

CORNERSTONE MUSIC

England & Wales · Charity number 1188707

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2020-03-23

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

Contact

Address Cornerstone Music
300 Saxon Gate West
Milton Keynes
MK9 2ES

Phone 07961348697

Email boynntonmusic@googlemail.com

Website <http://www.cornerstonemusicmk.co.uk/>

Activities

Objects: (1) TO ADVANCE, IMPROVE, DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN PUBLIC EDUCATION IN, AND APPRECIATION OF, THE ART AND SCIENCE OF MUSIC IN ALL ITS ASPECTS BY ANY MEANS THE CHARITY TRUSTEES SEE FIT, INCLUDING THROUGH PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC CONCERTS AND RECITALS; (2) TO FURTHER SUCH CHARITABLE PURPOSE OR PURPOSES AS THE CHARITY TRUSTEES IN THEIR ABSOLUTE DISCRETION SHALL THINK FIT BUT IN PARTICULAR THROUGH THE MAKING OF GRANTS AND DONATIONS.

Activities: supports a programme throughout the year- major choral/orchestral works with amateur chorus performing to professional standards; with professional soloists and orchestra- professional chamber concerts and solo recitals- excellent talks about music of different periods illustrated with fine CD recordings- open to the public at low prices to ensure those with low incomes can benefit

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** Children/young People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Buckinghamshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£26,940	£22,225	-	-
2024-12-31	£15,966	£17,727	-	-
2023-12-31	£16,979	£13,743	-	-
2022-12-31	£8,763	£7,456	-	-
2021-12-31	£5,175	£4,545	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr David Chapman	Chair	2023-03-21
Adrian Mark Miller Yardley		2020-03-23
Carol Joyce Chapman		2023-03-21
Dr Catherine Hampton		2020-03-23
Rev Margaret Ann Goodall		2020-03-23

CORNERSTONE MUSIC

England & Wales - Charity number 1188707

Accounts

Cornerstone Music CIO

Report of the trustees for the financial year ended 31st December 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements and confirm that these comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the CIO constitution and the Charities SoRP (FRS 102).

Cornerstone Music is a Public Benefit Entity and not operated for profit.

Its objects are

- (1) To advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the charity trustees see fit, including through presentation of public concerts and recitals;
- (2) To further such charitable purpose or purposes as the charity trustees in their absolute discretion shall think fit but in particular through the making of grants and donations.

The activities and accomplishments of Cornerstone Music are described in the report of the Director of Music which follows.

The Trustees are Dr David Chapman (chair), Dr Cathy Hampton, Rev Dr Margaret Goodall, Joy Chapman, Jonathan Rosewell and Adrian Yardley (treasurer). The address of the charity is 11 Burewelle, Two Mile Ash, Milton Keynes, MK8 8LS. Our Independent Examiner is C G Linford MCICM.

Cornerstone Music CIO

Report of the Chair of Trustees

There are four streams of events presented by Cornerstone Music: major orchestral and choral works, a *cappella* concerts of the New English Singers, recitals or smaller concerts with guest performers, and Adrian's regular afternoon sessions '*Exploring Music*' from his private CD collection.

2025 started with a fantastically successful 'Concert for Peace' performing Rutter's *Requiem* and Karl Jenkin's *The Armed Man* for Churches Together in Milton Keynes's celebration of The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. This raised £900 for each of CTMK's designated charities (*St Mark's Meals* and *Sieve MK Gateway*). As a contribution to Cornerstone's Eastertide celebration in April we put on a performance of Bach's *St John's Passion* and in November there was a very special concert to celebrate the 80th birthday of Sir John Rutter with performances of *Mass of the Children*, *Magnificat*, *Ecce Miraculum* and *Suite Antique*.

There were six smaller performances organised for Saturday lunchtimes or early Wednesday evenings, including very successful collaborations with Prajna Indrawati's Bel Canto and the Revive Trio. Performances by the New English Singers included the annual 'Christmas Cracker' concert of carols and other festive works. Adrian's regular '*Exploring Music*' series of illustrated talks continued both to entertain and educate.

Cornerstone Music is an independent charity that exists as an adjunct of the Church of Christ the Cornerstone. Its music contributes to the mission of the church, with most of the performed works being sacred music. The experience of live music of this quality is a spiritual experience and our concerts function as outreach, drawing in significant numbers of people who are not members of Cornerstone, and many of them not active members of any church. As in a church service, participation in the events as a musician or as volunteer helper is a special experience, and this year we were delighted by the contribution of (Muslim) Arif Master performing the role of Muezzin in *The Armed Man* and the choir of Cornerstone Young Voices for the *Mass of the Children*.

In addition to our own performances, Cornerstone Music provides a 'reservoir' of additional singers from which the Adrian Boynton draws to enhance the regular church choir at Evensong and for major church festivals in his capacity as Director Of Music for the Church of Christ the Cornerstone.

2026 will have a similar programme of music of the highest quality, starting with this year's CTMK 'Hope for the World' concert of music by Mozart, raising money for the Camphill Community at Milton Keynes and for Bridgebuilder Trust MK.

David Chapman

Cornerstone Music CIO

Statement of Financial Activity

	Note	Year to 31 December 2025 £	Year to 31 December 2024 £
INCOME			
Donations:			
Friends of Music		3,610	3,810
Choir donations		3,334	2,104
Other donations		2,275	1,288
Gift Aid	5	1,989	1,599
		11,208	8,801
Charitable activities:			
Ticket sales	6	15,634	7,041
Investment income		98	124
		26,940	15,966
EXPENDITURE			
Charitable activities:			
Performers	7	11,051	6,765
Venue hire	8	3,600	2,514
Scores	9	3,855	618
Website	10	319	498
Conducting fee	11	1,600	5,332
Donations made	12	1,800	2,000
		22,225	17,727
Net surplus / <deficit>		4,715	<1,761>
<Loss> / Gain on investments	13	<274>	665
Funds brought forward		5,030	6,126
Funds carried forward	14	£ 9,471	£ 5,030

Cornerstone Music CIO

Statement of Financial Position

	Note	As at 31 December 2024 £	As at 31 December 2023 £
<u>Fixed assets</u>			
Investments	15	10,353	10,627
<u>Current assets & liabilities</u>			
Debtors		250	–
Cash at bank		6,701	2,262
Liabilities	10	<7,833>	<7,859>
		<882>	<5,597>
Net assets		£ 9,471	£ 5,030

Notes

1. Cornerstone Music CIO is a Public Benefit Entity and does not seek profit. It is registered with the Charity Commission. Neither the trustees nor the independent examiner receive remuneration or expenses.
2. These financial statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SoRP) second edition October 2019, and report income and expenditure deriving from a programme of musical events put on during the financial year ended 31 December 2025.
3. Accounting bases: These financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis: that the CIO will continue with generous support, skilled knowledge and experience of the Music Director Adrian Boynton for the foreseeable future.
These financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis: that unsettled (unpaid) costs appear as debtors or creditors at financial year end, which include the use of estimates where necessary.

