemptions from disclosure

There are no exemptions from disclosure.

Objectives and Activities

a) Purposes

The objects of the charity as outlined in our Constitution are:

Within the four ecclesiastical parishes of Boreham, Broomfield, North Springfield, and Great and Little Leighs and Little Waltham, in Chelmsford Essex:

(1) to advance the Christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the beliefs, doctrines and practices of the Church of England,

(a) by means of broadcasting messages of an evangelistic and teaching nature, and
(b) through the holding of public worship, prayer meetings, lectures, producing and/or distributing literature, holding and facilitating church and community events and activities to enlighten others about the Christian faith;

(2) to develop the capacity and skills of the community in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society.

b) Main activities undertaken to further the charities purposes to the public benefit:

i) advancing the Christian Faith:

- growing a new worshipping Christian community within the new housing areas of Beaulieu and The Channels supported by a Lead Minister
- creating a daily opportunity to gather, for either prayer together, learning together, friendship or community action
- collaborating with the churches of the North Chelmsford Mission and Ministry Partnership (NCMMP) in relation to mission, ministry and pastoral care ii) developing the capacity and skills of the community
- providing activities, advocacy and support to benefit social cohesion and community capacity
- providing opportunities for individual members of the community to engage in activities with other community members and work together as a community
- helping to open and run the new Beaulieu community centre
- looking out for ways to grow neighbourliness, empower those in the community to effect positive change, engage those who are socially and economically disadvantaged, and create a culture of kindness on our estates
- developing a prominent and active social media presence to support our community capacity building activities.
- engaging with the whole of the community we serve and in meeting their needs as we find them, helping and enabling people to help themselves with a particular focus on those who are suffering injustice, or who are economically or socially disadvantaged.

c) Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit (specifically the public benefit guides PB1, PB2 and PB3) when making decisions they are relevant to.

Achievements and performance

i) Advancing the Christian faith

During this time period St Francis has struggled to find its feet post covid. The lead minister's reassignment to look after 6 neighbouring parish churches has had an overall detrimental impact on the life of St Francis so very little has been achieved by way of growing the congregation. This and the success of our Popup food project is causing us to look at our constitution as it no longer reflects the essence of what we have become. A home-group continues but Sunday gatherings have been sporadic and not well attended.

ii) Developing the capacity and skills of the community:

With rising fuel and food costs bringing a cost-of-living crisis we perceived an opportunity to meet the growing needs. The Chelmsford food alliance which is a partnership body for all those trying to alleviate food poverty did a study and felt that a mobile provision was a good idea. The Trussel Trust Chelmsford foodbank were taking a lead but having enjoyed a good partnership with them throughout Covid they felt it would be better for St Francis to take the lead.

We have had a very productive partnership with Chelmsford City Council, Essex County Council and Feeding Britain to help get us on our feet. We are Chelmsford's first and only social supermarket.

In March 2023 we employed a community organiser to project manage our Popup food project. In June we employed a second member of staff (project worker).

In June we opened our first venue for the popup. We procured an ex-Asda delivery van which we use to transport goods to village halls and churches to popup as a temporary foodstore. We offer food at cost or greatly reduced prices. This is aimed to be a helping hand with people's weekly shop giving them the dignity of choosing and buying their own food. We also rent a storage container to house all our supplies.

This project specifically meets our charitable objectives in the following ways. As a support to benefit social cohesion and community capacity through a social space run alongside the Popup inviting customers to stay and chat with each other and volunteers. We meet food needs as we find them, helping and enabling people to help themselves with a particular focus on those who are suffering injustice, or who are economically or socially disadvantaged.

By the end of 2023 we are helping almost one hundred households who struggle with food poverty.

Financial review

The primary sources of income for the CIO during the period were grant funding of 20k from Chelmsford City Council for Popup project capital items. £17k from Feeding Britain for food produce for the Popup. £9600 from Essex County Council towards Popup project staffing costs. Planned Giving (through the Parish Giving Scheme) of unrestricted donations £4969.

Our biggest expenditure has been the Popup project. Staffing cost, purchase of the van, food and storage have been the greatest outgoings.

The Church Commissioners' funding from its Strategic Development Fund continued and enabled us to employ our two members of staff. The funding of this role continued to be implemented through Beaulieu community centre and then Essex YMCA payroll and amounted to approx £19k.

The Trustees aim to retain sufficient free reserves to satisfy the modest levels of assets and liabilities of the charity. Given the re-confirmation of SDF funding for another year, the outlook for the CIO is positive in the short term and in the opinion of the Trustees it remains a going concern. Options and plans to ensure the longer-term sustainability of St Francis' continue to be actively considered.

