

THE UNITARIAN MEETING (BRISTOL)
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2023

Charity No: 234482

THE UNITARIAN MEETING (BRISTOL)

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THE UNITARIAN MEETING (BRISTOL)

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.

Objectives and activities for the public benefit

The charity was set up to provide a place of meeting and worship for a religious community within the Unitarian and Free Christian movement.

Achievements and performance

Appointment of a minister and current position

There is no Minister in post for the Bristol Group, therefore no current financial commitment from the Account of Unitarian Meeting (Bristol) to the Bristol Group. The Unitarian Meeting (Bristol) had a ministry student placement from May to September. There is an advert due to go out for the half-time post for the Minister in due course.

The Management Company

On 31 May 2023, the Unitarian Meeting (Bristol) ceased the contract with the Ethical Property Company, at their notice. The Unitarian Meeting (Bristol) now have freelanced management by Charlotte Lang. Charlotte, who maintains the hire diary, invoicing, and any day to day concerns in liaison with the chair of the Trustees.

Current state of the building

As the building is listed and the hall built on, it is listed by association. We have architectural supervision when needed by Phillip Hughes Associates Ltd, who direct the Unitarian Meeting (Bristol) on building matters. There are no current reports or observation that require expenditure.

Financial review

The managing trustees of the Unitarian Meeting as named in the scheme of the Charity Commission dated 24th July 1997 are the responsible body for overseeing and controlling the uses of congregational funds as reported here in the disbursements. The congregational funds are used for works on the building (Surrey Lodge in Brunswick Square), the employment of a minister, other financial outgoings and investment policy. At present the Congregational Committee whose members are elected make decisions and report to the trustees. The managing Trustees must meet twice a year for receipt of committee reports and to confirm all large financial decisions. The management of the investment portfolio is now administered by Evelyn Partners (formerly Smith and Williamson). The latest valuation, on 31st December 2023, shows a value of £290,999.

Structure, Governance and management

The trust is a registered charity number 234482, and is constituted under a trust deed dated 31.12.1822.

New trustees are appointed by the existing trustees and serve for three years after which they may put themselves forward for re-appointment.

The trustees consider the board of trustees and the President as comprising the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling the charity and running and operating the charity on a day to day basis. All trustees give their time freely and no trustee remuneration was paid during the year.

Paul Wheeler stood down as Treasurer at the AGM in May 2023, with Kathryn White being voted in at the same meeting.

THE UNITARIAN MEETING (BRISTOL)

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Reference and administrative information

Trustees

Karl Stewart (Chairperson)
Sally Pugh (Secretary)
Mark Stewart
Mary Gingell
Peter Wildman

Treasurer

Kathryn White - appointed May 2023
Paul Wheeler - appointment terminated May 2023

Principal Office

Surrey Lodge
Brunswick Square
BRISTOL
BS2 8PE

Charity number: 234482

Independent Examiners

D. C. Cox FCA
Harwood, Lane & Co
Chartered Accountants
Units 1 - 4 Crossley Farm Business Centre
Swan Lane
Winterbourne
BRISTOL
BS36 1RH

Bankers

National Westminster Bank Plc
Bristol City Centre Branch
45 / 49 Broadmead
BRISTOL
BS1 3EU

Investment managers

Smith and Williamson
45 Gresham Street
London
EC2V 7BG

 20.3.24

Karl Stewart

Chair of UMB Trustees

Date: 20 MARCH 2024

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE
THE UNITARIAN MEETING (BRISTOL)**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 8 to

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiners

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act.
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual terms or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of accounts to be reached.