Cornerstone Music CIO

4. The principal economic risks to CIO are: contagion that would depress ticket sales or prevent performers from attending; and rise in venue charges. The trustees are prepared to mitigate the consequences of risk.
5. Gift Aid is recovered from HMRC equivalent to 25% of donations. Donations received are treated as income upon receipt.
6. We performed three major concerts in 2025, whereas last year we performed only two (one of which was less well-known *Haydn's The Seasons* and had attracted a smaller attendance than usual). This yielded a better financial outcome in 2025. Sales on the day exceed advance ticket sales online. Sales via card reader sales have grown so that are now 1/3 online 1/3 card reader 1/3 cash.
7. The Music Director calls on his extensive range of contacts to enlist excellent performers. Performer fees are paid to professional solo singers and expenses to the orchestra. Cornerstone Chamber Choir sing gratis.
8. Venue fees are levied by the City Church for performances.
9. Score expenditure includes hire of music scores, tuning the piano & organ prior to performance, PPLPRS charges for use of copyrighted material and printing of concert tickets.
10. Website expenditure is aggregated with minor other costs, such as 1.69% card reader commission; purchases of disposable cups and refreshment supplies. Website platform fee is currently £450 per annum, but we hope to reduce this significantly after moving to another Internet Provider.
11. In 2023, the trustees resolved to pay £700 conducting fee to Adrian Boynton per major concert with retrospective effect, increased to £1000 for 2025. As at 31st December 2025, payment is outstanding for nine major concerts.
12. Under the auspices of *Churches Together in Milton Keynes*, our performances in January 2025 of Sir Karl Jenkins' *The Armed Man* & Sir John Rutter's *Requiem* raised net proceeds of £1,800 that were distributed to the charities *St.Mark's Meals* and *SieveMKGateway*.
13. We are vested in worldwide equities through two COIF charities funds managed by CCLA. During 2025 these fell by £274 equivalent to 3%. Overall £9,000 invested in 2022 has risen by 15% (2024: 18%). CCLA recognise this result was unrepresentative of global equity performance, and in February 2026 became a part of a larger group with a good record of fund management (*Jupiter Fund Management plc*).
14. Reserves Policy The Trustees are resolved to keep minimum level of reserves sufficient to mount a major concert, as a contingency if a concert should fail to cover its operating costs. Costs include venue, orchestra, solo singers and conductor fee; in total ranging from £5,000 to £7,000 per major concert. Most concert costs arise in the week before the event, and income the week after.



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
CORNERSTONE MUSIC

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31 DECEMBER 2025	Charity no (if any)	1188707
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Set out on pages

3 to 6

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31/ 12/ 2025.

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

**Independent
examiner's statement**

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the 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.

Signed:  **Date:** 17/4/26

Name: C.G. Linford

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

MCICM

Address:

13 Herdman Close, Greenleys,
Milton Keynes MK12 6AD

CORNERSTONE MUSIC

England & Wales - Charity number 1188707

Accounts

Cornerstone Music CIO

Report of the trustees for the financial year ended 31st December 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements and confirm that these comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the CIO constitution and the Charities SoRP (FRS 102).

Cornerstone Music is a Public Benefit Entity and not operated for profit.

Its objects are

- (1) To advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the charity trustees see fit, including through presentation of public concerts and recitals;
- (2) To further such charitable purpose or purposes as the charity trustees in their absolute discretion shall think fit but in particular through the making of grants and donations.

The activities and accomplishments of Cornerstone Music are described in the report of the Director of Music which follows.

The Trustees are Dr David Chapman (chair), Dr Cathy Hampton, Rev Dr Margaret Goodall, Joy Chapman, Jonathan Rosewell and Adrian Yardley (treasurer). The address of the charity is 11 Burewelle, Two Mile Ash, Milton Keynes, MK8 8LS. Our Independent Examiner is C G Linford MCICM.

Report of the Chair of Trustees

The Trustees are delighted that through its musical education and performances during 2024, Cornerstone Music was once again able to contribute to The Church of Christ the Cornerstone's mission of creating an Oasis of Hope in Central Milton Keynes. The enduring popularity of Handel's *Messiah* attracted an almost full house during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in January, raising a magnificent £2000 for charities. Recitals of the highest quality throughout the year delivered oases of beauty to the city. The Church's registration as an Eco Church was supported by our performance of Haydn's *The Seasons* in the Autumn.

Although *The Seasons* attracted a good audience, insufficient tickets were sold to cover the costs of putting on the performance. After payments to soloists and orchestra, and the substantial fee charged by Cornerstone Trading for the use of the church, the event lost £2000. Lessons have been learned about publicity and promotion, especially about targeting the publicity at churches and making better use of social media.

Some of the smaller recitals made a surplus while others made a loss. We are grateful for the generous donations of our Patrons and Friends Of Music yet we report an overall

Cornerstone Music CIO

loss for the year. The loss was covered by the reserves which nevertheless remain sufficient to sustain the costs of a major concert (in line with our Reserves Policy).

Our concerts are only possible thanks to the skills and tireless efforts of numerous people. The generous administrative and organisational support of Jill Boynton, Adrian Yardley, the choir, clergy, council and members of the Church of Christ the Cornerstone, and helpers too numerous to name. Chris Linford has kindly donated his expertise as Independent Examiner and we acknowledge the great generosity of donors, sponsors and supporters, members of the Chamber Choir and Orchestra. We are grateful for concessionary rates for use of premises agreed by Cornerstone Trading, and special thanks are due to Andrew Wood, the Premises Supervisor, for his practical help and advice at all time.

Cornerstone Music gratefully acknowledges the financial support of Milton Keynes Community Foundation for acquiring the modular staging used in our concerts.

I also give my personal thanks to my fellow Trustees, who, unlike me, have the musical expertise to qualify as Trustees of a musical charity.

Finally, it almost goes without saying because it is obvious to anyone who has any contact with our activities: Cornerstone Music exists around its musical director, Adrian Boynton. Adrian's knowledge, skills, energy and, especially his enthusiasm, are legendary. Cornerstone Music is Adrian Boynton.

David Chapman

Report of the Director of Music

During the Week of Prayer in January 2024 Cornerstone Chamber Choir, Orchestra and Soloists collaborated with Churches Together in MK to deliver a very successful performance of Handel's *Messiah*, raising £1000 each for MK Money Lifeline and the Ukraine Appeal. Eight months later, to mark the Season of Creationtide, the same forces performed Haydn's colourful and life-affirming masterpiece *The Seasons*. Audience was smaller in number than for *Messiah*, but hugely appreciative.

Chamber recitals during the year included Alexander Ardakov (piano solo), Claudia Gallardo with Prajna Indrawati (violin & piano duo), Prajna Indrawati with Gerry Tsui (two piano recital) [involving hire of a second piano!], and the return of two favourites to Cornerstone in recital with me, John Macdomnic (trumpet) and Emily Haig (soprano). A lovely Christmas recital was given by New English Singers with guest piano soloist John Fisher and outstanding young violinist Sean Lau. Sean featured alongside talented young pianist Yiding Wang in a lovely Christmas Concert given by our Church Choir for the Mayor's chosen charity, Sieve MK Gateway.

Our ongoing series of talks illustrated with CD recordings explored the relationship between Music and Dance, and the History of British Music.

Cornerstone Music CIO

During the year additional staging was purchased for use in larger scale concerts, to supplement that staging acquired in with the help of a grant from MK Community Foundation in 2021.