Key Risks section

The key risks identified are:

- Withdrawal of church commissioners funding by end of 2024. The strategic development fund will support us no further than 2024 so we must mitigate this drop-in financial support.
- that a major safeguarding incident occurs resulting in reputational damage to the charity with knock-on implications for growth and finance. Safeguarding continues to be at the heart of St Francis' Community Church: all diocesan policies, procedures and best practice are followed and are regularly reviewed.
- Giving within the life of st francis continues to be very poor and may impact our ability to continue.
- The Bishops Mission Order is no longer in place
- Rev'd Dans change of roles is a risk as he has greater responsibility and is spread thinly .
- Rev'd Dans health continues to be poor.

Funds held as custodian Trustee on behalf of others

The charity and its Trustees are not acting as custodian Trustees on behalf of others.


Structure, governance and management

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Regarding recruitment and appointment of new charity trustees, the Constitution provides that there shall be not less than four and no more than eleven appointed trustees and one ex officio trustee, being the Lead Minister of St Francis' Community Church. New trustees shall be appointed by resolution at a properly convened meeting of trustees for a term of three years. Retiring trustees are eligible for reappointment unless they have already served for three consecutive terms. They may then be reappointed after an interval of at least one year.

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st


Approved on 30th October 2024, and signed on behalf of the Trustees by:

Trustee

Name: Andy Drake
Date: 30th October, 2024

St Francis Community Projects

England & Wales - Charity number 1181105

Accounts

St Francis' Community Church
(a Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2022

**St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2022**

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**St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2022
Report of the Trustees**

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Mr John Bloomer (Secretary until resignation 30 September 2022)
Mr Joel Gowen
Revd Jacqui Pearson
Revd Emma Wylie
Mr Andrew Drake (appointed 9 February 2023)
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Bankers: CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue, West Malling, Kent
ME19 4JQ

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Objectives and Activities

a) Purposes

The objects of the charity as outlined in our Constitution are:

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- (1) to advance the Christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the beliefs, doctrines and practices of the Church of England,
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(b) through the holding of public worship, prayer meetings, lectures, producing and/or distributing literature, holding and facilitating church and community events and activities to enlighten others about the Christian faith;

(2) to develop the capacity and skills of the community in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society.

b) Main activities undertaken to further the charities purposes to the public benefit:

i) advancing the Christian Faith:

- growing a new worshipping Christian community within the new housing areas of Beaulieu and The Channels supported by a Lead Minister
- creating a daily opportunity to gather, for either prayer together, learning together, friendship or community action
- collaborating with the churches of the North Chelmsford Mission and Ministry Partnership (NCMMP) in relation to mission, ministry and pastoral care

ii) developing the capacity and skills of the community

- providing activities, advocacy and support to benefit social cohesion and community capacity
- providing opportunities for individual members of the community to engage in activities with other community members and work together as a community
- helping to open and run the new Beaulieu community centre
- looking out for ways to grow neighbourliness, empower those in the community to effect positive change, engage those who are socially and economically disadvantaged, and create a culture of kindness on our estates
- developing a prominent and active social media presence to support our community capacity building activities.
- engaging with the whole of the community we serve and in meeting their needs as we find them, helping and enabling people to help themselves with a particular focus on those who are suffering injustice, or who are economically or socially disadvantaged.

c) Charity Commissions guidance on public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit (specifically the public benefit guides PB1, PB2 and PB3) when making decisions they are relevant to.

Achievements and performance

i) Advancing the Christian faith

In 2022 we consolidated our home groups into one that meets at the vicarage with a view to one day expanding again. Rev'd Jacqui Pearson ended her curacy and took on a title role elsewhere in the Diocese. Rev'd Dan continued to struggle with chronic fatigue. We kept both St Francis outdoors and St Francis kitchen going. We continued with our focal events within the wider community. Our Hidden Saints' Trail was massive as we saw well over 500 people come through. It was great to be a Christian presence and bless the community with a fun alternative to Halloween. We had a nativity photo booth at the Beaulieu Mini Market that we help organise.

Rev'd Dan became vicar to the six village churches north of the new housing development. We hope that collaboration and consolidation of resources will aid the work of St Francis, be mutually beneficial and ultimately build our capacity to serve this wider area. The village churches occupy areas of countryside into which the new housing development that is now Beaulieu and Channels will grow. This will be called Chelmsford Garden Community. This expansion will mean a new parish council in 2023 which will impact the running of the community centre we use currently helped by Springfield Parish Council. We currently use the centre for services and events for free but this may change in

2023. It is anticipated this change of roles for Rev'd Dan will have an impact upon the time he is able to spend with St Francis therefore we have not instigated any especially new ventures at this time.

ii) Developing the capacity and skills of the community:

Perhaps our biggest piece of work in 2022 was a scoping exercise into a mobile social supermarket. With rising fuel and food costs bringing a cost-of-living crisis we perceived an opportunity to meet the growing needs. The Chelmsford food alliance which is a partnership body for all those trying to alleviate food poverty did a study and felt that a mobile provision was a good idea. The Trussel Trust Chelmsford foodbank were taking a lead but having enjoyed a good partnership with them throughout Covid they felt it would be better for St Francis to take the lead. We went with them to check out a few similar projects elsewhere in the county and country. The idea is to provide a mobile food market that pops up in village, church or school halls. We would offer food at cost or greatly reduced prices. This is aimed to be a helping hand with people's weekly shop giving them the dignity of choosing and buying their own food.

