

**Greenacres Congregational Church
Galland Street
Oldham
OL4 3EU**

Trustees Annual Report for the period October 2024 to October 2025

Charity Name – Greenacres Congregational Church

Charity Registration number – 1183815

Objectives and Activities

The objectives of the CIO are to advance the Christian Faith in accordance with the principles of Congregationalism for the benefit of the public in accordance with the statements of belief appearing in the Constitution of Greenacres Congregational Church.

- The advancement of the Christian Faith in accordance with the principles of Congregationalism mainly, but not exclusively, by means of broadcasting Christian congregational messages of an inspirational and teaching nature.
- To advance the Christian Faith in accordance with the principles of Congregationalism in the Oldham Metropolitan Borough for the benefit of the public through the holding of prayer meetings, lectures, public celebration of religious festivals, producing and/or distributing literature on Congregationalism to enlighten others about Congregational beliefs.
- To provide a place of worship in the Oldham Metropolitan Borough, for the advancement of the Christian Faith in accordance with Congregational principles.

Looking back over 2025

It is September again and time for the Annual Trustees report. This report is not only an opportunity to reflect on the last year but also a legal requirement of the Charity Commission to update members on the Church's governance and financial position.

The year started with the AGM on 13th October 2024 when officers of the Church were elected and the annual report and accounts were approved. These were subsequently submitted to the Charity Commission before the deadline and they are available on line for anyone to view.

This year has been quite a roller coaster. We initially wanted to call Rev'd Roo MacRea to our fellowship but then at the end of October, we found out that he had accepted a call from Market Harborough. Our search for a new minister continued and we met Lisa Ewart in November and following a quick succession of preaching and interviews Lisa returned to preach with a view in January. At our special church meeting on 19th January there was unanimous support to call Lisa to be our shared Minister in partnership with Springhead

Church. Lisa quickly accepted the call and started her ministry with us on 1st May to great anticipation. Lisa was formally inducted into the Ministry of Greenacres and Springhead Churches on the 5th July. The induction service was well supported by both fellowships along with visitors who had supported both Churches during their interregnum, and representatives of the Federation and other local Churches. The induction was followed by an excellent tea.

Unfortunately the very positive start to Lisa's ministry was quickly followed by huge disappointment when Lisa sent our secretary her resignation letter on 11th of July only a few days after her induction. The letter was read out to our fellowship on 13th July.

It would be an understatement to say that we were all very shocked and saddened by Lisa's decision but our secretary quickly responded and we are again reliant on pulpit supply in the form of visiting ministers along with the support of Rev'd Liz Dean, Peter Butler and Rev'd Frank Wroe to whom we are forever grateful.

We are again in an interregnum and in the short term we do not intend to advertise our vacancy. We hope to prayerfully re-visit the options for recruitment in the new year.

Following the sudden departure of our new minister a number of our fellowship also decided it was time for a fresh start and moved away from our church. This resulted in us being unable to support the bible study and prayer meeting groups. However, the Friendship choir continues to meet alternate Saturday mornings and is always looking for new members, Zumba, Pilates and Table Tennis have also been ongoing activities in our church hall over the year but these are not particularly well supported by our own fellowship.

Our Church has over recent years run the Alpha course and this year we decided to run an alternative course called "Being Congregational". This is a new course that has been developed by the Congregational Federation. It started on 10th September and has been led by Rev'd Liz Dean and has been well supported by both our fellowship and members from our neighbouring Churches.

Recent Activities

On Saturday August 16th afternoon tea was enjoyed by many of our friends not only from our church but also from Hope & Springhead Churches.

On Sept 21st after the service, we had an open discussion re social activities. The meeting was held in our church hall and attendees enjoyed homemade veg soup & crusty bread. It was agreed a monthly newsletter would be available from October with details of services and activities. Various events were also arranged :- Festive Coffee morning Sat 22nd Nov. Theatre trip to watch Calendar Girls at Mossley AODS Sat 29th Nov. Film Scrooge the Musical in the Church hall Sat 13th Dec - includes refreshments of Turkey & stuffing sandwiches, hot mulled wine or Prosecco, tea & coffee.

It was agreed that the informal open meeting involving the whole fellowship had worked well and that it would be repeated in the new year to plan ongoing activities for 2026.