I am deeply grateful to David Chapman, Adrian Yardley, Martin Ferns, Jon Rosewell, Tim Norwood, Ann Harris, Cathy Hampton and Margaret Goodall for all their hard work during the year. Special thanks to Jill for her continuing care and support.

Adrian Boynton

Cornerstone Music CIO

Statement of Financial Activity

	Note	Year to 31 st December 2024 £	Year to 31 st December 2023 £
<u>INCOME</u>			
Donations:			
Friends of Music		3,810	2,417
Choir donations		2,104	4,777
Other donations		1,288	1,196
Gift Aid	5	1,599	2,193
		8,801	10,583
Charitable activities:			
Ticket sales		7,041	5,140
Investment income		124	163
		15,966	15,886
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>			
Charitable activities:			
Performers	6	6,765	7,955
Venue hire	7	2,514	1,914
Scores	8	618	1,002
Website	9	498	287
Conducting fee	10	5,332	1,400
Staging	11	-	1,185
Donations made	12	2,000	-
		17,727	13,743
Net <deficit>/ surplus		<1,761>	2,143
Gain on investments	13	665	1,093
Funds brought forward		6,126	2,890
Funds carried forward	14	£ 5,030	£ 6,126

Cornerstone Music CIO

Statement of Financial Position

	Note	As at 31st December 2024 £	As at 31st December 2023 £
<u>Fixed assets</u>			
Investments	13	10,627	12,935
<u>Current assets & liabilities</u>			
Cash at bank		2,262	2,579
Liabilities	10	<7,859>	<9,388>
		<5,597>	<6,809>
Net assets		£ 5,030	£ 6,126

Notes

1. Cornerstone Music CIO is a Public Benefit Entity and does not seek profit. It is registered with the Charity Commission. Neither the trustees nor the independent examiner receive remuneration or expenses.
2. These financial statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SoRP) second edition October 2019, and report income and expenditure deriving from a programme of musical events put on during the financial year ended 31st December 2024.
3. Accounting bases: These financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis: that the CIO will continue with generous support, skilled knowledge and experience of the Music Director Adrian Boynton for the foreseeable future.
These financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis: that unsettled (unpaid) costs appear as debtors or creditors at financial year end, which include the use of estimates where necessary.
4. The principal economic risks to CIO are: contagion that would depress ticket sales or prevent performers from attending; and rise in venue charges. The trustees are prepared to mitigate the consequences of risk.

Cornerstone Music CIO

5. Gift Aid is recovered from HMRC equivalent to 25% of donations. Donations received are treated as income upon receipt.
6. The Music Director calls on his extensive range of contacts to enlist excellent performers. Performer fees are paid to professional solo singers and expenses to the orchestra. Cornerstone Chamber Choir sing gratis.
7. Venue fees are levied by the City Church for performances. Occasionally events are performed elsewhere with a fee paid for hire of premises.
8. Score expenditure includes hire of music scores, tuning the piano & organ prior to performance, PRS charges for use of copyrighted material and printing of concert tickets.
9. Website expenditure is aggregated with minor other costs: 1.7% card reader commission deducted at source from the ticket face value (but cash sales and sales via TicketSource website are more plentiful on which we pay no commission) and occasional purchases of disposable cups and refreshment supplies.
Website platform fee is currently £374 per annum, but we hope to reduce this significantly after moving to another IP.
10. In 2023, the trustees resolved to pay £700 conducting fee to Adrian Boynton per major concert with retrospective effect. As at 31st December 2024, payment is outstanding for eleven major concerts.
11. A minor contribution toward a set of modular Staging purchased by the City Church to be used for music events (worth £12,000).
12. Handel's Messiah, in January 2024, raised net proceeds of £2,000 distributed to the two intended charities MK Money Lifeline and Ukraine Appeal on 21st March.
13. In 2022, £13,000 was invested in three COIF charities investment funds managed by CCLA. Two funds gained in value but the property fund lost ¼ in value and CCLA imposed a 6 month notice period to dispose of this fund. We provided notice and used the proceeds to pay backlog of Conductor's fee. The remaining two funds are invested in worldwide equities and gained 18% since vested. In capital gain plus dividends, the three funds made 7% since vested.
14. Reserves Policy The Trustees have resolved to keep minimum level of reserves sufficient to mount a major concert, as a contingency if a concert should fail to cover its operating costs. Costs comprise venue, orchestra, solo singers and conductor fee: in total exceeding £5,000 per major concert. Prices have risen in recent years. Most concert costs arise in the week of the event, as does concert income.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Cornerstone Music
Cornerstone Music

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st December 2024

**Charity no
(if any)**

1188707

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 31st December 2024.

**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**

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the 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.

Signed:

Date:

1/4/25

Name:

C G Linford

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

MCICM

Address:

13 Herdman Close, Greenleys

Milton Keynes, MK12 6AD

CORNERSTONE MUSIC

England & Wales - Charity number 1188707

Accounts

Cornerstone Music CIO

Report of the trustees for the financial year ended 31st December 2023

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements and confirm that these comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the CIO constitution and the Charities SoRP (FRS 102).

Cornerstone Music is a Public Benefit Entity and not operated for profit.

Its objects are

- (1) To advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the charity trustees see fit, including through presentation of public concerts and recitals;
- (2) To further such charitable purpose or purposes as the charity trustees in their absolute discretion shall think fit but in particular through the making of grants and donations.

The activities and accomplishments of Cornerstone Music are described in the report of the Music Director which follows.

The Trustees are Dr David Chapman (chair), Dr Cathy Hammond, Rev Dr Margaret Goodall, Joy Chapman and Adrian Yardley. The address of the charity is 11 Burewelle, Two Mile Ash, Milton Keynes, MK8 8LS. The Independent Examiner is C G Linford MCICM.

Report of the Chair of trustees

The world has been overshadowed by conflict in 2023. It started with the war in Ukraine (which, of course, continues still) and ended with the terrible destruction and mounting death toll in Israel and Palestine. Music can be an escape from the horrors of the world but can also act as commentary and reflection on events, and it was in this latter role that, on 22nd January, Cornerstone Music put on an exceptionally powerful performance of Tippett's Child of Our Time on behalf of Churches Together in Milton Keynes, for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Also engaging with the events in the news, the Celebration Concert of 1st October included several coronation pieces in honour of the coronation of King Charles.

Aside from the major concerts, there has been a lot going on this year.

- We have been delighted to put on a number of lunchtime recitals and are pleased that our musical director, Adrian Boynton, has resumed his programme of illustrated talks about composers.
- With a view to preserving the long-term legacy of the musical skills of Adrian, recordings had been made of performances of his own compositions and arrangements, and plans are in place to publish a collection of his scores. We

Cornerstone Music CIO

are grateful to Daniel Lock and World of Sound for the recordings, and Julie Gillam for carefully transcribing Adrian's handwritten compositions to a printed score ahead of seeking a publisher. Watch this space!

- The Church of Christ the Cornerstone has been enhanced as a concert venue by the purchase of a comprehensive set of staging. Following an initial delivery of modular equipment from Unistage in 2021, we received a second delivery in September 2023 that doubled the quantity of equipment, sufficient to provide for a variety of configurations of any foreseeable concert. These purchases were financed 36% by private donations, 29% by a grant from MK Community Foundation, 18% by Cornerstone Trading paying the VAT, 9% by Gift Aid recovered on the donations and 8% contributed by Cornerstone Music.