David Cox F.C.A.
Harwood, Lane & Co
Chartered Accountants
Units 1 - 4 Crossley Farm Business Centre
Swan Lane
Winterbourne
BRISTOL
BS36 1RH

Date: 20 March 2024

THE UNITARIAN MEETING (BRISTOL)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED

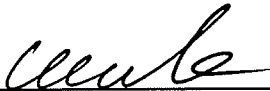
31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023 TOTAL FUNDS	2022 TOTAL FUNDS
<u>Income</u>			
Donations and Gifts		2,545	3,105
Bank Interest		0	0
Other Income		27,679	36,987
Bequest Income		8,304	7,827
Total Income		38,528	47,919
<u>Expenditure</u>			
Charitable expenditure	2	37,083	44,112
Total Expenditure		37,083	44,112
Net Incoming Resources before Transfers		1,445	3,807
Transfer between Funds		0	0
Net Incoming Resources for the year		1,445	3,807
<u>Other Recognised Gains</u>			
Gain/(losses) on Investments			
Unrealised		6,134	-40,543
Realised		1,719	-595
Net Movement In Funds		9,298	-37,331
Total Funds Brought Forward		301,154	338,485
Total Funds Carried Forward	6	£310,452	£301,154

THE UNITARIAN MEETING (BRISTOL)

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023	2022
FIXED ASSETS			
Investments	3	290,999	277,137
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	4	472	5,550
Cash at Bank and on Deposit	10	20,522	22,412
		20,994	27,962
CURRENT LIABILITIES: payable within one year	5	-1,541	-3,945
Net Current Assets		19,453	24,017
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		£310,452	£301,154
FUNDS			
Unrestricted	6	310,452	301,154
		£310,452	£301,154

 20/3/24 Hon. Treasurer

 20.3.24 Chairperson

Approved on: 20 MARCH 2024
On behalf of the Board of Trustees

THE UNITARIAN MEETING (BRISTOL)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Unitarian Meeting Bristol meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

(b) Investments

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value.

(c) Income Recognition

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Investment income is included when receivable.

Incoming resources from charitable trading activity are accounted for when earned.

Incoming resources from grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

THE UNITARIAN MEETING (BRISTOL)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

(d) Expenditure Recognition

Expenditure is recognised on a accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

2. CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

	Unrestr- icted Funds	Restr- icted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
Minister Costs	0	0	0	2,700
Church Expenses	1,310	0	1,310	1,570
Major Repairs	0	0	0	0
Management Expenses	32,275	0	32,275	36,272
Administration	2,508	0	2,508	2,610
Independent Examination	990	0	990	960
	£37,083	£0	£37,083	£44,112

3. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Investments		2023 Total	2022 Total
	Unlisted	Listed		
Market Value at 1 January 2023	52,332	224,805	277,137	321,131
Additions	0	25,711	25,711	0
(Disposals)	0	-19,702	-19,702	-2,856
Net Realised Gain/(Loss)		1,719	1,719	-595
Net Unrealised Gain/(Loss)	4,805	1,329	6,134	-40,543
Market Value at 31 December 2023	£57,137	£233,862	£290,999	£277,137
Historical Cost as at 31 December 2023	£3,636	£164,594	£168,230	£150,241

THE UNITARIAN MEETING (BRISTOL)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

4.	DEBTORS	2023	2022
	Investment Income Receivable	0	0
	Other Debtors	472	5,550
		£472	£5,550

5.	LIABILITIES: amounts falling due within one year	2023	2022
	Accruals	1,541	1,536
	Other Creditors	0	2,409
		£1,541	£3,945

6.	ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS		
		Net Current Assets	
	Investments		Total
	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>£19,453</u>	<u>£310,452</u>
	<u>£290,999</u>		

7. TRUSTEES REMUNERATION

No Trustee receives remuneration. Total expenses received by trustees in the year was £0 (2022 - £0).

8. FREEHOLD LAND AND PROPERTIES

Freehold land and properties held by the charity include the church at Brunswick Square Bristol. The current insurance value of the building is £2,861,725.

THE UNITARIAN MEETING (BRISTOL)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

9. EMPLOYEES

The Charity had no employees during the year.