A Macmillan coffee morning was held on Saturday 27th Sept, hosted by Yvonne Biram & Annes Mien. This event was well supported by our fellowship and friends from Hope & Springhead Churches. Everyone enjoyed the homemade cakes. The magnificent sum of £500 has been raised.

Services

We have again been very fortunate to have had such a wide and diverse range of services and we are so grateful to the following ministers & friends who have led services throughout the year

Peter Butler, Yvonne Campbell, Revd. Liz Dean, Revd. John Hall, Judith Haughton. Tim Hopley, Revd. David Ireland. Revd. Alan Kennedy, Revd. Foday Kamara, Pastor David Morgan. John Pollitt. Graham Radcliffe. Elisabeth Sweeney-Smith. The No Strings Attached Puppet Ministry. Susan Titmuss & Revd. Frank Wroe.

Special Services throughout the year

- Service of remembrance led by Malcolm Dean
- Carol Service, Christmas Day & Easter Services led by Revd Liz Dean
- Joint service with our local Congregational Churches on Maundy Thursday led by Frank Wroe & Revd. Liz Dean
- Christening service on 7th Sept Revd. Liz Dean led the service & christening of Jack, son of Katie & Mark, brother of Charlie.
- Harvest Thanksgiving Service led by Rev'd Frank Wroe

Church meetings

Our church meetings during the course of the year initially focussed on the arrangements for a shared ministry and the calling of a new minister along with the routine items of business linked to finance and building maintenance. At our quarterly church meeting on 17th August we all agreed to defer any action for recruitment of a minister until 2026. We also agreed to re let the manse after some redecoration work was completed.

I would add that whilst our quarterly meetings have been quorate the meetings in general are not well supported and I would encourage all members and adherents to attend them wherever possible so that the interests and views of all of our fellowship are well represented.

Church Maintenance

Whilst there have been no items of significant expenditure over the last year we have continued to undertake routine maintenance of our buildings. The details of these works and cost can be seen in the attached accounts.

Structure, Governance and Management

The structure of our CIO remains unchanged with a Minister, 5 Trustees and up to 12 Deacons.

Trustees

Following last year's AGM, the five trustees of the Charity were:-

I Bairstow	Chair
J Dean	Secretary
M Fowler	Treasurer
L Dean (Rev)	
P Butler	

In accordance with the rules of the Charity trustees need to step down in rotation every 3 years and this year the period of office for Ian Bairstow (Chair) and Joy Dean (secretary) will come to an end. There will therefore be two Trustee vacancies at the forthcoming AGM.

Following our last AGM, there were also four vacant posts for Deacons. Since that time Stuart Paulley has resigned and there are therefore currently 7 Deacons. Deacons are required to retire and if they wish stand for re-election every four years. This year Ian Bairstow will reach his fourth year. Nomination sheets for all vacant positions have as usual been advertised on the side table in church so that nominations for all roles in our fellowship can be made.

Deacons and Trustees

Deacons

Joy Dean	Until Oct 2027	(Trustee until Oct 2025)
Margaret Fowler	Until Oct 2028	(Trustee until Oct 2027)
Gail Waterhouse	Until Oct 2026	
Stuart Paulley	Until Oct 2025	(Resigned)
Ian Bairstow	Until Oct 2025	(Trustee until Oct 2025)
David Hopkins	Until Oct 2028	
Peter Butler	Until Oct 2028	(Trustee until Oct 2027)
Liz Dean	Until Oct 2026	(Trustee until Oct 2027)

Roll of Honour

We sadly note the passing of Mrs Lola Berry of our fellowship who passed away on 6th May 2025. Lola was a stalwart supporter of our fellowship and will be sadly missed by so many.

Financial Review

a) Revenue

During the year ending 30th June 2025 the church had a revenue income of £54,492 and running costs of £39,328 leaving an in year operating surplus of £15,164. A summary breakdown of income and expenditure is given below. The full detailed audited accounts are attached at the end of this report.