The Trustees are honoured to play their part in sustaining the transformative heritage of music in the Milton Keynes area and acknowledge the enormous help and support which makes it possible, including that of Adrian Boynton, the indefatigable administrative and organisational support of Jill Boynton, Adrian Yardley, the choir, clergy, council and members of the Church of Christ the Cornerstone, and helpers too numerous to name but the contribution of each and every one of whom is valued as a vital resource without which this enterprise would not be possible. Chris Linford has generously donated his expertise as Independent Examiner. We acknowledge the great generosity of donors, sponsors and supporters, members of the Chamber Choir and Orchestra, and the benefit of concessionary rates for use of premises kindly agreed by Cornerstone Trading.

Finally, we are always in need of more help! If you would like to part of this fantastic venture, whether singing, helping with publicity, stewarding at concerts, joining the board of trustees, fundraising, or anything else you can offer, please get in touch.

David Chapman
Chair, Cornerstone Music

Report of the Music Director

On New Year's Day 2023, The Cornerstone Choir, accompanied by solo trumpeter Louis Grao, took part in special ceremonies in Middleton Hall (just outside John Lewis) and MK Rose in Campbell Park to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the first performance of Amazing Grace (1st January 1773 in Olney). The event was strongly supported. Throughout that day we were featured on BBC Television News.

During the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18 – 25 January) a series of events was held across MK churches to mark the launch of 'Churches Together in Milton Keynes'. Our contribution at Christ the Cornerstone was a performance by the Cornerstone Chamber Choir and Orchestra of Bach's resplendent 'Magnificat' and Tippett's epic masterwork 'A Child of our Time', one work offering undiluted joy and celebration, the other carrying a powerful message of reconciliation and transformation for a troubled world. We were joined by four outstanding soloists – Ana Beard Fernandez (soprano), Katie Coventry (mezzo), Tom Elwin (tenor) and Peter Edge (bass). Both choir and soloists handled the sharply contrasting styles of the two works with great skill.

Cornerstone Music CIO

Bachian splendour (heightened by the brilliant trumpet playing of Ian Lynch and his team) gave way to the power and emotion of Tippett's narrative and his deeply felt settings of spirituals.

2023 was of course a 'royal' year, with the Coronation of King Charles and Queen Camilla in Westminster Abbey on 6th May as its centerpiece. Three months earlier we were delighted to welcome the new King to Christ the Cornerstone to confer official 'city status' upon Milton Keynes. I was pleased to be invited to provide music on that occasion, with soprano Emily Haig.

In October our Chamber and Orchestra mounted a special concert as a joint celebration of Coronation year and Milton Keynes' elevation to city status. The programme consisted of two of Bach's finest cantatas, No 34 'O ewiges Feuer' and No 78 'Jesu, Der du meine Seele', two of Handel's Coronation Anthems, 'The King shall rejoice' and 'My heart is inditing', and Haydn's great 'Nelson Mass'. Once again choir rose splendidly to the challenge of delivering varied styles within the same concert. We were blessed with a 'dream team' of soloists – Jenni Harper (soprano), Judy Louie Brown (alto), Peter Davison (tenor) and Timothy Nelson (bass). The orchestra was ably led by Jeremy Sampson, while Craig Greene and David Knight provided excellent continuo support.

In the final weeks of 2023, Cornerstone Chamber Choir was in rehearsal for a performance of Handel's Messiah, planned for January 2024, to mark the first anniversary of the launch of 'Churches Together'.

Chamber music during the year included recitals by Alexander Ardakov and John Macdomnic (trumpet). Macdomnic's recital demonstrated skill across a range of different trumpets, in works by Sweelinck, Handel, Haydn, Hohne, Gershwin and Arban.

At the beginning of the year, our New English Singers a cappella choir gave a lovely Epiphany recital at St Michael's Church Lavendon, featuring versatile flautist Rosie Reed as guest soloist. The annual Christmas Cracker programme in December took place not at Cornerstone this year but at Newport Pagnell Parish Church, with trumpeter John Macdomnic as soloist in works by Purcell, Hovhaness and Hummel. Choral offerings included several carols by contemporary women composers. The concert was enjoyed by a sizeable and enthusiastic audience.

2023 was a busy year for the Cornerstone Childrens Choir. On Sunday 4th June the choir gave a lovely concert at St Peter's Church Gayhurst, featuring Michael Hurd's 'Swinging Samson'. They were joined by two fine young soloists, Louis Grao (trumpet) and Yiding Wang (piano), a recent prizewinner at Milton Keynes Festival. Two regular members of the choir, Lakshith and Neha Dasari, offered piano duets. June 4th was an absolutely perfect summer's day, and after the concert we enjoyed sandwiches, strawberries and cream and delicious cakes, generously supplied by Christine and Robin Thompson, in the elegant and spacious grounds of Gayhurst Court – a real 'Glyndebourne' experience! I am indeed grateful to Christine for her invaluable day-to-day support of the Children's Choir.

Cornerstone Music CIO

Later in the Summer, the Choir gave a similar programme at Freeman Memorial Church in Bletchley, with Louis and Yiding again as soloists. In December the Choir sang a programme of festive music at Highclere Nursing Home in Downs Barn, hugely appreciated by residents, families and staff. And just before Christmas, the Choir sang carols in the main Shopping Centre, close to M&S Food Hall, to raise money for the Cornerstone Christmas Appeal.

During the year, my regular programme of educational talks on music continued. The 'ABC of Music' talks were held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Oak Tree Centre in Shenley Brook End. The Spring Series focussed on the development of the Concerto in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries; the Autumn Series celebrated Music and Dance through the Ages. A separate series of talks held at 11, Burewelle, Two Mile Ash on the last Wednesday of each month explored the history of music in England, starting with a celebration of the 400th Anniversary of William Byrd, and moving through Purcell, Handel and Haydn to the great revival of English music at the end of the Nineteenth Century in the hands of Parry, Stanford and Elgar.

During the year a further supply of choir staging was acquired to add to the staging purchased in 2021. This allows for more flexible and complete stage set-ups for choral and orchestral concerts (as well as for other events). It was first used for the 'Coronation Concert' in October 2023. Special thanks to Adrian Yardley for his tireless and detailed negotiations with the staging company to secure the best 'deal'.

My thanks to Cheryl Montgomery for designing and making a splendid new cover for our upright piano to replace the old cover, which had become tattered and torn after more than 30 years of use.

Thank you to Peter Steeds and Bob Collard for helpful meetings to affirm and develop the 'special relationship' between Cornerstone Music and Cornerstone Trading. And thanks to Simon and Woody for valuable day-to-day support in the arrangements for concerts and other events.

Thanks to Tim Norwood and Ann Harris for their support and encouragement regarding 'Churches Together' concerts, and special thanks to Ann Wilson for overseeing arrangements between Cornerstone and Churches Together.

