

COLKINS MILL CHURCH
...part of God's family in Mayfield



Trustees' Annual Report
and Accounts

for the period 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025

Aim and purposes

Colkins Mill Church is a local family congregation that seeks to follow Jesus Christ in the village of Mayfield, East Sussex.

The Trustees, who form the Church Leadership Team, aim to welcome all into a church community that enables people to embrace and grow in the Christian faith. The charitable purposes of the Church are met by a range of activities that include public worship, prayer and teaching, and also living out faith in outreach, practical care and relief of hardship, both in the local community and other parts of the world.

Objectives and activities

The Church Leadership is committed to enabling as many people as possible to join in the life and activities of the Church. In planning these activities, the Leadership Team has considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit. The main activities of Colkins Mill Church can be summarised as follows:

- Public worship has taken place each week in the Church, with a congregation of between 30 and 50 people, together with a small Sunday School for children.
- Four mid-week groups have met regularly in homes, to worship and learn together from the Bible, and to support one another in prayer and fellowship. In addition, there are two mid-week opportunities for communal prayer.
- Sunday evening meetings focused on worship and prayer have been held regularly.
- Two mid-week youth clubs are run during term times, open to all local young people of appropriate ages, providing a fun environment for games and social interaction, and including teaching from the Bible and discussion of relevant issues from a Christian perspective.
- A monthly celebration is held for people with learning difficulties from several care homes in the area with Bible stories, singing, craft and refreshments.
- The Church maintains active relationships with mission partners and Christian organisations working elsewhere in the UK and the world and provides financial and prayer support.
- The Church building is made available to clubs and societies in the village for a small hourly rent.

Achievements and performance

Sunday services have continued through the year and are live streamed for anyone unable to attend in person through absence or illness. The pattern of serving a buffet breakfast before the service has become part of the Church rhythm and is a valuable opportunity for connection and support.

The Church was delighted to baptise a young woman during the year at her request.

With good attendance continuing at mid-week homegroups, the Church started a second day-time group which has been well supported. In total there are now four small groups, which play an important part in pastoral care and discipleship. In addition, an "Alpha" course was run for interested people.

After a successful event last year, the Church held another 'Away Day' at a local retreat centre. The day provided the 33 people who attended with the opportunity for relaxed fellowship, worship, teaching and creativity. On a separate occasion a 'Healing Streams' day of teaching, ministry and encouragement was held for women, facilitated by a team from Ichthus Christian Fellowship (ICF). This was greatly appreciated by those who attended.

The Church hosts a corral of tents each year at 'Revive' conference week run by ICF at Ashburnham Place near Battle. Colkins Mill has been welcoming individuals and groups into its community at the event over the years, and this year 55 people joined the Church's corral.

Occasional "Worship Nights" have continued to be held at the Church in partnership with friends from other churches. These evenings focus exclusively on worship and the presence of God and have been well-attended.

The work with young people in the village has continued, with strong attendance of around 40 children each week across the two mid-week club nights that are offered. Another successful weekend camp was run, taking 30 young people away to a Christian outward-bound centre. This year a 'Youth Alpha' course was run with the older teenagers.

The Church was able to continue to give regular support and make financial grants to several Christian organisations, initiatives and individuals. This year a new three-year relationship was started with an organisation supporting homeless and vulnerable people in Eastbourne. Support and grants provided by the Church to individuals and charities are determined after discussion and agreement at meetings of the Leadership Team, including consideration of available funds. The Church leadership inform the Church of all grants made, involving people in the ensuing relationships where possible.

A one-off appeal was made during the year to support people displaced by bombing in Lebanon. The Church has a relationship with a Church in Beirut already involved with the refugee community there. There was a generous response of donations from members, and the Church was able to give a broadly matching amount from its own funds.

Other achievements during the year included:

- First Aid training, mainly for several individuals involved in youth work.
- Leadership training through attendance at the ICF Leaders Conference, and through joint discussion of a study book
- Monthly 'Bring and Share' Sunday lunches were continued, open to people outside the Church.
- Sunday services during August were held out of doors in the Church garden this year, following a theme of "Gardens in the Bible".
- The Church ran a stall at the Mayfield May Fair.
- A "Spring Crafts" afternoon was held, open to the public.

Many members of the Church are involved in Church activities on an informal voluntary basis, and the Trustees are very appreciative of the contribution that everyone makes, without which so much less would be accomplished. In the case of individuals who are involved in the children's and vulnerable adults' activities, appropriate safeguarding policies and procedures are in place.

Financial review

Regular donations and gifts to unrestricted reserves fell slightly by 1% from the previous year. However income was boosted by a significant recovery of two years of Gift Aid tax refund,

where there had been no claim in the prior year. Hall lettings and children's camp fees were up also, and in total income to unrestricted funds increased by 35% from the previous year, with 30 percentage points of this arising from Gift Aid. In future it is planned to make a Gift Aid claim every year to remove this volatility of income.

Gifts and donations to restricted funds increased by a similar percentage (36%) due to the one-off Lebanon appeal made during the year, together with the allocated share of the Gift Aid refund.

With no employed staff, the running costs of the Church are relatively low and the Church is able to make substantial grants to Christian organisations and mission partners.

Missionary support was given to long standing partners working in a deprived community in Johannesburg, South Africa, and amongst trafficked women in both India and a Native American Reservation in the USA. Grants to organisations included a charity dedicated to supporting homeless and vulnerable people in a nearby town, and organisations involved in Bible translation, youth work in the UK, emergency aid in Lebanon, social justice in the UK and international relief work. Some of these grants have been provided with a multi-year promise of support (subject to review). Where future funds have been promised the amounts are included in the accounts as a liability.