Income		Expenditure	
Offertory	£20022	Cleaning/pulpit Supp	£4948
Gift Aid	£5187	Manse	£4839
Investment Income	£7009	Utilities and general exp	£10,919
Donations, grants, fundraising	£6914	Admin and Legal	£7570
Funeral/wedding Fees	£300	Donations	£2527
Room Hire	£7125	Buildings	£5496
Other	£0	Stipend and Pension	£3029
Rental income Manse	£7935		
Legacy	£0		
	-----		-----
	£54492		£39328

Members might want to note that the offertory income has slightly increased when compared with last year. This is the first time for a number of years that we have seen a small increase. The Church's financial position has been much improved due to an increase in room hire income for our buildings along with the income from the rental of the Manse. The Expenditure is also significantly below where it would be if we had a paid minister. The church is incredibly fortunate to still have a very generous albeit reducing fellowship and our thanks go to all of you for your kind generosity.

b) Reserves and Investments

The general position of reserves and investments remains broadly unchanged. Adjustments and transfers are noted below.

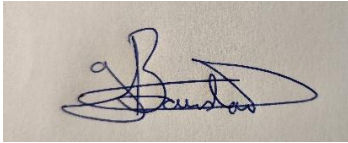
- £6.9k increase in valuation of the Nucleus long term investment fund
- £2.2k increase in the Nucleus medium term investment
- £4.8k decrease in the COIF ethical investment income shares

Our revenue position this year continues to be distorted as we have been without the cost of a minister for a long period. As such, our overall balance sheet is positive. Nevertheless, we should be mindful that utility costs are increasing rapidly and these along with the cost of even a part-time minister will make financial sustainability in future years challenging. We must hope and pray for guidance regarding the recruitment of a minister and the long term future of our fellowship.

I am pleased to be able to report that given the relatively high levels of reserves our Church is still in a strong financial position. Our buildings and grounds are in a good state of repair and we have no foreseeable exceptional expenditure that threatens the overall viability of

our fellowship. God willing with the positive impact of social events, fund raising and room rentals and the ongoing support of our fellowship we will be able to sustain worship and charitable giving at Greenacres for many years to come.

A full copy of our audited accounts is attached for information below. These will be presented to our AGM for approval prior to submission to the Charity Commission.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ian Bairstow', is written on a light-colored, textured surface. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'I' and 'B'.

Ian Bairstow
Chair of Trustees

GREENACRES CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

**GREENACRES CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

		2025	2024
		£	£
Income			
Offertory income		20022	19761
Donations, grants and fundraising	(note 1)	6914	5618
Legacy		0	250
Funeral and wedding fees		300	0
Room Hire		7125	7235
Property Rental		7935	4194
Investment income	(note 2)	7009	6612
Other income	(note 3)	0	91
Tax reclaimed on covenants		5187	4602
		<u>54492</u>	<u>48363</u>
Expenses			
Minister's stipend and pension		3029	0
Cleaning and pulpit supply		4948	5053
Manse expenses	(note 4)	4839	4798
General expenses	(note 5)	10919	10900
Administrative expenses	(note 6)	7570	3428
Donations made	(note 7)	2527	2369
Building and equipment maintenance	(note 8)	5496	7037
		<u>39328</u>	<u>33585</u>
Excess of Income/Expenditure for the year		15164	14778
Accumulated deficit brought forward		(29395)	(44173)
Accumulated deficit carried forward		<u>(14231)</u>	<u>(29395)</u>

GREENACRES CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 JUNE 2025

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets				
Land and Buildings				
Manse	210000		210000	
Church Land and Buildings	<u>275000</u>	485000	<u>275000</u>	485000
Equipment - sound System and Multi Media		8935		10723
Investments (note 9)		347905		342407
Cash at bank and in hand (note 10)		60679		47016
Accounts receivable		2820		1730
Total assets		<u>905339</u>		<u>886876</u>
Current liabilities (note 11)		1477		1945
Total assets less current liabilities		<u><u>903862</u></u>		<u><u>884931</u></u>
Represented by:				
Church Funds (note 12)		692845		693376
General Fund		8750		8750
Revaluation Reserves (note 13)		216498		212200
Deficit on income and expenditure account		(14231)		(29395)
		<u><u>903862</u></u>		<u><u>884931</u></u>

GREENACRES CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	2025	2024
Note 1 Donations, grants and fundraising		
	£	£
Other donations	4872	3700
Grants	400	0
Collections for charity	984	1205
Festive coffee morning	0	611
Fund raising	59	102
	<u>6315</u>	<u>5618</u>