We helped put together a grant application to the local council as seedbed money for this project and awaited their response. We approached various venues and other potential stakeholders to pitch them the idea with many positive responses. We hope the project will begin in 2023.

Financial review

The primary sources of income for the CIO during the period were grant funding of £999 (2021 £6,590) from the Chelmsford Diocesan Board of Finance (CDBF); Planned Giving (through the Parish Giving Scheme) and donations of £5,231 (2021 £4,215); and £206 (2021 £199) in fees for performance at funerals. In 2021 there was also £3,919 from a number of funders for the Sunday Kitchen activity.

Expenditure totaling £1,113 (2021 £6,055) was mainly spent on church activities. In 2021 the Community Centre was paid the agreed £12,000 contribution for use by the CIO.

The Church Commissioners' funding from its Strategic Development Fund will continue into 2023. This funding covers the stipend of the Lead Minister (1wte). The funding of this role continued to be implemented through the Diocesan clergy payroll and does not impact the accounts of the CIO. In addition, the CDBF has provided funds for certain ministry expenses up to 2023.

The Trustees aim to retain sufficient free reserves to satisfy the modest levels of assets and liabilities of the charity. Unrestricted reserves of £12,335 were held at 31 December 2022 (2021 £6,829). Given the re-confirmation of SDF funding for another year, the outlook for the CIO is positive in the short term and in the opinion of the Trustees it remains a going concern. Options and plans to ensure the longer-term sustainability of St Francis' continue to be actively considered.

Key Risks section

The key risks identified are:

- Withdrawal of church commissioners funding. The strategic development fund will support us no further than 2023 so we must mitigate this drop-in financial support.
- that a major safeguarding incident occurs resulting in reputational damage to the charity with knock-on implications for growth and finance. Safeguarding continues to be at the heart of St Francis' Community Church: all diocesan policies, procedures and best practice are followed and are regularly reviewed.
- Giving within the life of st francis has been very poor and may impact our ability to continue.
- The Bishops Mission Order will need to be extended and may not be.
- Rev'd Dans change of roles is a risk as he will have greater responsibility and be spread thinly .
- Rev'd Dans health continues to be poor. Treatment being sought.

Funds held as custodian Trustee on behalf of others

The charity and its Trustees are not acting as custodian Trustees on behalf of others.

Structure, governance and management

St Francis' Community Church is a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO), and was entered onto the Register of Charities on 11 December 2018. Its governing document is its CIO Constitution (foundation model).

Regarding recruitment and appointment of new charity trustees, the Constitution provides that there shall be not less than four and no more than eleven appointed trustees and one ex officio trustee, being the Lead Minister of St Francis' Community Church. New trustees shall be appointed by resolution at a properly convened meeting of trustees for a term of three years. Retiring trustees are eligible for reappointment unless they have already served for three consecutive terms. They may then be reappointed after an interval of at least one year.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

As the income of the charity is below the £25,000 threshold no external scrutiny is required.

Approved on 31st October 2023, and signed on behalf of the Trustees by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Drake', written in a cursive style.

Trustee
Name: Andy Drake
Date: 31st October, 2023

St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2022

Accounting Policies

1. St Francis' Community Church is a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales. (Register number 1181105)

2. Accounting convention

As the income level is below £250,000, these financial statements are prepared on a receipts and payments basis under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the rules applicable to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation under the Charities Act 2011.

3. Assets

Purchases of items of fixtures, fittings, or equipment costing more than £1,000 are capitalised and depreciated on a straight line basis over 4 years. Items costing less than £1,000 are written off in the year of purchase.

4. As a charity, St Francis' Community Church is not liable for Corporation Tax, but has no VAT status and must bear this as charged.