My thanks are due to the Trustees of Cornerstone Music – Margaret, Cathy, Joy and Adrian - for their great encouragement and support. Thanks to Jon Rosewell for breathing new life into the Cornerstone Music website and for agreeing to assist further with communication and outreach. Thanks to Adrian Yardley for day-to-day practical support in a variety of areas. Special thanks to David Chapman for constant encouragement, wisdom and support, and to Jill for her tireless and dedicated contribution as volunteer Music Administrator.

Adrian Boynton

Cornerstone Music CIO

Statement of Financial Activity

	Note	Year to 31 st December 2023 £	Year to 31 st December 2022 £
<u>INCOME</u>			
Donations:			
Friends of Music		2,417	2,260
Choir donations		4,777	1,555
Other donations		1,196	660
Gift Aid	5	2,193	797
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		10,583	5,272
Ticket sales		5,140	3,452
Investment income		163	39
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		15,886	8,763
 <u>EXPENDITURE</u>			
Performers	6	7,955	3,735
Venue hire	7	1,914	1,950
Scores	8	1,002	583
Website	9	287	1,188
Conducting fee	10	1,400	-
Staging	11	1,185	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		13,743	7,456
Net income		2,143	1,307
Gain/ <Loss> on investments		1,093	<1,158>
Funds brought forward		2,890	2,741
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Funds carried forward		£ 6,126	£ 2,890

Cornerstone Music CIO

Balance Sheet

	Note	As at 31st December 2023 £	As at 31st December 2022 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	12	12,935	11,842
Current assets			
Debtors			1,148
Cash at bank		2,579	4,672
		<u>2,579</u>	<u>5,820</u>
Creditor	13	<9,388>	<14,772>
Net current liabilities		<u><6,809></u>	<u><8,952></u>
Net assets		<u>£ 6,126</u>	<u>£ 2,890</u>

Cornerstone Music CIO

Notes

1. Cornerstone Music CIO is a Public Benefit Entity and does not seek profit. It is registered with the Charity Commission. Neither the trustees nor the independent examiner receives remuneration or expenses.
2. These financial statements comply with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SoRP) second edition October 2019, and report income and expenditure deriving from a programme of musical events put on during the financial year ended 31st December 2023.
3. Accounting bases: These financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis: that the CIO will continue with generous support, skilled knowledge and experience of the Music Director Adrian Boynton and administrator Jill Boynton for the foreseeable future.
These financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis: that unsettled (unpaid) costs appear as debtors or creditors at financial year end, which include the use of estimates where necessary.
4. The principal economic risks to CIO are: contagion that would depress ticket sales or prevent performers from attending; and rise in venue charges. The trustees are prepared to mitigate the consequences of risk.
5. Gift Aid is recovered from HMRC equivalent to 25% of donations. Donations received are treated as income upon receipt.
6. The Music Director calls on his extensive range of contacts to enlist excellent performers. Performer fees are paid to professional solo singers and expenses to the orchestra. Cornerstone Chamber Choir sing gratis.
7. Venue fees are levied by the City Church for performances. Occasionally events are performed elsewhere with a fee paid for hire of premises.
8. Score expenditure includes hire of music scores, tuning the piano & organ prior to performance, PRS charges for use of copyrighted material and printing of concert tickets.
9. Website expenditure includes minor and occasional minor costs of providing refreshments.
10. In 2023, the trustees resolved to pay £700 conducting fee to Adrian Boynton per major concert with retrospective effect.
11. A minor contribution toward a set of modular Staging purchased by the City Church to be used for music events (worth £12,000).
12. In 2022, £13,000 was invested in COIF charities funds managed by CCLA.
13. Adrian Boynton is owed conducting fees from previous years.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name

CORNERSTONE Music

On accounts for the year ended

31ST DECEMBER 2023

Charity no (if any)

1188707

Set out on pages

5 to 7

(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 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:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the 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:

[Signature]

Date:

07 JUNE 2024

Name:

C.G. LINFORD

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

MCICM

(if any):

--

Address:

13 HERDMAN COOSE
GREENLEYS
MILTON KEYNES MK12 6AD

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.

--

CORNERSTONE MUSIC

England & Wales - Charity number 1188707

Accounts

Cornerstone Music CIO

Report of the trustees for the financial year ended 31st December 2022

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements and confirm that these comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the CIO constitution and the Charities SoRP (FRS 102). Cornerstone Music is a Public Benefit Entity and not operated for profit.

Its objects are

- (1) To advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the charity trustees see fit, including through presentation of public concerts and recitals;
- (2) To further such charitable purpose or purposes as the charity trustees in their absolute discretion shall think fit but in particular through the making of grants and donations.

The activities and accomplishments of Cornerstone Music are described in the report of the Music Director which follows.

The Trustees are Dr. David Chapman (chair), Joy Chapman, Dr. Cathy Hammond, Revd. Dr Margaret Goodall and Adrian Yardley. The address of the charity is 11 Burewelle, Two Mile Ash, Milton Keynes, MK8 8LS. The Independent Examiner is C G Linford MCICM.

Report of the Chair of trustees

Joy and I were appointed trustees of Cornerstone Music at the meeting of 21st March 2023, and I was honoured to be given the role of chair. I take over from Iain Porteus, who has chaired Cornerstone Music with exceptional skill and dedication since its formation eight years ago. I can't thank Iain enough for all that he has done for Cornerstone Music, and were it not for the talents, dedication and goodwill of the other trustees it would be a daunting responsibility to take his place.

The Trustees are honoured to play their part in sustaining the transformative heritage of music in the Milton Keynes area and acknowledge the enormous help and support which makes it possible, including that of Adrian Boynton, the indefatigable administrative and organisational support of Jill Boynton, Adrian Yardley, the choir, clergy, council and members of the Church of Christ the Cornerstone, and helpers too numerous to name but the contribution of each and every one of whom is valued as a vital resource without which this enterprise would not be possible. Chris Linford has generously donated his expertise as Independent Examiner. We acknowledge the great generosity of donors, sponsors and supporters, members of the Chamber Choir and Orchestra, and the benefit of concessionary rates for use of premises kindly agreed by Cornerstone Trading.

Chair, Cornerstone Music
18th May 2023

Cornerstone Music CIO

Report of the Music Director

Following the success of our performance of Haydn's Creation in November 2021, we were delighted to return to 'home soil' for Bach's monumental St Matthew Passion in April 2022. The octagonal shape of the Cornerstone Worship Area is ideal for this double choir/ double orchestra work, enabling choral and orchestral forces to be positioned antiphonally on either side of the raised dais, with shared obbligato wind in the middle. We were able to use our recently acquired new staging, along with the regular choir staging, to maximum advantage.

We had a wonderful line up of soloists, including soprano Alexandra Kidgell, Scottish mezzo Judy Louie Brown, baritone Andrew Tipple as Jesus, and bass Tim Nelson as Pilate. Tenor Ben Thapa was a dramatic and very persuasive Evangelist. There were superb instrumental solos from flautist Federico Paxio, oboe d'amore Sarah Mourant and violinists Jeremy Sampson and Emily Groom. The continuo team of Julian Metzger (cello) and Ian Clarke (organ) was quite outstanding. The choirs were on thrilling form, particularly in the dramatic 'crowd' choruses, and the epic opening and closing movements.

Special thanks to Iain Porteus, who kindly arranged transport of chamber organ from my garage to Cornerstone, and safe return after the concert. Many thanks to all the musicians and helpers who contributed to an inspiring and memorable experience to begin Holy Week.

