

Garde Ta Foy

# Felsted School Mission

## Annual Report 2024

## THE FELSTED SCHOOL MISSION

Limited by Guarantee. Company No. 388698 Registered Charity No. 241674

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## *Hon. Chairman Michael Yeatts reports:*

I am writing this report on the day that towns and cities across the UK hold a day of reflection to mark five years since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. Coincidentally, it also marks my fifth year as Chair of the Felsted School Mission. While reflections of the pandemic may cause sadness, I reflect on my involvement with the Mission as thoroughly uplifting. In one of my recent visits to Ascension, Rev. Dave Chesney, the vicar, asked several members of staff what brought them the most joy from their work at Ascension. This reminded me how much joy I derive from my involvement with the Felsted School Mission and those volunteering on the Council - School leaders, Old Felstedians and Ascension leaders, and highlighted the shared purpose that fuels the Mission. I am truly grateful that I can be part of something so warm and meaningful.

Over the following pages you will be able to read of the continued work that is being done by the staff and volunteers at the Ascension Community Trust (ACT). As you would expect, the Felsted School Mission is supporting an extremely busy effort at Ascension, but the year has been a challenging one with the departure of the CEO of ACT, Henry Gaspard, after such a short tenure. Rev. Dave Chesney writes about how Henry's departure created uncertainties, but how it also served as an opportunity for growth and resilience. A new CEO, Vicky Torrance, was welcomed in December bringing a wealth of experience within

the charity sector, and we look forward to her fresh vision to advance the activities of ACT.

During this past year the School has helped me to appeal for candidates to join the Council, and we are going through a process that will hopefully be completed by the time this report is published.

Part of the process has been to visit Ascension with candidates, and it was inspiring to witness the dedication of staff busy with the food bank, a community lunch (prepared with the help of those with complex needs and their supporting volunteers), the language support and advice services, and finally the Young Adventurers After School club. Quite a 'regular' day of making a positive difference to the community.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the Felsted School Mission. Together, I am sure we can enhance the lasting impacts we have on the communities we support.

All of which help provide a beacon of warmth and safety in the challenging environment of Custom House, London E16.

I conclude with the sad news of the death of our much loved former Chairman, Rod Hunter, at the age of 91, after a short illness.

*Michael Yeatts, Chair, Felsted Mission Council*

## *Felsted Chaplain Rev. Nigel Little reports:*

### **MISSION LINK – School**

*The partnership between The School and The Mission continues to grow and develop*

This year a number of Felsted pupils have volunteered to help at the Nightshelter. Their reflections begin our report:

*On one of our visits we met a young 18 year old guest at the Nightshelter - who we will call Rahim. Rahim had to leave his home and abandon his computer science course at college due to broken relationships with his step-father. Rahim has often slept on the streets, libraries and other public spaces. He has no permanent address and as a result cannot get a job. The Ascension Church (Felsted Mission) runs an Advice Centre for individuals like Rahim and, through the Nightshelter, provides a bed, hot food and a chance to relax and socialise in a warm, safe environment. Through our support to the Mission, the School is providing crucial support to individuals like Rahim and aiding the Mission to keep their vital programmes going. It was truly an eye-opening experience for us all and helped us understand that every donation is truly vital and life changing.*

Felsted pupils also volunteer and fundraise for:

#### **\*The FOODBANK**

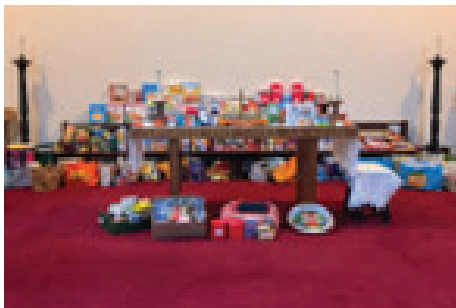
Pupils and staff from the School volunteer at the Foodbank and Advice Centre where we are able to help collect donations, speak to guests and provide volunteers with a break.

#### **\*The COMMUNITY GARDEN**

This year we have painted fences and furniture. One pupil ran a half marathon and raised enough funds for the Mission to buy a professional/catering sized BBQ and oven. Pupils have also provided plants for the garden on Felsted Road.