Note 2 Investment income		
	£	£
Bank interest	380	301
Royton Trust	980	962
COIF income from units	3165	3182
DB Berry Trust income	1076	1068
K Locke Trust income	207	213
Teachers Building Society interest	1201	886
	<u>7009</u>	<u>6612</u>

Note 3 Other income		
	£	£
Sale of old media items	0	91
	<u>0</u>	<u>91</u>

GREENACRES CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	2025	2024
Note 4 Manse expenses		
	£	£
Water Rates	40	(125)
Insurance	414	377
Repairs and Renewals	4114	4249
Letting costs	80	90
Ground rent	13	13
Gas	-34	0
Council tax	212	0
	<u>4839</u>	<u>4798</u>

Note 5 General expenses		
	£	£
insurance	4614	4174
Telephone	522	579
Electricity	1213	1289
Gas	3988	4371
Water	582	487
	<u>10919</u>	<u>10900</u>

Note 6 Administrative expenses		
	£	£
Postage	14	11
Stationery and consumables	499	14
General printing costs	117	79
Remembrance Day wreath and expenses	22	20
Catering costs	448	21
Copyright licences	335	324
Legal fees	1500	1675
Accountancy and Audit Fees	300	300
Alpha Course Expenses	395	409
Health and Safety Expenses	0	252
Miscellaneous expenses	279	323
Notice board	38	0
Induction expenses	125	0
New minister travel & accommodation	3398	
	<u>7470</u>	<u>3428</u>

GREENACRES CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	2025	2024
Note 7 Donations made		
	£	£
Donations to affiliated associations	943	689
Rob Burrow - MND	0	257
Dr. Kershaw's Hospice	395	0
Guide Dogs for the Blind	212	0
Ancora	212	0
CWM Ministry and Mission	0	400
Christian Aid	765	750
Salvation Army	0	75
Francis House	0	198
Othr Donations	0	0
	<u>2527</u>	<u>2369</u>

Note 8 Building and equipment maintenance		
	£	£
Building repairs	578	2334
Land maintenance	2308	2259
Window cleaning	350	235
Cleaning materials	312	226
CCTV and Alarm Costs	160	160
Sound System & Multi Media Costs	0	35
Sound System & Multi Media Depreciation	1788	1788
	<u>5496</u>	<u>7037</u>

Note 9 Investments		
	£	£
Nucleus Medium Term	51494	49262
Nucleus Long Term	129108	122218
Teachers Building Society	55407	54207
COIF Ethical Investment Income Shares	111896	116720
	<u>347905</u>	<u>342407</u>

GREENACRES CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	2025	2024
Note 10 Cash at bank and in hand		
	£	£
Bank current account	29025	25805
Bank reserve account	31552	21172
Petty cash	102	39
	<u>60679</u>	<u>47016</u>

Note 11 Current liabilities		
	£	£
Accounts payable	1055	1542
Fund raising holding account	200	200
Coffee collection holding account	222	203
	<u>1477</u>	<u>1945</u>

Note 12 Church Funds		
	£	£
Youth and Recreation Fund - Capital	3659	3658
Youth and Recreation Fund - Income	2011	2011
Terc. Building Endowment Fund	2766	2766
Waterhead Fund - Capital	7184	7184
Waterhead Fund - Interest	1348	1348
Legacy Fund	298007	298007
Historical Receipts Fund	360050	360050
Benevolent Fund	10670	11200
Endowment Fund	7000	7000
Communion Fund	150	150
	<u>692845</u>	<u>693374</u>

Note 13 Revaluation Reserves		
	£	£
Nucleus Investment Revaluation Reserve	30602	21480
Capital Units Revaluation Reserve	104896	109720
Manse Revaluation Reserve	81000	81000
	<u>216498</u>	<u>212200</u>



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

Charity Name

GREENACRES CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

On accounts for the year
ended

30 JUNE 2025

Charity no
(if any)

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/06/2025.

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:

Sharon Nash

Date:

01 OCT. 2025

Name:

SHARON NASH

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

A.T.T. (FELLOW)

Address:

SBNTAX & ACCOUNTS SERVICES LTD

SUITE 38. EUROPA HOUSE; BARCROFT STREET;

BURY; BL9 5BT

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.