

BARNET UNITED REFORMED CHURCH AND EWEN HALL CHARITIES

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023

This report includes information required by the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting by Charities 2005 as applicable to charities entitled to prepare accounts on the receipts and payments basis

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Barnet United Reformed Church Charity is a local church of the United Reformed Church in Great Britain, and is a member church of Thames North Synod of the Church. It was registered on 18th February, 2019 as Charity Number 1182081.

Barnet United Reformed Church is situated at Ewen Hall, Wood Street, Barnet. EN5 4BW.

The members of the Elders' Meeting for the time being are recognised as the charity trustees. Those who served from 1st January 2022 until the date this report was approved are:

Mrs Jill Adams,
Mrs Alison Atkinson,
Barry Corradine,
Mr Alan King,
Mrs Susan Stemson
Rev Dominic Grant

The Church building, Ewen Hall and houses at 43, The Croft, Barnet, EN5 2TN and 27, Union Street, Barnet EN5 4HY are vested in Thames North Trust company as trustees and held for the benefit of Barnet URC in accordance with the trusts applicable to URC properties.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The activities of Barnet United Reformed Church are overseen by the Elders' Meeting of the Church in accordance with the provisions of The Structure of the United Reformed Church determined by the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church, and supplemented by the rules of Barnet United Reformed Church. The governing document of the registered charity is a statement adopted by the Church Meeting.

The Elders' Meeting is responsible for the financial administration of the Church, and the care and maintenance of Church premises and the manse. The Church Meeting (of all members wishing to attend) gives general guidance on the life and work of the Church. The members of the Elders Meeting are the minister in pastoral charge (if any) and up to 12 members of Barnet URC nominated and elected by the members of Barnet URC in Church Meeting. Elders serve for 3 years, retire by rotation and are eligible for re-election. There is no limit on the number of consecutive periods of service. The members of the Elders' Meeting are the trustees of the registered charity during their period of service as elders.

The Elders' Meeting met 10 times during the year. It is assisted in the administration of the Church and its property by committee established for property management. The Church Meeting met 7 times during the year.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

As a local congregation of the United Reformed Church, Barnet United Reformed Church seeks to advance the Christian religion through its activities and the facilities offered to the community by its buildings.

The Elders' Meeting is aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in "The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit" and has regard to it in the administration of the Church. The Elders' Meeting believes that, the Church provides benefit to the public by:

- providing resources and facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for the congregation and for anyone else who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers;
- promoting Christian values and service by members of the congregation to the community, for the benefit of individuals and society as a whole.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Barnet URC held worship services every Sunday morning throughout the year. Evening services took place each Sunday in December leading up to Christmas and on a few other occasions during the year. We have a Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association, numbering about 100 members, as well as Brownies, Rainbows and a club for pre-school children and their carers..

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Income for the year ending 31st December, 2023 was £106,510 and expenditure was £143,417 meaning a deficit of £36,906.

£30,941 came from hiring out the Ewen Hall and other rooms, and £35,876 from the rental income of our house and three flats. The remainder of the income consisted of gifts and donations from members and friends who attend our services and activities.

The main expenses were £23,053 to the URC central ministry and mission fund, £44,905 on church running costs and £45,540 for maintenance of buildings.