#### **\*The COMMUNITY LUNCH**

This is an important weekly gathering for the local community, volunteers and adults who have significant learning needs. Felstedians help out six times a year and we are delighted to celebrate with the Mission staff and volunteers this summer - music provided by pupils from the Preparatory School. Senior pupils will serve food made by members of our staff team.



*School harvest collection*

#### **\*OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHEER!**

Each school Tutor Group at the School were invited to donate toys and gifts to the Mission at Christmas. In the end we were able to give over 80 families wonderful presents to unwrap on Christmas Day.

We were also pleased to regularly pray for the Mission in Chapel and in prayer meetings. It is also always a joy to welcome Dave, Becca and Jodi to speak in Chapel and were thrilled that they joined us for Speech Day. Dave gave the 'Christmas Address' at the Carol Service and we are looking forward to him being part of the team for Lent Address Week - Hope 2025.

*Rev'd Nigel Little, Chaplain*

## Missioner Rev. Dave Chesney reports:

### MISSION LINK – Missioner

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6*

It has been yet another year of great joy, with much to celebrate. However, I feel a déjà vu moment whilst writing, as it has once again been a year of great change and with it some uncertainty. Early in the year we bid farewell to our much-loved curate, Oyin, who was appointed into his first incumbency role in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire. He will be sorely missed. It was with sadness also that we said goodbye to our CEO, Henry. Finally, one of our key people, Tom left to take up a new role elsewhere, although we are blessed that he remains with us on reduced hours. In the context of another year of change, a strong foundation and some stability is needed. I continue to be thankful for the faithful support of my associate Becca and Youth and Children's worker, Jodi.

During the year we undertook a community listening exercise which we had hoped would lead to a renewed vision for the Garden Café and our plan was to reopen in the Spring. However, with Henry's departure and imposition of massively increased rent proposals from the local authority, the reopening had to be postponed. The Café remains closed and we are reaching a critical point in decision-making for its future.

In all of this, I take heart from the words from scripture which speaks of a God who we can trust and we can lean on in times of turmoil. This same God who sees the bigger picture, as we are caught up in the minutia of his mission in Custom House. During the year we have reached out into what is a fragile community in so many ways. The impact of reduced statutory support and a changing

population dynamic has heightened the need for what we do here to a level not experienced before. We have reached out in so many ways to some of the most vulnerable in our community. Either through our winter Nightshelter or Foodbank; Advice Service or After School Club; Complex Needs Support or ESOL services, our desire is always to enable every person we meet to feel valued and to live life in its fullness.

The major Christian festivals were a blessing as always this year, a couple of highlights being a full-immersion baptism of one of our newest members on Easter Day and our (very) Messy Christingle.



*Christingle Aglow*

Our church grew during the year and we began two new Bible Study groups and a weekly compline. Young people continue to be at the heart of much of what we do. Our Sunday morning groups are growing and it was great to see our youth taking the lead on the Christmas Nativity service. Jodi is currently taking them through the Alpha course. Our toddler group, Beautiful Minds is growing and we remain a consistent support for the youth in this community, through our weekly Friday Night drop in club and Saturday morning football academy. Thanks as always to our passionate youth and children's worker Jodi, who got married during the year – what a blessed day that

was. Jodi's desire to see young people and families thrive and be safe, is shown throughout her work and indeed her life. This remains a critical part of our mission, particularly in the growing climate of drugs, violence and grooming gangs and issues of mental health amongst our young people. On a personal note, Jodi received a police community award, a very proud moment and fully deserved.



*Jodi receiving community award*

Our annual Community Day was sadly hit by torrential rain, but this didn't stop people having a great time. Our Summer Scheme and Soccer School were well attended as was our regular messy church services – communicating the gospel in new and creative ways. Thanks once again to Becca for taking the lead in this area of ministry. During the summer break, we closed the church for 2 weeks for a much needed deep clean. We were grateful also for the help of tradesmen (donated by a local developer) and some volunteers from a local bank, who helped us

transform the lobby area and upstairs offices, and did some general fixing.