St Francis' Community Church CIO

Year ended 31 December 2022

Receipts and Payments

	Notes	2022			2021
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		£	£		£
Receipts					
Funding from Chelmsford Diocese		999	-	999	6,590
PGS giving (incl GA)		4,066	-	4,066	2,915
Sundry Donations		1,165	-	1,165	1,300
Grants for Sunday Kitchen	4	-	-	-	3,919
Funeral fees		206	-	206	199
Deposits re Othona for NCMMP		-	-	-	1,410
Bank interest		10	-	10	-
Refund re admin fee		140	-	140	-
		<u>6,586</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,586</u>	<u>16,333</u>
Payments					
Community Centre		63	-	63	12,000
i-Pads etc		-	-	-	1,056
MS office/Zoom subs		-	-	-	196
re Sunday Kitchen		-	33	33	3,626
Banner		-	-	-	78
Insurance		391	-	391	392
Re CCS course fee		-	-	-	300
re Othona retreat for NCMMP		-	-	-	1,410
Halloween Hidden Saints Trail		84	-	84	138
Administration		290	-	290	140
Leaders lunch meeting		-	-	-	33
Printer		171	-	171	-
Bank Charges		81	-	81	96
		<u>1,080</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>1,113</u>	<u>19,465</u>
Surplus (Deficit)		5,506	(33)	5,473	(3,132)
Opening balance		6,829	293	7,122	10,254
		<u>12,335</u>	<u>260</u>	<u>12,595</u>	<u>7,122</u>
Closing balance					
		<u>12,335</u>	<u>260</u>	<u>12,595</u>	<u>7,122</u>
Statement of Assets and Liabilities					
Represented by					
Bank balance		<u>12,335</u>	<u>260</u>	<u>12,595</u>	<u>7,122</u>

St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2022
Notes to the accounts

1. There were no guarantees given by St Francis' Community Church.
2. There were no outstanding debts at the accounting date, secured on any asset of St Francis' Community Church.
3. There were no transactions between related parties during the year.
4. Grants and donations of £3,919 were received in 2021 towards the costs of the Sunday Kitchen initiative. Of these £260 remains in a restricted fund at the year end.

St Francis Community Projects

England & Wales - Charity number 1181105

Accounts

St Francis' Community Church
(a Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2021

St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2021

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**St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2021
Report of the Trustees**

The Trustees present their Trustee Annual Report and financial statements for the charity's year ended 31 December 2021.

This Trustee Annual Report and financial statements comply with the current statutory requirements under the Charities Act 2011 for a smaller CIO (i.e. with gross income less than £250,000) and The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 as specified under Charity Commission Guidance on charity accounting and reporting (CC15d) and the charity's constitution.

Reference and administrative details

Charity Name:	St Francis' Community Church
Charity Registration number:	1181105
Operational address:	2, Fairway Drive, Chelmsford, Essex, CM3 4FH
Trustees:	Trustees who served during the period of this report were as follows: Mr Joel Gowan Mr John Bloomer (Secretary) Revd Susan Iskander (Chair) Revd Daniel Pierce (ex officio) Revd Jacqui Pearson Revd Carolyn Tibbott (resigned 17 February 2021) Revd Emma Wylie
Bankers:	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ

Exemptions from disclosure

There are no exemptions from disclosure.

Objectives and Activities

a) Purposes

The objects of the charity as outlined in our Constitution are:

Within the four ecclesiastical parishes of Boreham, Broomfield, North Springfield, and Great and Little Leighs and Little Waltham, in Chelmsford Essex:

- (1) to advance the Christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the beliefs, doctrines and practices of the Church of England,
 - (a) by means of broadcasting messages of an evangelistic and teaching nature, and

(b) through the holding of public worship, prayer meetings, lectures, producing and/or distributing literature, holding and facilitating church and community events and activities to enlighten others about the Christian faith;

(2) to develop the capacity and skills of the community in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society.

b) Main activities undertaken to further the charities purposes to the public benefit:

i) advancing the Christian Faith:

- growing a new worshipping Christian community within the new housing areas of Beaulieu and The Channels supported by a Lead Minister
- creating a daily opportunity to gather, for either prayer together, learning together, friendship or community action
- collaborating with the churches of the North Chelmsford Mission and Ministry Partnership (NCMMP) in relation to mission, ministry and pastoral care

ii) developing the capacity and skills of the community

- providing activities, advocacy and support to benefit social cohesion and community capacity
- providing opportunities for individual members of the community to engage in activities with other community members and work together as a community
- helping to open and run the new Beaulieu community centre
- looking out for ways to grow neighbourliness, empower those in the community to effect positive change, engage those who are socially and economically disadvantaged, and create a culture of kindness on our estates
- developing a prominent and active social media presence to support our community capacity building activities.
- engaging with the whole of the community we serve and in meeting their needs as we find them, helping and enabling people to help themselves with a particular focus on those who are suffering injustice, or who are economically or socially disadvantaged.

c) Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit (specifically the public benefit guides PB1, PB2 and PB3) when making decisions they are relevant to.

Achievements and performance

i) advancing the Christian Faith:

It has been an extremely challenging year post pandemic. Sadly, Rev'd Emma stepped back from her role in St Francis' Community Church for personal reasons (but she remains a Trustee). We miss her greatly but understand entirely. She moves on with our respect and affection. Rev'd Jacqui's curacy will come to an end in 2022 and she will then depart at some point in the future. She too will be greatly missed. Rev'd Dan has ongoing concerns with Chronic Fatigue. All this to say, our capacity has shrunk somewhat and will shrink further.