The Chamber Choir enjoyed a pause over the Summer months. In the Autumn, we received a special commission from Tim Norwood and Ann Wilson to prepare a performance to mark the launch of 'Churches Together in Milton Keynes'. I chose two very contrasting works - Bach's brilliant setting of Magnificat, by way of celebration, and Michael Tippett's dramatic and moving 'A Child of our Time', reflecting hope for reconciliation and healing in a broken world.

We were grateful to St Mary's Shenley and Freeman Memorial Church Bletchley who offered space in the early stages of rehearsal. Rehearsals moved to Cornerstone in December, and continued during the busy Advent and Christmas season.

Several chamber concerts were held during the year. In May there was a superb recital by prizewinning violinist Cristian Granger DeSa (former BBC Young Musician finalist, and long-standing friend of Cornerstone), in partnership with international pianist Susana Gomez Vazquez. Their compelling programme of French masterworks included Debussy's Sonata in G minor, Ravel's Rhapsodie 'Tzigane', and Franck's Sonata in A, one of the outstanding works of the Romantic repertoire.

A recital by top Russian pianist Alexander Ardakov scheduled for July had to be postponed for the rather unusual reason that temperatures reached dangerously high levels (around 40°C). It was rescheduled to a much cooler day in the Autumn when we were treated to a veritable feast of Schubert, Chopin and Rachmaninov, plus the magisterial arrangement by Busoni on Bach's great

Cornerstone Music CIO

Chaconne for solo violin. There were generous encores of Grieg Lyric Pieces to conclude.

Another fine recital was given by outstanding trumpeter John Macdomnic. I was at the piano and organ. It featured one of the earliest known trumpet concertos, by Guiseppe Torelli, the rarely heard Concerto in E flat by G P Neruda and the challenging Fantasia Brilliante by J B Arban. I contributed keyboard works by Scarlatti and Yon.

Our Annual Christmas Cracker Concert by New English Singers and guests on 17 December was warmly appreciated. The choir's repertoire ranged from the 15th century to a piece by Bob Chilcott composed in 2021. Talented young local cellist Matias Yung played the beautiful slow movement of Rachmaninov's Sonata, and our good friend and pianist John Fisher contributed Scriabin's Nocturne for the Left Hand and Kapustin's demanding 'Concert Etude'. A lovely lunchtime event.

Earlier in the year, our Children's Choir gave a delightful concert in Freeman Memorial Church Bletchley, with Michael Hurd's 'Jonah Man Jazz' as the centrepiece. Members of the choir Lakshith and Neha Dasari made a lovely contribution as piano duettists. 10 year old pianist Yiding Wang was really impressive in his debut as soloist, and there were brilliant performances from 14 year old cellist Matias Yung and recent graduate trumpeter Louie Grao.

Our Exploring Music illustrated talks continued throughout the year, with sessions devoted to Beethoven, American 20th Century music, the Concerto, and a series of five talks celebrating the Vaughan Williams 150th Anniversary. There were also two special talks - 'Music with Royal Connections' to mark Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, and 'Music for Reflection', following her death.

During the Autumn, meetings took place to develop the relationship between Cornerstone Trading and Cornerstone Music. I am particularly grateful to David Chapman for his support and to Peter Steeds and Bob Collard for positive and helpful discussions.

I would like to thank the Trustees of Cornerstone Music - Iain Porteus, Cathy Hampton, Margaret Goodall and Adrian Yardley - for their great encouragement and support, and Simon and Woody for their practical assistance. Above all, thanks to my wife Jill for her tireless and devoted work as volunteer Music Administrator.

Adrian Boynton



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

CORNERSTONE MUSIC

On accounts for the year
ended

31ST DECEMBER 2022

Charity no
(if any)

1188707

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 31/12/2022

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:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the 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:

Date:

14 APRIL 2023

Name:

C.G. LINFORD

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

MCICM

(if any):

--

Address:

13 HERDMAN COOPE
GREENLEYS
MILTON KEYNES MK12 6AD

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.

--

Cornerstone Music CIO

Statement of Financial Activity

		Year to 31 st December 2022 £	Year to 31 st December 2021 £
<u>INCOME</u>			
<u>Donations</u>			
Friends of Music		2,260	1,845
Choir donations		1,555	880
Other donations		660	-
Gift Aid		797	615
	α	_____	_____
	5	5,272	3,340
Ticket sales		3,452	1,835
Investment income		39	-
		_____	_____
		8,763	5,175
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>			
Performers	6	3,735	4,200
Venue hire	7	1,950	238
Scores	8	583	107
Website	9	1,187	
		_____	_____
		7,456	4,545
Net income		1,307	630
Loss on investments		1,158	
Funds brought forward		2,748	2,111
		_____	_____
Funds carried forward	£	<u>2,890</u>	<u>2,741</u>

Cornerstone Music CIO

Balance Sheet

	Note	As at 31st December 2022 £	As at 31st December 2021 £
<u>Fixed assets</u>			
Investments	10	11,842	-
<u>Current assets</u>			
Debtors		1,148	2,560
Cash at bank		4,672	15,181
		<u>5,820</u>	<u>17,741</u>
Creditors	11	14,772	15,000
Net current assets /< liabilities>		<u>- 8952</u>	<u>2,741</u>
Net assets		<u>2,890</u>	<u>2,741</u>
Net funds		<u>2,890</u>	<u>2,741</u>

Cornerstone Music CIO

Notes

1. Cornerstone Music CIO is registered with the Charity Commission, is a Public Benefit Entity and does not seek profit. Trustees and the independent examiner receive no remuneration or expenses.
2. These financial statements comply with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SoRP) second edition October 2019, and report income and expenditure deriving from a programme of musical events put on during the financial year ended 31st December 2022.
3. Accounting bases: These financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis: that the CIO will continue with generous support, skilled knowledge and experience of the Music Director Adrian Boynton and administrator Jill Boynton for the foreseeable future.

These financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis: that unsettled (unpaid) costs appear as debtors or creditors at financial year end, which include the use of estimates where necessary.

4. The principal economic risks to CIO are: contagion that would depress ticket sales or prevent performers from attending; and rise in venue charges. The trustees are prepared to mitigate the consequences of risk.
5. Donations received are treated as income in full upon receipt. Gift Aid is 25% recovered from donations via HMRC.
6. The Music Director calls on his extensive range of contacts to enlist excellent performers. Performer fees are paid to professional solo singers and expenses to the orchestra. Cornerstone Chamber Choir sing gratis.
7. Venue fees are levied by the City Church, except for events held elsewhere such as at the parish church at Newport Pagnell in November 2021.
8. Score expenditure includes hire of music scores, tuning the piano & organ prior to performance, PRS charges for use of copyrighted material and printing of concert tickets.
9. Website expenditure includes costs of refreshments.
10. £13,000 was transferred to three COIF charities funds managed by CCLA in July 2022 when prices were low but markets weakened further before year end. . Historically these funds have grown around 10% annually. Unit prices have begun to recover slightly since year end.
11. Creditors include venue, and unpaid allowance for Adrian & Jill Boynton.