Barnet United Reformed Church has a reserve fund of £141,239 which is invested by the URC Thames North Trust.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2023 Total £	Last Year 2022 Total £
RECEIPTS						
Offerings		5,726.34			5,726.34	6,052.19
Fund raising and donations		50.00		0.00	50.00	240.00
Church Organisations				850.00	850.00	850.00
Monies raised for outside causes	3			600.00	600.00	500.00
Gift Aid tax repayments					0.00	2,224.76
Legacies					0.00	0.00
Gift Day					0.00	0.00
Property - lettings		35,876.60			35,876.60	31,434.52
Property - church/hall users	4	30,941.00			30,941.00	36,573.05
URC Grants					0.00	0.00
Interest Free Loan				25,000.00	25,000.00	0.00
Weddings and Funerals		0.00			0.00	0.00
St. Andrew's Chesterfield Road					0.00	772.01
Bank interest & investment income	12	128.58	6,730.25	607.92	7,466.75	2,248.72
Total receipts		72,722.52	6,730.25	27,057.92	106,510.69	80,895.25
PAYMENTS						
Ministry & Mission Fund		23,053.32			23,053.32	22,192.04
Minister's expenses		447.64		23.51	471.15	352.49
Church running costs	5	44,905.83		850.00	45,755.83	33,301.93
Programme activity costs	6	837.96			837.96	889.99
Support of outside causes	7	785.00		600.00	1,385.00	1,385.00
Maintenance of church buildings	8	45,540.74			45,540.74	29,262.69
Maintenance of Manse		1,373.45			1,373.45	2,943.43
Reform Magazine					0.00	0.00
Repayment of Loan		25,000.00			25,000.00	20,000.00
Total payments		141,943.94	0.00	1,473.51	143,417.45	110,327.57
NET RECEIPTS / (PAYMENTS)		-69,221.42	6,730.25	25,584.41	-36,906.76	-29,432.32
TRANSFERS between funds	2					
CASH FUNDS b/fwd 1 January						
CASH FUNDS c/fwd 31 December		-69,221.42	6,730.25	25,584.41	-36,906.76	-29,432.32

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Monetary assets						
Bank current account		1,537.97			1,537.97	1,478.56
Deposit account				5.33	5.33	7,814.94
Rent Income Account		903.84			903.84	11,869.05
COIF Accounts			132,895.38	8,343.48	141,239.19	159,430.54
Total monetary assets	10	2,441.81	132,895.38	8,348.81	143,686.33	180,593.09
Other assets						
Investments at market value				15,096.73	15,096.73	14,861.22
Assets used for church purposes						
Church Building	11	6,036,857				
43, The Croft, Barnet EN5 2TN	11	353,100				
27, Union Street, Barnet EN5 4HY	11	211,858				
Church contents	11	100,045				
Organ	11	331,499				
Liabilities						
Loans outstanding					0.00	0
Significant creditors					0.00	0

APPROVED by the Trustees on 24 March 2024 and signed on their behalf

by Revd DOMINIC STEPHEN GRANT (name)

(signature)

The notes on pages 2 and 3 form part of this financial statement

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

NOTES

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 Section 132, using the Receipts and Payments basis available to small charities (Section 133) and the URC guidance.

2 FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted Funds may be used by the church for any of its ordinary purposes.

Designated Funds represent unrestricted funds set aside by the church for specific designated purposes; they can be transferred back into general funds at the church's decision.

Fund name & purpose:	Balance b/fwd £	Receipts in year £	Payments in year £	Transfers for year £	Balance c/fwd £
Reserve fund	159,430.54	6,730.25		24,921.60 8,343.48	141,239.19
Totals for designated funds	159,430.54	6,730.25	0.00	33,265.08	132,895.52

Restricted Funds represent income which may be expended only on those restricted objects provided in the terms of a trust or bequest, or donations or grants received or invited for a specific purpose. These funds can only be spent on the specific purpose for which they were given. Any balance remaining unspent must be carried forward as a balance on that fund for future expenditure on that specific purpose, or returned; it cannot be absorbed into general funds.

Fund name & purpose:	Balance b/fwd £	Receipts in year £	Payments in year £	Balance c/fwd £
Monies raised for outside causes	0.00	600.00	600.00	0.00
Halley Stewart Trust	1,903.18	91.10	0.00	1,994.28
Minister's Expenses	0.00	23.51	23.51	0.00
Junior Church	310.38	25.23	0.00	335.61
Fabric Account	4,765.84	468.08	0.00	5,233.92
Gift Days	785.00	0.00	0.00	785.00
Donations for specific items	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Totals for restricted funds	7,764.40	1,207.92	623.51	8,348.81

3 MONIES RAISED FOR OUTSIDE CAUSES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2023 Total £	Last Year 2022 Total £
Crisis and Shelter			400.00	400.00	500.00
Disasters Emergency Committee			200.00	200.00	
Totals raised for outside causes	0.00	0.00	600.00	600.00	500.00

4 PROPERTY INCOME

Hall hire income	30,941.00			30,941.00	36,573.05
Rent income	35,876.60			35,876.60	31,434.52
URC Grant				0.00	0.00
Weddings and funerals				0.00	0.00
Total property income	66,817.60	0.00	0.00	66,817.60	68,007.57