As we look forward to 2022, we will review how we organize our various St Francis' home-groups, potentially consolidating them into one.

We have reduced our online output given the opportunities to come together and due to the reduction in capacity. We discovered that a number of people had used our online output as a window to St Francis' during the pandemic which has led to more and more in-person interaction now that we have regular gatherings.

St Francis' has continued to work in collaboration with the member churches of the North Chelmsford Mission and Ministry Partnership. We are currently exploring ways in which we can sustainably share ministry not least because the new Chelmsford Garden Community development will link up many of the MMP conurbations.

ii) developing the capacity and skills of the community:

Our partnership with Chelmsford Trussell Trust Foodbank has led to a permanent Foodbank centre in our neighbourhood centre. We provide food parcels to local families on a Friday afternoon. We are also about to open our winter "warm Space" drop in which will operate at the same time.

St Francis' Sunday Kitchen project has continued to provide a meal for local families one Sunday a month.

St Francis' have continued to help create, promote and deliver large community events. The Halloween 'Hidden Saints trail' is getting bigger every year providing a safe and family appropriate alternative to 'trick or treating'. This has worked really well with young families, and well over 500 children with parents/carers took up the trail on Halloween night 2021.

During the Christmas season of 2021 we provided 50 large Hampers to struggling local residents (mainly families).

St Francis' has well established a community market for local producers to exhibit and sell their products. The MiniMarket Beaulieu charges a modest pitch fee from its vendors, the proceeds of which go towards local charities. Our Christmas market 2021 saw hundreds come through the doors.

Our next major project in partnership with Chelmsford Foodbank, the City Council and various village halls and churches is to establish a mobile social supermarket. This will involve our van delivering low-cost food to venues in centres of community, which will be voluntary run as "shops" for a few hours once a week. The van will also have facility for serving hot drinks and work as a signpost (soft threshold) to the venue.

Financial review

The primary sources of income for the CIO during the period were grant funding of £6,590 (2020 £1,308) from the Chelmsford Diocesan Board of Finance (CDBF) and £3,919 from a number of funders for the Sunday Kitchen activity; Planned Giving (through the Parish Giving Scheme) and donations of £4,215; and £199 (2020 £398) in fees for performance at funerals. The Community Centre was paid the agreed £12,000 contribution for use by the CIO, and other expenditure totaling £6,055 was mainly spent on church activities and small items of equipment (2020 mainly website costs £2,616).

On behalf of the NCMMP, the CIO took the bookings for a retreat at Othona and paid out an equal amount in necessary expenses.

The Trustees are very grateful to Essex Association of Local Councils, Chelmsford CVS, and Essex County Council for the grants supporting the work of the Sunday Kitchen.

The Church Commissioners' funding from its Strategic Development Fund will continue into 2023. This funding covers the stipend of the Lead Minister (1wte) and the Assistant Pioneer Minister (0.5wte), the latter post being shared with the local Mission and Ministry Partnership (NCMMP, 0.5wte). The Assistant Pioneer Minister left the role with the CIO at the end of 2021 and is unlikely to be replaced. The funding of these roles continued to be implemented through the Diocesan clergy payroll and does not impact the accounts of the CIO. In addition, the CDBF has provided funds for certain ministry expenses up to 2023.

The Trustees aim to retain sufficient free reserves to satisfy the modest levels of assets and liabilities of the charity. Unrestricted reserves of £6,829 were held at 31 December 2021. Given the re-confirmation of SDF funding for another two years, the outlook for the CIO is positive in the short- to medium-term and in the opinion of the Trustees it remains a going concern. Options and plans to ensure the longer-term sustainability of St Francis' continue to be actively considered.

The key risks identified are:

- that funding from the Church Commissioners is withdrawn. Re-confirmation of SDF funding until 2023 provides mitigation of this risk. However, SDF funding beyond 2023 is deemed unlikely.
- that a major safeguarding incident occurs resulting in reputational damage to the charity with knock-on implications for growth and finance. Safeguarding continues to be at the heart of St Francis' Community Church: all diocesan policies, procedures and best practice are followed and are regularly reviewed.
- that church growth does not occur as planned and/or giving levels do not increase as anticipated thereby jeopardising the journey towards financial sustainability. The St Francis' team is working with the NCMMP Council and the Diocese on options to underpin the sustainability of St Francis' post end of SDF funding in 2023.

Covid-19

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Church of England and the Diocese of Chelmsford, continue to be under significant financial pressure. A process of reduction of stipendiary clergy posts originally intended to be completed over a number of years has been accelerated. While funding for St Francis' will come from outside the Diocese until 2023, the NCMMP Council will consider and develop options to adapt to the level of resources likely to be available to it in the short-mid term, also taking into account their responsibility for funding St Francis' from 2023/24.