Our heart for this community remains undiminished, even (and especially) through what continues to be a challenging environment. We cannot do what we do without our fantastic group of staff and volunteers – a big thank you to them.



*Vicky Torrance*

I began my report with sad news of a number of departures during 2024.

However, I am delighted to report in December we welcomed our new CEO for ACT, Vicky Torrance, who has already made a big impact the community at Ascension.

As always, we acknowledge we cannot do what we do without the support of Felsted School and the Mission Council. My sincere thanks for everything.

*Rev. Dave Chesney, Vicar*

# *Ascension Community Trust Reports*

## **Project Reports 2024**

1. Poverty Response
2. Children and Families
3. Complex Needs & Community Meal
4. Garden Community Café

### **Overview**

The breadth of ACT's activities has expanded enormously in recent years, largely due to the passion and drive of our previous CEO, Hannah Tulloch, led by Dave Chesney. Annual expenditure now exceeds £500,000.

2024 was a challenging year, with the departure of CEO Henry, and also a couple of key members of staff. Notwithstanding these challenges, ACT continued to provide much needed support and hope to the community it serves, employing 14 staff and over 60 volunteers. In December, we appointed Vicky Torrance as our new CEO.



*ACT Thanksgiving meal*

### **1. Poverty Response**

#### **Foodbank**

Our Foodbank continues to be a valuable resource and lifeline for member of the local community who rely on the donation of food and other items received. It has been a challenging year however, as our Foodbank manager, who had already reduced her hours, moved on to take on a new role in the borough. We are indebted to our paid sessional worker and a growing number of committed

volunteers (together with temporary oversight from our chair of trustees) which has ensured the Foodbank continues to meet the needs of those in most need in our community.

Even in these challenging times, we have sought to maintain and develop our links with individual and corporate donors, and will seek to expand on this aspect of our service with the appointment of a new manager and volunteer co-ordinator in 2025.

We manage a network over 3 sites and our new CEO has already established a strategic oversight board in order to ensure this network is run as efficiently as possible for the benefit of our users.



*Foodbank drive*

One of the highlights of the year was the winter food drive at one of our local supermarkets which yielded over 12 full trolleys of food which was distributed across our network.

Total number of parcels given: 1733

Total number of adults fed: 2615

Total number of children fed: 1415

#### **Advice Service**

Our Advice Service has grown from a small set-up into a flourishing project, operating in partnership with other local charities. The service provides easy access to advice on benefits, housing, employment and food poverty amongst other key issues; whilst acting as an advocate for the user and signposting to other services if necessary.



Before the service started, we had hundreds of users a year who would require some sort of advice or advocacy and when our charity was unable to help, it became increasingly difficult to find services to signpost people to, particularly in regards to benefits and housing. The service has expanded from initial delivery in Custom House to also having a presence in East Ham and North Woolwich.

Our new CEO has undertaken a full review of the service to ensure it is providing the most effective support for our users.

### **Case Study:**

*Mr and Mrs Dickson (Names and identifying details changed), a local couple, came to ACT seeking support with issues accessing welfare benefits they were entitled to. Our Advice Manager met with them to help complete forms and advocate for them directly. Through persistent support and detailed guidance our Advice Service Manager effectively navigated Mr and Mrs Dickson through the complexities of the welfare benefit system. Her intervention ensured that the couple received the necessary financial support to manage their living expenses and improve their overall well-being.*

Total numbers accessing the service: 239

Total financial gains: £201k

## **2. Children and families**

### **After School Club**

Set up in 2020 to provide high quality childcare at affordable prices, 'Young Adventurers' has operated as an Ofsted - registered affordable after school club, and is rated "Good". The name reflects our hope that young people will not just be cared for, but through our provision continue to grow a sense of curiosity and adventure through their personal, social and emotional development.

It has been a challenging year with fluctuating numbers and a tougher funding environment. However, we continue to offer a rich range of activities and opportunities to nurture and inspire young people, and aim to make use of local community resources.