CORNERSTONE MUSIC

England & Wales - Charity number 1188707

Accounts



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

The Charity:
CORNERSTONE MUSIC

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st December 2021

**Charity no
(if any)**

1188707

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 12 / 2021

**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**

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the 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.

Signed:

Date:

21/04/2022

Name:

C G Linford

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

MCICM

Address:

13 Herdman Close, Greenleys

Milton Keynes MK12 6Ad

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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.

Large empty rectangular box for providing details of items to be disclosed.

Cornerstone Music CIO

Report of the trustees for the financial year ended 31st December 2021,
and for the prior period since registration on 23rd March 2020.

NOTE

This Charity was registered with the Charity Commission on March 23 2020, the same day that the Prime Minister announced the first Covid 19 legal restrictions. The Trustees express their gratitude to the Charity Commission for their support and understanding.

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements and confirm that these comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, the CIO constitution and the Charities SoRP (FRS 102).

Cornerstone Music is a Public Benefit Entity and not operated for profit.

Its objects are

- (1) To advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the charity trustees see fit, including through presentation of public concerts and recitals;
- (2) To further such charitable purpose or purposes as the charity trustees in their absolute discretion shall think fit but in particular through the making of grants and donations.

The activities and accomplishments of Cornerstone Music are described in the report of the Music Director which follows.

The Trustees are Iain Porteus (chair), Dr. Cathy Hammond, The Rev. Dr Margaret Goodall and Adrian Yardley. The address of the charity is 11 Burewelle, Two Mile Ash, Milton Keynes, MK8 8LS. The Independent Examiner is C G Linford MCICM.

Report of the Chair

The Trustees are honoured to play their part in sustaining the transformative heritage of music in the Milton Keynes area and acknowledge the enormous help and support which makes it possible, including that of Adrian Boynton, the indefatigable administrative and organisational support of Jill Boynton and helpers too numerous to name but the contribution of each and every one is valued as a vital resource without which this enterprise would not be possible. Chris Linford has generously donated his expertise as Independent Examiner. We acknowledge the great generosity of donors, sponsors and supporters, members of the Chamber Choir and Orchestra, and the benefit of concessionary rates for use of premises kindly agreed by the Ecumenical Council of the Church of Christ the Cornerstone.

V. Iain Porteus

Chair, Cornerstone Music

Cornerstone Music CIO

Report of the Music Director for the year ended 31 st December 2021

The first few months of 2021 were dominated by the continuing challenges of the Covid pandemic. In the absence of live music-making, I continued to prepare recordings on a weekly basis and to share these on-line wherever possible, with additional commentary. By May 2021, the recording project had been running for 15 months and some 400 items had been captured. These included solos for piano, harpsichord, organ and piano. There were lovely recitals by guest performers including Emily Haig (soprano), Abigail Burrows (flute) and John Fisher (piano). There were also recordings by the choir made during periods of less stringent restrictions, including works by Byrd, Bruckner, Stanford, Rutter, Carter, L'Estrange and Boynton. I am grateful to Adrian Yardley for his skill and patience as recording engineer and editor. Extended videos were made for the seasons of Epiphany, Passiontide, Easter, Pentecost and Transfiguration. In addition, archive recordings of the Cornerstone Chamber Choir were brought into play, notably extracts from Messiah (2014), Elijah (2015), Fauré Requiem (2016) and Bach B Mass in B minor (2017).

At the end of June, a few days after the easing of restrictions, our small choir, New English Singers, had their first engagement for 18 months when they provided a rich musical programme for a wedding at St Mary Magdalene Church, Willen. The joy of the singers in being able to serve the community once again was palpable, and there was enormous appreciation among the wedding guests.

During the summer, a proposal was made from Cornerstone Social Justice Committee that a concert might be held to coincide with the Cop26 Climate Change Conference in November. I suggested that Haydn's Creation would be the ideal repertoire for such an event, and a date was set for 7th November, the middle Sunday of the two-week conference. The Cornerstone Chamber Choir was invited to reconvene on 19th September after a silence of 18 months (they had last met for Messiah rehearsal on 15th March 2020, just before the first lockdown). It was wonderful to feel such strong support from choir members from the very first rehearsal. Only three or four of a forty strong team felt unable to take part (due mainly to shielding vulnerable family members). We were also blessed with the support of new members - Amy McCormick (soprano), Monika Lorinkova (soprano), Ruth Legh Smith (mezzo-soprano), Lawrence Holden (tenor) and Martin Ferns (bass). An unexpected problem developed when it was realised that the Worship Area balcony at Cornerstone would not be available for audience seating on 7th November, due to ongoing clearance work. It was felt that it would not be practical to accommodate a choir of 40, orchestra of 30 and audience of 150 with appropriate social distancing, all on the ground floor. A decision was made to seek an alternative venue, and in due course the performance was moved to St Peter and St Paul Newport Pagnell. Performances 'away from home' are not unknown for the Chamber Choir, which in the past has sung in SS Peter and Paul's Church Olney and Rochester Cathedral. We were made to feel very welcome by Newport Church, but the venture was not without its challenges. The church had an insufficient number of separate chairs to accommodate 40 singers and 30 orchestral players so chairs had to be borrowed from the Synagogue in Giffard Park (by kind permission of Sarah and Zvi Friedman) and transported in a convoy of cars to Newport (thanks to Christine and Robin Thompson, David Chapman, Jan Taylor, Amaret Price, Adrian Yardley and Martin Ferns). Sections of staging had to be transported by similar convoy from Cornerstone, so that a large platform could be built to allow the performers good sightlines and

Cornerstone Music CIO

appropriate social distancing (thanks to David and Joy Chapman, Cathy and Tim Hampton, Richard May Miller and Adrian Yardley for additional support in setting up the staging and dismantling the stage).

We were thrilled that the performance was a success in every way. Both Choir and Orchestra were on top form. The three soloists Emily Owen (soprano) Thomas Elwin (tenor) and Timothy Nelson (bass) were absolutely superb. Each of them were totally 'involved' in their respective roles. Soprano Emily, a late replacement because of illness, was a sheer delight. We were blessed with a good-sized audience, large enough to fill the church, while still enabling people to feel safe. Thanks to Adrian Yardley for his efforts with extra publicity around North Milton Keynes and Newport Pagnell. Audience reaction to the performance was warm and enthusiastic.

In December 2020 our small a cappella choir had prepared a Christmas concert which was cancelled at the eleventh hour due to the introduction of 'Tier 3' restrictions. In December 2021 we prepared again and this time - joy of joys - the concert was able to take place! The choir sang a full range of repertoire from the 15th to the 21st century. We were joined by our dear friend Abigail Burrows (flute) in works by Mozart, Rutter and Mancini and by prizewinning pianist John Fisher in Brahms's Intermezzo in A and Chopin's Barcarolle, Op 60 (surely one of the composer's finest works). The concert was enjoyed by an enthusiastic audience who joined us at the end for seasonal refreshments. During the year we were delighted to acquire a new set of tiered staging for choir and orchestra use, to enhance our large-scale performances. I am particularly grateful to Doug Sellers, a member of the Chamber Choir bass section, for his painstaking research which identified Unistage in Cheshire as the company of choice, and to Adrian Yardley for his detailed and successful application to Milton Keynes Community Foundation, which secured a grant to cover a significant proportion of the funding. Thanks also to Simon and Bob for their co-operation and support. It is somewhat ironic that the very first use of the staging was for our 'away from home' performance at Newport Pagnell. The staging will certainly come into its own at Cornerstone in April 2022 when choral forces will be split on either side of the dias for Bach: St Matthew Passion. We hope that the new staging will prove an asset for Cornerstone, to be used for a variety of functions. It could also be loaned to other organisations in the local area.