Expenditure on maintenance in the year included replacement of a fence to the property (a cost shared with our neighbour), and repair of some rotten flooring.

The strong total income for the year, partly offset by grants made, have given rise to a small surplus on unrestricted funds for the year.

All funds are held in cash.

Reserves policy

Assessment of the current condition of the Church building has indicated that some £25,000 of unrestricted funds should be held for repair work. The Church has made funding commitments that will be fulfilled in future years totalling £10,000 at year end. These amounts are deducted from unrestricted cash reserves when the Trustees assess reserves that are freely available. The Trustees consider that an amount equivalent to at least six months of annual expenditure should be held in free reserves.

At the end of March 2025 there were surplus free reserves above the policy level, assuring the future solvency of the Church and giving scope for future support of people and projects at home and overseas.

Structure, governance and management

Colkins Mill Church is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, governed under a CIO Foundation Constitution.

New Trustees are appointed by a resolution of the existing Trustees. There was no change to the Trustees during the year. New Trustees are provided with the constitution of the Church, and the latest Annual Report and Accounts. Induction ensures that they are fully acquainted with the objects, organisation and key activities of the Church, and briefed on current priorities, issues and opportunities, to ensure that they can be effective in their role quickly. New Trustees are required to read Charity Commission guidance on Trustee duties.

The Trustees together form the Leadership Team of the Church, which meets at least monthly, to plan the activities of the Church, to make decisions on matters of general concern, and to determine how funds are spent. Leadership meetings were held in person throughout the year.

Two of the Trustees attended on-line webinars organised by the Charity Commission and the Charity Community of the ICAEW.

The Church is led and run by the Leadership Team and Church members on a voluntary basis, with no employed staff. This limits the exposure to financial risk, since the fixed costs to be covered by income are relatively small. In addition, the team approach to leadership and ministry reduces dependency on key individuals and provides accountability to limit reputational risk.

Reference and administrative details

The name of the Charity is Colkins Mill Church. Its location and principal address is Station Road, Mayfield, East Sussex, TN20 6BT. The Church’s charity registration number is 1183123.

The Trustees during the year were as follows:

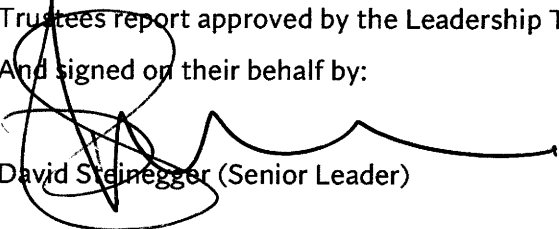
David Jules Steinegger	Senior Leader
Teresa Steinegger	Leader
Stephen John Harland	Leader
Judith Anne Harland	Leader
Kevin Phillip Warner	Leader
Catherine Warner	Leader

All Trustees acted for the entire year.

Approval

Trustees report approved by the Leadership Team on
And signed on their behalf by:

9th December 2025


David Steinegger (Senior Leader)

Colkins Mill Church receipts and payments accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2025

Receipts and Payments

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds 2024/25 £	Last Year 2023/24 £
Receipts					
Donations and gifts	23,887	7,481	-	31,367	30,996
Charitable activities (youth camp fees)	2,678	-	-	2,678	1,192
Gift Aid reimbursement	8,412	1,759	-	10,171	-
Interest on deposit account	174	-	-	174	144
Hire of hall	3,085	-	-	3,085	2,733
Total receipts	38,235	9,239	-	47,475	35,065
Payments					
Grants to organisations	11,556	2,388	-	13,943	27,869
Missionary support	8,400	6,447	-	14,847	8,992
Financial support to individuals in need	629	-	-	629	670
Memberships	582	-	-	582	582
Building and maintenance	2,383	-	-	2,383	566
Church preaching and outreach	925	-	-	925	586
Youth, children and special needs work	3,065	-	-	3,065	2,265
Church events	1,653	-	-	1,653	1,160
Light, heat and water	1,915	-	-	1,915	2,223
Cleaning	1,275	-	-	1,275	1,175
Insurance	1,588	-	-	1,588	1,262
Telephone and internet	446	-	-	446	622
Other	1,502	-	-	1,502	2,318
Total payments	35,918	8,835	-	44,753	50,290
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,317	405	-	2,722	(15,226)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds last year end	72,152	619	-	72,771	87,997
Cash funds this year end	74,469	1,024	-	75,493	72,771

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at the end of the period

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds 2024/25 £
Cash funds				
Barclays Current Account	57,570	1,024	-	58,594
Barclays Saver Account	11,632	-	-	11,632
Nat West Current Account	5,268	-	-	5,268
Total cash funds	74,469	1,024	-	75,493
Other monetary assets	-	-	-	-
Investment assets	-	-	-	-
Assets retained for Church use (note 1)	30,000	-	-	30,000
Liabilities (note 2)	(9,000)	(1,024)	-	(10,024)

Notes:

1. Assets retained for Church use is the freehold property in Station Road, Mayfield that the Church meets in. The property was acquired in 1997 and is held at cost.
2. Liabilities represent funding commitments made by year end to be fulfilled in future periods.

Accounts approved by the Church Leadership Team on
and signed on their behalf by:

9th December 2025

David Steinegger (Senior Leader)

Stephen Harland (Leader)



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Colkins Mill Church

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st March 2025

**Charity no
(if any)**

Set out on pages

1 to 7

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").

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

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (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: *S Hadden*

Date: 11/12/2025

Name: Samantha Hadden

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

CAT (Certified Accounting Technician)

Address:

Hadden Hall, Framfield Road, Blackboys, East Sussex TN22 5LS

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

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