### **Case Study:**

*'Fatima' (Name and identifying details changed) was 8 years old when she joined Young Adventurers. Her parents and school indicated that she had additional needs and was prone to behaviour which required extra support. To begin with she would have outbursts and did not immediately make friends or connect with others. Through creating an environment which felt secure and predictable, along with one-on-one support Fatima made swift progress. She learned to vocalise feelings of anger or anxiety and started approaching staff for help. She made many friends and integrated well into the group. Her T.A from school also commented that since joining the club her classroom participation and learning had noticeably improved.*

Number of children registered: 28

### **Summer Scheme and Soccer School**

ACT Summer Scheme operated for three weeks during summer holidays offering affordable, fun and meaningful activities. This included trips out, team games and arts and crafts. Our engaging activities have provided new opportunities for personal growth and the broadening of horizons for local children. One week of summer scheme was facilitated alongside a specialist football coaching organisation with the aim of both introducing a wider range of children to our football academy as well as providing intensive development and social activities for existing members.

### **Comment:**

*"My son was a young volunteer at ACT Summer Scheme. The week was well run with a wonderful range of activities for local children. The team helped build his confidence and self belief" - local parent.*

Unique attendees

Summer Scheme: 80

Soccer School: 30



## **Football Academy**

Our Football Academy provides Football Association qualified coaching for children and young people, as well as professional development opportunities and training in life skills. We are open to children in years one to nine, both male and female, and typically coach ten to fifteen young people per session (up to fifty unique attendees a year).

This project has utilised football as a means of mentoring young people, providing positive adult role models. It has also fostered a passion for sport in our area which faces high rates for child obesity amongst other health outcomes.

One of the highlights of the year was the development of some of our young volunteers, who have been encouraged to take a more active leadership role in the sessions. Some of our young leaders will undertake the Level 1 FA Youth Coaching qualification in 2025.

## **3. Complex Needs and Community Meal**

### **Complex Needs**

Our Complex Needs projects exist to value and celebrate the contributions of members of our community with learning disabilities, learning difficulties and/or those who are neuro-diverse. It also operates to be welcoming and supportive to anyone in attendance who is experiencing poor mental health.

Our activities during the year included

- Supported volunteering, providing opportunities for adults with support needs to learn kitchen and hospitality skills on placement. Each week they provide hot meals to our Foodbank users and prepare one of the courses for our weekly community meal. External trips are also part of the placement and the team had great fun day out at Greenwich.

- Inclusive Arts and Crafts Group delivers weekly workshops providing a range of activities, offering therapeutic engagement with arts and crafts. Throughout the year, events are held celebrating the work created.

- Gardening – this has provided therapeutic and engaging opportunities to learn gardening skills and be amongst nature. Across the year the group learns a number of skills including composting, planting and bed maintenance. The formal sessions have been put on hold as we review staffing, although we continue to have a good number of willing volunteers.

### **Case Study:**

*Tim (Name and identifying details changed) is a young man with complex needs who has been working with us for a number of years. He was first involved with ACT before Supported Volunteers launched as a formal scheme to provide supervised placements for adults with learning disabilities. He was deeply affected by the covid pandemic and lockdown in particular.*

*Over the last year intensive one-to-one support has led to him slowly taking on more responsibility, encouraged to participate in a wider range of tasks. Having an interest in Greek food, he went on to learn a number of recipes, firstly with close supervision, then eventually with a high degree of independence. The praise and acknowledgement from others were instrumental in building his confidence and the more this went on, the more motivated and energetic he became. This led to him joining a sports group run in association with ACT, an activity he had never taken part in before. We are excited to see Tim continue to grow in confidence and exceed expectations.*

### **Community Meal**

Launched as part of Newham Council's Warm Havens and Community Meals initiatives. It is open to all members of the community but has a particular focus on welcoming anyone with support needs, facing poor mental health or those from refugee/asylum seeker backgrounds. Each week our hall is decorated to create a warm, bright and welcoming environment with games and activities alongside a steady supply of tea and coffee. A range of local residents attend, including those from local care homes. One of the highlights of the year was our Christmas lunch which was attended by over 100 guests.