10. CASH AT BANK AND ON DEPOSIT	2023	2022
Bank Current Account	12,330	7,597
Smith and Williamson Investment Account	8,192	14,815
	£20,522	£22,412

THE UNITARIAN MEETING

The following pages do not form part of the statutory accounts
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THE UNITARIAN MEETING

DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

<u>Income</u>	2023	2022
<i>Donations and Gifts</i>		
Envelopes and Weekly Collections	1,473	1,966
Tax Receivable under Covenant	472	789
Donations and Appeal Income	0	0
Grant Income	600	350
Open Day, Concerts, Fundraising	0	0
	2,545	3,105
Bank Interest Received	0	0
Investment Income	8,304	7,827
<i>Other Income</i>		
Ground Rent	3	3
Ethical Property Company - Rent and Service Charges	27,676	36,984
	27,679	36,987
Total Income	£38,528	£47,919

This page does not form part of the statutory accounts

THE UNITARIAN MEETING

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

<u>Expenditure</u>	2023	2022
Minister	0	2,700
Church Expenses		
Treasurers/Secretary's Expenses/Honorarium	300	300
G.A. Quota and Western Union	410	1,070
Musician Fee	150	0
Pulpit Supply	450	200
	<u>1,310</u>	<u>1,570</u>
Management Expenses		
Sundry Expenses	0	0
Property Management Fees	6,783	16,602
Heat and Light/Cleaning/Other Services Costs	17,671	15,758
Retirement Gifts	0	0
Software Costs	0	949
Insurances	2,023	1,807
Repairs and Maintenance	5,798	1,156
	<u>32,275</u>	<u>36,272</u>
Administration Expenses		
Accountancy and Independent Examiners Fees	990	960
Donations to Charities and Appeals	220	200
Investment Charges	2,288	2,410
	<u>3,498</u>	<u>3,570</u>
Major Repairs	0	0
Total Expenditure	<u><u>£37,083</u></u>	<u><u>£44,112</u></u>
<u>Summary</u>		
Income	38,528	47,919
Expenditure	-37,083	-44,112
(Losses)/Gains on Investments	<u>7,853</u>	<u>-41,138</u>
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year	9,298	-37,331
Reserves Brought Forward	301,154	338,485
Reserves Carried Forward	<u><u>£310,452</u></u>	<u><u>£301,154</u></u>

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THE UNITARIAN MEETING

FUNDS AND BEQUESTS

BEQUEST INCOME

Over the years, individuals have set up charitable trusts/funds for the benefit of the Unitarian community in Bristol. As time has passed, these individual charitable trusts/funds have been brought under the umbrella of the UMB and the investment assets transferred into the UMB's name.

These investments generate dividend income which is treated as bequest income in the accounts.

Following on from guidance received from the Charity Commission, it was advised that these various funds/trusts are all relevant to the day to day running of the charity and there was no need to classify them as separate restricted funds. Title has passed to the UMB and are therefore for unrestricted activities.

The constituent charities amalgamated into the UMB are:

Name	Reg No	Objectives
Levi Ames' Bequest	234482-1	Church Expenses
Susan Coate's Bequest	234482-2	Church Expenses
Osbourne Bequest	234482-3	Church Expenses
Herbert Thomas Bequest	234482-4	Church Expenses
Aubrey Day Fund	234482-5	Church Expenses
A E Atwell Bequest	234482-6	Church Expenses
Graham Memorial Fund	234482-7	Church Expenses
Miss Wetherman Bequest	234482-8	Church Expenses
Mary Salmon Bequest	234482-9	Half to poor ministers and half to Church expenses
Marjorie Packer	234482-10	Furtherance of family services at Lewins Mead
Various Bequests	234482-11	Church Expenses
Lewins Mead Chapel Fund	234482-12	Furtherance of religious services at Oakfield Road Church
D J Pope Bequest	234482-13	Church Expenses
Miss H Gaylard Trust	234482-14	Church Expenses
J W Norgrove Trust	234482-15	Church Expenses
Lionel Stephens Trust	234482-16	Church Expenses
Olivia Parnall's Trust	234482-17	Church Expenses
Poor's Fund	234482-18	Poor and Deserving People
Lewins Mead Chapel Manse	234482-20	Residence of the minister
Restoration Fund	234482-21	Maintenance of the chapel
Thomas Phillip Wall's Charity	234482-23	Poor Unitarians over 50 years of age who attend chapel
Dr John Wright	234482-24	Poor Unitarians, ministers and their wives
Brooke Smith	234482-25	Church Expenses
Jacob Wilcox Ricketts	234482-26	Poor Unitarian ministers, their widows and orphans and the provision of an organist

This page does not form part of the statutory accounts