5 CHURCH RUNNING COSTS

Pulpit Supply	350.00			350.00	615.00
Utilities	15,666.13		850.00	16,516.13	11,599.33
Insurance	7,244.15			7,244.15	6,471.37
Organ and Pianos	944.43			944.43	228.43
Printing and Publicity	1,997.17			1,997.17	540.73
Technology	348.05			348.05	231.97
Licences and Music Copyright	1,246.10			1,246.10	0.00
Cleaning	8,780.00			8,780.00	9,421.42
Domestic Sundries	2,106.85			2,106.85	1,101.70
Garden Maintenance	6,032.01			6,032.01	2,840.64
Miscellaneous Expenses	36.49			36.49	128.80
Bank and Trust Charges	154.45			154.45	122.54
Total church running costs	44,905.83	0.00	850.00	45,755.83	33,301.93

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

NOTES - continued

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	This Year 2023 Total £	Last Year 2022 Total £
6 PROGRAMME ACTIVITY COSTS					
Junior Church	0.00			0.00	0.00
Catering	31.96			31.96	135.99
Christmas Services	806.00			806.00	754.00
Total programme activity costs	837.96	0.00	0.00	837.96	889.99
7 SUPPORT OF OUTSIDE CAUSES					
Churches Together Subscription	165.00			165.00	165.00
British Legion Poppy Appeal	20.00			20.00	20.00
Crisis			200.00	200.00	250.00
Shelter			200.00	200.00	250.00
Disasters Emergency Committee			200.00	200.00	
 Christians Against Poverty	 100.00			 100.00	 200.00
North London Hospice	100.00			100.00	100.00
Good Neighbour Scheme	100.00			100.00	100.00
London City Mission	100.00			100.00	100.00
Bible Society	100.00			100.00	100.00
Still Waters Trust	100.00			100.00	100.00
Total support of outside causes	785.00	0.00	600.00	1,385.00	1,385.00
8 MAINTENANCE OF CHURCH BUILDINGS					
Church and Ewen Hall	41,820.12			41,820.12	16,557.94
Flats and 27 Union Street	3,720.62			3,720.62	12,704.75
Total maintenance of church buildings	45,540.74	0.00	0.00	45,540.74	29,262.69
9 MAINTENANCE OF MANSE					
Manse	1,373.45			1,373.45	2,943.43
Total maintenance of manse	1,373.45	0.00	0.00	1,373.45	2,943.43

10 MONETARY ASSETS

The church monies are not held in segregated accounts, but for the sake of this financial statement the total of each account is allocated appropriately over the various funds.

11 ASSETS USED FOR CHURCH PURPOSES

The church building and the Manse at 43, The Croft, are vested in [URC Thames North Trust] as trustees and are not church assets. They are held for the benefit of Barnet UR Church in accordance with the statutory trusts applicable to URC properties under the URC Acts.

For insurance purposes the church buildings are insured by the church for £6,036,857. The Manse for £353,100 and 27, Union Street for £211,858. The Church contents are insured by the Church for £431,445.

12 INVESTMENTS HELD FOR CHURCH PURPOSES

Thames North Synod Trust company holds on behalf of the church investments representing money received as legacies or other gifts. The release of this to the church is decided by the church alone. Amounts received during the year are included in these accounts.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

TREASURER'S STATEMENT

I have prepared the financial statements on pages 1 to 3 for the year ended 31 December 2023 from the accounting records of the church.

Alan King

(name)



(signature)

13/02/2024
(date)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the financial statements of Barnet URC for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 1 to 3.

Respective responsibilities

The church is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, and considers that the audit requirement of Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 145(1)(a) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

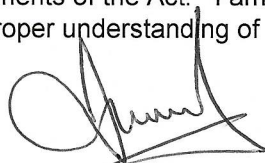
Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions of the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the church and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements.

Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination of the church funds, nothing came to my attention which gave me cause to believe otherwise than that the financial statements accord with the accounting records of the church, and that those records satisfied the requirements of the Act. I am not aware of any matter to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Signed by the Independent Examiner:



date:

21/2/2024

Name and address of the Independent Examiner:

NIGEL A. WARD
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