I express warm gratitude to the Cornerstone Music Committee ably led by Iain Porteus, to Simon Lowson and Andrew Wood for their help and co-operation and to my wife Jill for her unstinting support.

Report of the Music Director for the period ended 31 st December 2020

At the beginning of February, Chamber Choir rehearsals had begun for Handel Messiah, scheduled for performance as an Eastertide celebration on 19th April (we aim to perform Messiah every 6 or 7 years). Members were really enjoying exploring the finer details of this great work but on 17th March the first Coronavirus lockdown was imposed, which brought rehearsals to an abrupt end. Sadly plans for Summer and Autumn projects had to be put on hold too. Some lovely events were in the pipeline, including a Beethoven 250th Anniversary Celebration Concert, with our good friend Craig Greene as soloist in Piano Concerto No 4 and featuring members of Milton Keynes Youth Orchestra playing 'side by side' with our own Chamber Orchestra musicians. A popular concert featuring our own choirs and Milton Keynes Brass was also in preparation. A series of talks on Beethoven was planned, but this never progressed beyond the first session. In the absence of live music making, I took opportunity to share with our loyal concert audience and with the wider community some of the music being prepared for on-line

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services of worship at the City Church from Sunday 22 nd March 2020 onward. I was providing at least seven recorded pieces each week: a prelude and postlude (organ or piano), introit (or psalm), reflective music to follow the sermon and three hymns. By the middle of December we had built up a library of some 300 original recordings including organ solos, harpsichord solos (from my music room) and piano solos. And there were special projects. Violist Louise Boynton recorded music following her successful grade 8 examination. Pianist John Fisher, flautist Abigail Burrows and soprano Emily Haig all came to Cornerstone to record when lockdown conditions had eased. It was good to be able to capture lovely examples of their fine musicianship. I am hugely indebted to recording engineer Adrian Yardley for his patience and skill in creating an ideal visual composition and the best possible sound. In July the great Italian film composer Enio Morricone died. To mark his passing, trumpeter John MacDomnic and I created a special performance of the composer's 'Gabriel's Oboe', theme tune from the 1986 film epic 'The Mission'. I recorded the accompaniment at Cornerstone, then John overlaid his part from home in Harrow, skilfully co-ordinating with the accompaniment. The final product, thanks to John's musical and technical artistry, was very successful. In addition to new 'bespoke' recordings, items from our archive of previous performances by the Cornerstone Chamber Choir and Orchestra (variously recorded by David Hemmings and, more recently, Mike Ballance) were shared with our audience, including movements from Messiah, Elijah, Mass in B minor and African Sanctus. These recordings may be found on YouTube via URL links from our website www.cornerstonemusicmk.co.uk One of the advantages of posting our music on-line is that we have been able to share it more widely, and over the months we have received messages of appreciation from people in different parts of the UK and across the world!

Cornerstone Music 3 As we drew closer to Christmas, lockdown restrictions were eased temporarily, and there were hopes that a short seasonal concert could be held, along the lines of our regular 'Christmas Cracker' event, with small socially distanced audience. Our regular audience members were contacted and within a few hours 30 people had signed up to attend - an ideal number in the particular circumstances. New English Singers held two socially distanced rehearsals, and thoroughly enjoyed exploring and revising some fine seasonal repertoire. Then, quite suddenly, Tier 3 restrictions were imposed, followed very quickly by Tier 4, and this concert had to be cancelled. Let us hope that during 2021 the health situation will steadily improve for all, so that people may gradually be able to return to a more normal way of life, including the joy of shared music making. I give warm thanks to all music lovers in our community and beyond for their continuing support and encouragement, to Iain Porteus who heads our music task force for his generous friendship and wise counsel, special thanks to Adrian Yardley for his outstanding service, to the Chamber Choir for their loyalty, support and goodwill at a hugely challenging time. and my dear wife Jill for her unstinting support.

Adrian Boynton

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Statement of Financial Activity

	Note	Year to 31 st December 2021 £	Period from 22nd March to 31 st December 2020 £
<u>Income</u>			
Friends of Music	5	1,845	385
Donations	6	880	
Ticket sales		1,835	
Gift Aid	8	615	70
Total		5,175	455
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Performers	9	4,200	
Venue hire	10	238	
Scores	11	107	
Administration	12		
Total		4,545	
Net income/ (expenditure)		630	455
Funds brought forward		2,111	1,656
Funds carried forward		<u>2,741</u>	<u>2,111</u>

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Balance Sheet

	Note	As at 31 st December 2021 £	As at 31 st December 2020 £
Current assets			
Debtors	13	2,560	1,945
Cash at bank & in hand		15,181	14,166
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		17,741	16,111
Current liabilities			
Creditors	14	15,000	14,000
Net assets		2,741	2,111
Funds		2,741	2,111



Notes

1. Cornerstone Music CIO is registered with the Charity Commission, is a Public Benefit Entity and does not seek profit.
2. These financial statements comply with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SoRP) second edition October 2019, and report income and expenditure deriving from a programme of musical events put on during the financial year ended 31st December 2020, and the prior period from date of registration on 23rd March 2020 to 31st December 2020.
3. Accounting bases: These financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis: that the CIO will continue with generous support, skilled knowledge and experience of the Music Director Adrian Boynton and administrator Jill Boynton for the foreseeable future.

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These financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis: that unsettled (unpaid) costs appear as debtors or creditors at financial year end, which include the use of estimates where necessary.

4. The principal economic risks to CIO are: contagion that would depress ticket sales or prevent performers from attending; and rise in venue charges. The trustees are prepared to mitigate the consequences of these risks.
5. Donations received are treated as income in full upon receipt.
6. Donations include amounts from choir members toward the concerts.
7. Advertising income derives from the sponsors named in concert programmes.
8. Gift Aid are the amounts of income tax to be recovered from HMRC.
9. The Music Director calls on his extensive range of contacts to enlist excellent performers. Performer fees are paid to professional solo singers and expenses to the orchestra. Cornerstone Chamber Choir sing gratis.
10. Venue fees are levied by Christ the Cornerstone Church, Milton Keynes, except for events held elsewhere such as the parish church of St. Peter and St. Paul at Newport Pagnell for Haydn's The Creation on 7th November 2021.
11. Score expenditure includes hire of music scores, tuning the piano & organ prior to performance, and PRS charges for use of copyrighted material.
12. Administration expenditure includes costs of website hosting, refreshments, stationery & postage.
13. Debtors comprises Gift Aid of £1875 recovered on a donation in January 2015 owed by the City Church, and recoverable Gift Aid on donations in year ended 31st December 2021 of £615 and in the period 31st December 2020 of £70.
14. Creditors include unpaid fees for the Music Director and his wife, and accrual for venue costs.
15. There was neither remuneration nor reimbursement of expenses for trustees or the independent examiner.