**Unique attendees:**

Supported Volunteers: 8

Inclusive arts: 15

Community Meal: between 40 and 60 per week

**4. Garden Community Café**

In our report of 2023, we advised The Garden Community Café had had a difficult year, with disruptions to continued service delivery, resulting in periods of closure due to staff absences. This had an impact on the projects delivered at the café, such as the Complex Needs work and Youth Café.

We undertook an extensive listening exercise and a full review was produced with a view to making a decision about the Café's future. This has been a challenging time, particularly as the local authority has proposed a rent increase of 300%. Our new CEO comes with a vision for the future; however the challenging financial environment needs to be addressed if we are to reopen. The future remains in the balance.

*Rev. Dave Chesney*

**Emotion in Motion**

Negar Nasiri, ACT's Finance Administrator, founded "Emotion in Motion" in October 2023 as a voluntary dance project aimed at asylum seekers. The primary goal of these classes is to help participants socialise, develop new skills, uplift their spirits, and foster meaningful interactions.

The classes focus on Persian dance, known for its fluid and relaxing movements. Occasionally, interactive games are incorporated to make the experience more engaging and enjoyable.



*Negar and dance class*

One of the program's most rewarding outcomes has been its impact on students, with some now volunteering at ACT. Currently, we have 7 to 10 participants from different cultural and age groups, creating a beautiful blend of diversity. Seeing individuals from varied backgrounds come together, move in harmony, and share joyful moments is genuinely inspiring.

# Youth and Children's Worker Report

## Kingdom Youth

We run two well-attended Friday Night drop-in sessions with good numbers in both. Throughout the year we have seen a higher proportion of attendance in our younger group. A decision has been made to split the timings, with more space given to our younger group. It is such a blessing to have an increasing number of young leaders, and we enjoyed a thanksgiving evening at Cosmos together.



*Young people leading nativity*

There is currently a focus on sports and science. We remain a consistent and positive presence at a time when our young people are easily drawn into negative behaviour. The local authority has cut the budget for youth services, so our presence is needed more keenly than ever.

## Beautiful Minds – Stay and Play toddlers

We have a good turn out and we have so many new faces which have come through our doors, Almost the whole church building is converted into a space where parents and carers can play with their children. There is plenty to do, including art and messy play and of course our bouncy castle and sensory tent. There are also hot bacon and egg rolls on offer for those that want them.

## Sunday Youth

It has been an exciting year. It has been good to get our young people thinking more about how their faith impacts their daily life, in particularly responding to challenging situations. We are journeying through a new Youth Alpha course, with some of our Sunday School children moving up into the group.

## Schools work

We continue to have close working relationship with three of the local primary schools and are called on to deliver lessons on a regular basis. It is also a joy to host schools at the church, which we do on many an occasion. This includes one of the highlights of the year, the wedding lesson – teaching about the importance of marriage. We encourage generosity and a number of schools supported our Harvest effort, which contributed to the foodbank. Christmas was a busy time as we hosted two nativities and welcomed over 300 children to experience the Christmas Journey – telling the story of the nativity in a fun and creative way.

## Personal

I completed a one year youth training course – Catalyst. It was a challenging time but through this I found out that I'm not alone and we all had different experiences - with the struggles of working with young people and using techniques of other youth workers like getting to know Jesus and that he might have had a good sense of humour.

## Numbers

Kingdom Youth: 35

Beautiful Minds: 20 Families

Sunday Youth: 8

*Jodi Ling, Youth and Children's Worker*

## *Ascension Eagles' Director Angela Green reports:*

**I**n September 2023 we officially received three-months' notice on our existing premises at Gallions Reach, the place we had called home for the previous 13 years. It was with immense pride that we reopened our doors in our new facility in St Mark's industrial Estate to our families, just three weeks after we closed for our Christmas break in December 2023, made possible by the sheer hard work and dedication of our staff, trustees and building team to whom I am so grateful.

The season following our move was a huge success. Now, as we look forward to completing our first full year in the new space and all that we will achieve in our new home, we know the best is yet to come!