Funds held as custodian Trustee on behalf of others

The charity and its Trustees are not acting as custodian Trustees on behalf of others.

Structure, governance and management

St Francis' Community Church is a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO), and was entered onto the Register of Charities on 11 December 2018. Its governing document is its CIO Constitution (foundation model).

Regarding recruitment and appointment of new charity trustees, the Constitution provides that there shall be not less than four and no more than eleven appointed trustees and one ex officio trustee, being the Lead Minister of St Francis' Community Church. New trustees shall be appointed by resolution at a properly convened meeting of trustees for a term of three years. Retiring trustees are eligible for reappointment unless they have already served for three consecutive terms. They may then be reappointed after an interval of at least one year.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

As the income of the charity is below the £25,000 threshold no external scrutiny is required.

Approved on 16th September 2022 and signed on behalf of the Trustees by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JB' with a flourish underneath.

Trustee
Name: John M. Bloomer
Date: 16 September 2022

St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2021

Accounting Policies

1. St Francis' Community Church is a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales. (Register number 1181105)

2. Accounting convention

As the income level is below £250,000, these financial statements are prepared on a receipts and payments basis under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the rules applicable to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation under the Charities Act 2011.

3. Assets

Purchases of items of fixtures, fittings, or equipment costing more than £1,000 are capitalised and depreciated on a straight line basis over 4 years. Items costing less than £1,000 are written off in the year of purchase.

4. As a charity, St Francis' Community Church is not liable for Corporation Tax, but has no VAT status and must bear this as charged.

St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2021

Receipts and Payments

	Note	2021		Total	2020 <i>Total</i>
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £		
Receipts					
Funding from Chelmsford Diocese		2,590	4,000	6,590	1,308
PGS giving (incl GA)		2,915	-	2,915	-
Sundry donations		1,300	-	1,300	-
Grants for Sunday Kitchen	4	-	3,919	3,919	-
Funeral fees		199	-	199	398
Deposits re Othona for NCMMP		-	1,410	1,410	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		7,004	9,329	16,333	1,706
Payments					
Community Centre		-	12,000	12,000	-
I-Pads etc		1,056	-	1,056	-
MS office/Zoom subs		196	-	196	-
re Sunday Kitchen		-	3,626	3,626	-
Banner		78	-	78	-
Insurance		392	-	392	389
CCS course fee		300	-	300	-
re Othona retreat for NCMMP		-	1,410	1,410	-
Halloween Hidden Saints' Trail		138	-	138	-
Secretarial fees		140	-	140	-
Website		-	-	-	2,616
Leaders lunch meeting		33	-	33	-
Bank Charges		96	-	96	60
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		2,429	17,036	19,465	3,065
<hr/>					
Surplus (Deficit)		4,575	(7,707)	(3,132)	(1,359)
Opening balance		2,254	8,000	10,254	11,613
<hr/>					
Closing balance		<u>6,829</u>	<u>293</u>	<u>7,122</u>	<u>10,254</u>

**Statement of Assets and
Liabilities**

Represented by

Bank balance	6,829	293	7,122	<u>10,254</u>
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**St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2021**

Note to the accounts

1. There were no guarantees given by St Francis' Community Church.
2. There were no outstanding debts at the accounting date, secured on any asset of St Francis' Community Church.
3. There were no transactions between related parties during the year.
4. Grants and donations of £3,919 were received during the year towards the costs of the Sunday Kitchen initiative, including £1,975 from the Essex Association of Local Councils, £1,224 from Chelmsford CVS, £570 from Essex County Council, and a donation of £150. Of these £293 remains in a restricted fund at the year end.

St Francis Community Projects

England & Wales - Charity number 1181105

Accounts

St Francis' Community Church
(a Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2020

**St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2020**

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St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2020
Report of the Trustees

The Trustees present their Trustee Annual Report and financial statements for the charity's year ended 31 December 2020.

This Trustee Annual Report and financial statements comply with the current statutory requirements under the Charities Act 2011 for a smaller CIO (i.e. with gross income less than £250,000) and The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 as specified under Charity Commission Guidance on charity accounting and reporting (CC15d) and the charity's constitution.

Reference and administrative details

Charity Name:	St Francis' Community Church
Charity Registration number:	1181105
Operational address:	2, Fairway Drive, Chelmsford, Essex, CM3 4FH
Trustees:	Trustees who served during the period of this report were as follows: Mr Joel Gowan (Chair to 25 March 2020) Mr John Bloomer (Secretary) Revd Susan Iskander (Chair from 26 March 2020) Revd Daniel Pierce (ex officio) Revd Carolyn Tibbott (resigned 17 February 2021) Revd Jacqui Pearson (appointed 25 March 2020) Revd Emma Wylie (appointed 25 March 2020)
Bankers:	CAF Bank Ltd 25 Kings Hill Avenue, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ

Exemptions from disclosure

There are no exemptions from disclosure.

