



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period: **From 01/04/2024 To 31/03/2025**

Charity name: **Wellingborough United Reformed Church**

Charity registration number: 1207683

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.19	Wellingborough United Reformed Church ('the Church') is a local association for the public worship of God, Christian witness and service in accordance with the principles and usages of the United Reformed Church ('the URC'). Admission to the full responsibilities and privileges of membership in a local Church confers membership simultaneously in that Church and in the URC. The Church supports the wider councils of the URC through giving and participation and may share in activity with other faith communities on an ecumenical basis.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.19	Worship services, Friendship Group, Brigades, Youth Drama group, Parents & Toddlers group, Open All Hours, letting rooms for a variety of community groups and other faith groups, supporting local and overseas charities e.g. Christian Aid, HomeStart and Wellingborough Food Bank, weddings, funerals and blessings.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.20	The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.21	Volunteers carry out most of the work of the church, which cover all aspects of church life, including pastoral care.
Projects	Para 1.22	Following completion of stage 1 & 2 (of a 4 stage project) in the previous financial year, we were notified that to be in line with current health and safety guidelines,

		additional safety measures were required on the external balustrades. Fundraising and grant applications for stage 3 & 4 continued with various levels of success. We have continued to explore the different ways in which the completed project will be utilised to benefit the community. Also during this period we received notification from the Architect (who was also our project manager) that due to personnel changes they were no longer able to support our project. Consequently this led to a period of dormancy pending the establishment of a new relationship with another architect.
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Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.27	The church has continued to offer refreshments and conversation through our 'Open All Hours' initiative which supports vulnerable adults during the week. Opportunities for social gatherings have also continued for all ages via weekly meetings for Parent & Toddler's, CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other) and other ad-hoc events. Seeking to expand our mission, discussions began with representatives from CAP (Christian's Against Poverty) and other local churches with the aim to work together for the community and possibly offer support via a 'Job Club'. Continuing with mission, we received financial support to start 'Brick Church' initially meeting once a month, aimed at families from within the church community and beyond. We held another successful Christmas Tree Festival which this year was supported by Wellingborough Lions who purchased the gifts for the elf's workshop. We have upgraded the projector and screen in church which in addition to enhancing worship, also offer other users quality resources.

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.34	General Funds The church's financial situation is shown in the audited accounts submitted along with this report. It has been a very turbulent period due to a number of factors to include: • Significant unexpected expenditure i.e. repairs to church roof, removal of oil tank from church basement • Committed and loose offering decreased due to the death of several generous givers • Weddings decreased • Decrease in rentals income • Increase in monthly Ministry & Mission contribution to Synod • Utility expenditure more than doubled A full review of the financial situation was undertaken and the following implemented: • Agreed with cleaner to reduce hours • Agreed with Synod to offer £2000 less than originally required (but there was still a slight increase on last year's contribution) • Present TRIO (The Responsibility is Ours) as part of a review of offering our time, talents and monetary gifts The church's financial situation is kept under continual review and the financial year ended with a small deficit of £1500. HUB Project Current balance for the Hub project is to progress stage 3 and 4. During this financial year most of the income received was in response to grant applications.
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.35	N/A – all funds shown on accounts
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.37	WURC should hold readily available reserves to manage cash flow for use in emergencies, or unforeseen circumstances. This should be sufficient to pay up to three months running costs in order to be able to adapt to any changes in the income and expenditure of the church.

Amount of reserves held	Para 1.37	£11,592.85
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.37	N/A
Comparing the amount of reserves against the reserve policy	Para 1.39	-£6350
Review of the charity's reserves	Para 1.40	N/A
Ability to operate	Para 1.41	We currently have sufficient funds in reserve to cover expenditure for six weeks. A full financial review is taking place – see 1.34 above
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.42	N/A

Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.50	The church has adopted a Constitution on 6 th February 2022
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.50	The Church is governed by the Church Meeting. The Church Meeting is open to the entire congregation, although only Members are permitted to vote when there is a formal vote. However, the meeting usually works by consensus so that the views of all may be heard and taken into account. Members of the congregation join the church by making a confession of faith or by transfer from another church. Elders are elected from the membership to lead the congregation and are ordained into office. The function of the Elder is much wider than that of a Trustee and includes pastoral oversight of the congregation. Trustees are the serving Elders of the church, selected as above, and initially serve for a period of three years, after which they can stand for re-election of two years. At the end of five years the Elder will be encouraged to stand down for at least one year.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Wellingborough United Reformed Church Charity
Other name the charity uses	

Registered charity number	1207683
Charity's principal address	Salem Lane Wellingborough Northants NN8 4JT

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Claire Ette	Secretary	Whole year	Church Meeting
2	Paul Ette		Whole year	Church Meeting
3	Richard Hartnell		Whole year	Church Meeting
4	Mike Lawson		Whole year	Church Meeting
5	Gill Matthews		Elected 21/09/2025	Church Meeting
6	Ruth Sheehan		Elected 21/09/2025	Church Meeting
7	Sue Scott		Whole year	Church Meeting
8	Barbara Tungaraza		Whole year	Church Meeting
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10				
11				
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Sustainability

Response and management of environmental governance	Para 1.60	As part of the Hub project, we are looking to improve our heating systems to enable us to reduce energy usage within the church building. We will also be looking at the lighting with a view to installing LED lighting systems. The installation of external glass doors has already had a positive impact by reducing the draft coming into the building.
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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A

Funds held as holding trustees on behalf of others

Holding Trustees, Parent Charities and Charitable Companies	Para 1.73-1.76	N/A
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Other optional information

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Claire Ette	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	
Date	24 th January 2026	

[illegible]

These accounts have been independently examined by :

Theda

[illegible]

L. LEWISON



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

WELLINGBOROUGH UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

On accounts for the year
ended

31ST MARCH 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1207683

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 31/03/2025.

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:

ARudge

Date:

9/5/25

Name:

ANDREA RUDGE

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

ACMA

Address:

62 POLWELL LANE

BARTON SEAGRAVE

KETTERING NN15 6UR

church secretary: *TRK* 21/9/25