Objectives and Activities

a) Purposes

The objects of the charity as outlined in our Constitution are:

Within the four ecclesiastical parishes of Boreham, Broomfield, North Springfield, and Great and Little Leighs and Little Waltham, in Chelmsford Essex:

- (1) to advance the Christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with the beliefs, doctrines and practices of the Church of England,
 - (a) by means of broadcasting messages of an evangelistic and teaching nature, and

(b) through the holding of public worship, prayer meetings, lectures, producing and/or distributing literature, holding and facilitating church and community events and activities to enlighten others about the Christian faith;

(2) to develop the capacity and skills of the community in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet, their needs and to participate more fully in society.

b) Main activities undertaken to further the charities purposes to the public benefit:

i) advancing the Christian Faith:

- growing a new worshipping Christian community within the new housing areas of Beaulieu and The Channels supported by a Lead Minister
- creating a daily opportunity to gather, for either prayer together, learning together, friendship or community action
- collaborating with the churches of the North Chelmsford Mission and Ministry Partnership (NCMMP) in relation to mission, ministry and pastoral care

ii) developing the capacity and skills of the community

- providing activities, advocacy and support to benefit social cohesion and community capacity
- providing opportunities for individual members of the community to engage in activities with other community members and work together as a community
- helping to open and run the new Beaulieu community centre
- looking out for ways to grow neighbourliness, empower those in the community to effect positive change, engage those who are socially and economically disadvantaged, and create a culture of kindness on our estates
- developing a prominent and active social media presence to support our community capacity building activities.
- engaging with the whole of the community we serve and in meeting their needs as we find them, helping and enabling people to help themselves with a particular focus on those who are suffering injustice, or who are economically or socially disadvantaged.

c) Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit (specifically the public benefit guides PB1, PB2 and PB3) when making decisions they are relevant to.

Achievements and performance

i) advancing the Christian Faith:

The enlarged St Francis' team of part-time Assistant Pioneer Minister, Pioneer curate and Lead Minister have settled down and worked well together this year. The team has continued to work in collaboration with the member churches of the North Chelmsford Mission and Ministry Partnership.

Daily services are streamed live from the St Francis' Facebook page in the early morning and late evening to offer support and promote emotional wellbeing during these difficult times through silence, daily reflections, prayer and music. We have seen our audience steadily grow and this has led to more and more in-person interaction in our neighbourhood.

There are now three home groups. Home groups meet weekly to encourage and support members, and new home groups are also in process of being set up. These meet in person when they can or on zoom if Covid-19 restrictions are in force.

iii) developing the capacity and skills of the community:

Partnering with local business and the Beaulieu Community Centre during Covid-19, St Francis' have continued to help create, promote and deliver large community events. The Halloween 'Hidden Saints trail' is getting bigger every year providing a safe and family appropriate alternative to 'trick or treating'. This has worked really well with young families, and well over 100 children and their parents/carers take up the trail on Halloween night.

In September 2020 we partnered our community centre to host a lockdown community art exhibition where local artist displayed lockdown inspired art work helping our wider community reflect on the losses and surprise joys of a troubling year.

St Francis' is behind establishing a community market for local producers to exhibit and sell their products. The MiniMarket Beaulieu charges a modest pitch fee from its vendors, the proceeds of which go towards local charities.

Our Christmas market 2020 saw hundreds come through the doors and had a great buzz even with social distancing and other appropriate Covid-19 precautions in place. Our summer market was a similar success creating a safe venue for the local community to come back together after these difficult months of lockdown and raised money to twin all 6 community centre toilets with sanitation schemes in developing nations through toilettwinning.org.

St Francis' have continued to coordinate weekly food donations at Beaulieu Community Centre making it one of the main contributors to Chelmsford Foodbank (a relationship which has solidified and strengthened throughout the year). We are now becoming an official foodbank depot.

We have helped the city council with health checks and visitations of vulnerable people during lockdowns. We have provided food parcels and distributed vouchers to combat holiday hunger. Off the back of these initiatives we have launched St Francis Sunday Kitchen which is a monthly community meal to bring people together at the community centre for mutual support and friendship. We also have a drop in twice a week for those who may need signposting or just a friendly face.

Finally, updated plans for St Francis' were submitted to the Church Commissioners for review and this has resulted in re-confirmation of SDF funding to 2023.

Financial review

The primary source of income for the CIO during the period was £1,308 of grant funding from the Chelmsford Diocesan Board of Finance (CDBF) plus £398 in fees for performance of funerals. Expenditure was mainly on website development being the majority of the total £3,065. St Francis' re-submitted its plans to the Church Commissioners for review and they re-confirmed its five years of funding from its Strategic Development Fund, extending this into 2023. This funding continues to include the stipend of the Lead Minister (1wte) and the Assistant Pioneer Minister (0.5wte), the latter post being shared with the local Mission and Ministry Partnership (NCMMP). The funding of these roles continues to be implemented through the Diocesan clergy payroll and does not impact the accounts of the CIO. In addition, the CDBF has provided funds for certain ministry expenses up to 2023. St Francis' has now joined the Parish Giving Scheme and members of the community are starting to make regular contributions.

The Trustees aim to retain sufficient free reserves to satisfy the modest levels of assets and liabilities of the charity. Unrestricted reserves of £2,254 were held at 31 December 2020. Given the re-confirmation of SDF funding for another three years, the outlook for the CIO is positive in the short- to medium-term and in the opinion of the Trustees it remains a going concern. Options and plans to ensure the longer-term sustainability of St Francis' are being actively considered.

The key risks identified are:

- that funding from the Church Commissioners is withdrawn. Re-confirmation of SDF funding until 2023 provides mitigation of this risk. However SDF funding beyond 2023 is deemed unlikely.
- that a major safeguarding incident occurs resulting in reputational damage to the charity with knock-on implications for growth and finance. Safeguarding continues to be at the heart of St Francis' Community Church: all diocesan policies, procedures and best practice are followed and are regularly reviewed.
- that church growth does not occur as planned and/or giving levels do not increase as anticipated thereby jeopardising the journey towards financial sustainability. The St Francis' team is working with the NCMMP Council and the Diocese on options to underpin the sustainability of St Francis' post end of SDF funding in 2023.

Covid-19

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Church of England and the Diocese of Chelmsford, have been under significant financial pressure. A process of reduction of stipendiary clergy posts originally intended to be completed over a number of years has been accelerated. While funding for St Francis' will come from outside the Diocese until 2023, the NCMMP Council has already begun to consider and develop options to adapt to the level of resources likely to be available to it in the short-mid term, also taking into account their responsibility for funding St Francis' from 2023/24.

Funds held as custodian Trustee on behalf of others

The charity and its Trustees are not acting as custodian Trustees on behalf of others

Structure, governance and management

St Francis' Community Church is a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO), and was entered onto the Register of Charities on 11 December 2018. Its governing document is its CIO Constitution (foundation model).

Regarding recruitment and appointment of new charity trustees, the Constitution provides that there shall be not less than four and no more than eleven appointed trustees and one ex officio trustee, being the Lead Minister of St Francis' Community Church. New trustees shall be appointed by resolution at a properly convened meeting of trustees for a term of three years. Retiring trustees are eligible for reappointment unless they have already served for three consecutive terms. They may then be reappointed after an interval of at least one year.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

As the income of the charity is below the £25,000 threshold no external scrutiny is required.

Approved on 12th July 2021 and signed on behalf of the Trustees by:



Trustee

Name: John M. Bloomer

Date: 12th September 2021

St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2020

Accounting Policies

1. St Francis' Community Church is a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales. (Register number 1181105)

2. Accounting convention

As the income level is below £250,000, these financial statements are prepared on a receipts and payments basis under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the rules applicable to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation under the Charities Act 2011.

3. Assets

Purchases of items of fixtures, fittings, or equipment costing more than £1,000 are capitalised and depreciated on a straight line basis over 4 years. Items costing less than £1,000 are written off in the year of purchase.

4. As a charity, St Francis' Community Church is not liable for Corporation Tax, but has no VAT status and must bear this as charged.

St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2020

Receipts and Payments

	Notes	2020		<i>p/e 31 Dec 2019</i>	
		Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total	<i>Total</i> £
Receipts					
Funding from Chelmsford Diocese		1,308	-	1,308	14,332
Funeral fees		398	-	398	-
		<u>1,706</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,706</u>	<u>14,332</u>
Payments					
Insurance		389	-	389	386
Website		2,616	-	2,616	84
Orthona retreat		-	-	-	1,084
PA equipment	3	-	-	-	1,155
Bank Charges		60	-	60	10
		<u>3,065</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,065</u>	<u>2,719</u>
Surplus (Deficit)		(1,359)	-	(1,359)	11,613
Opening balance		3,613	8,000	11,613	-
		<u>2,254</u>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>10,254</u>	<u>11,613</u>
Closing balance		<u>2,254</u>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>10,254</u>	<u>11,613</u>
Statement of Assets and Liabilities					
Represented by					
Bank balance		<u>2,254</u>	<u>8,000</u>	<u>10,254</u>	<u>11,613</u>

St Francis' Community Church CIO
Year ended 31 December 2020

Note to the accounts

1. There were no guarantees given by St Francis' Community Church.
2. There were no outstanding debts at the accounting date, secured on any asset of St Francis' Community Church.
3. PA equipment purchased in the prior year comprised a number of items each costing less than £200. In accordance with the accounting policy they have therefore not be capitalised.
4. There were no transactions between related parties during the year.