Our Junior Leadership Team (JLT) programme continues to be a source of great pride for us. This programme offers an opportunity for AEC athletes to fulfil their ambition of becoming future leaders - within the AEC programme and personally.

Participation in the JLT programme gives athletes a pathway to study for coaching qualifications, enhance their leadership skills and build their confidence – all of which enhance their employability.

These motivated young people take on additional responsibility for supporting other athletes and leading sessions. They receive guidance and mentorship from existing AEC leaders to help them develop their personal leadership style.

During the 2023-24 season each of our JLT members volunteered for over 125 hours and took part in a number of workshops. Nine of our members achieved their cheer coaching qualifications.



Our school-based sessions are important as they allow us to extend the positive benefits of cheerleading beyond our gym facility. They enable us to take the experience of cheerleading into the wider community.

We concluded the 2023-24 season with 14 schools participating in our programme.

Each of the three school terms culminated in our showcase events, held at the former Olympic venue, ExCeL London: 906 children attended. Every young person taking part received an individual medal and certificate; each school received a trophy and either a bronze, silver or gold award level certificate.

Seventeen of our talented youth athletes, aged 9-12, have been selected to compete at a prestigious international cheerleading competition in Orlando, Florida in May 2025. This is an incredible opportunity for them to showcase their hard work, dedication and skills on a global stage. We are now working hard to fundraise for the trip.

*Angela Green, Director AEC*

## *Hon. Treasurer Paul P.H. Beaufrère reports:*

**Financial Summary:** *The outcome for 2024 was similar to that of 2023 - a deficit of £6202, compared to £5515. Income and expenditure both grew by 11% with larger donations from Felsted Schools a notable feature. Investment dividends and interest continue to account for slightly more than half our income.*

**T**otal Incoming Resources grew by 11% to £46495 thanks to an increase in both donations and investment income. **Appeal Donations** (down 16% to £9446) again reflected the expiry of several old covenants. A glorious £8224 from **School and Prep Donations** may be attributable to an accumulation of collections and fundraising for more than one year. **Sundry Donations** were principally sourced from gifts via the PayPal Giving Fund – possibly Felsted-related. **Dividends and Interest Received** (£26087 against £24678) have recovered to pre-pandemic levels and were again boosted by interest on our liquid funds. No **legacies** were received this year.

**Expenses** **Total Resources Expended** increased 11% to £52697. Our principal outgoing remains funding for youth work at the Ascension, including the salary and pension contribution for our youth worker Jodi Ling. **Sundry Grants and Donations** (£13679 versus £11930) include our support for Ascension Football Academy (pitch hire and soccer training costs). Towards the end of 2024, the Council approved a £9000

unencumbered grant to the Ascension to meet possible funding of a mini-bus or the Advice Service. The last of the Felsted parents' gift to the winter night shelter programme was contributed this year. However, in January 2025, the Old Felstedian Society kindly made a grant to extend funding here. As usual, publication of the Annual Report accounted for virtually all of **Administration** expenditure.

**Balance Sheet.** Reflecting the trend in world equity markets, our **Listed Investments** rose by over 5% in value during 2024. **Cash and Deposits** grew 13%, to £73980, but will be depleted significantly in 2025 as we meet **Current Liabilities** of almost £25000.

**Future prospects.** As previously reported, we anticipate annual deficits of around £10000 per annum before exceptional items, to be funded from our cash and deposits.

As ever, my sincere thanks go to Chairman Michael Yeatts, who this year has helped field several time-consuming compliance issues, wholly unconnected with our mission, and to Honorary Examiner David Woods.

*Paul Beaufrère, Hon. Treasurer*

# THE FELSTED SCHOOL MISSION

*Limited by Guarantee. Company No. 388698 Registered Charity No. 241674*

## Report and Financial Statements 2024

### Legal and Advisory Information

**Status** The Felsted School Mission (“the Mission”) is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 13 July 1944, and registered as a charity on 3 May 1965. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association, which established the objects and powers of the charitable company, and is governed under its Articles of Association.

**Council of Management** The Mission is managed by its Council, which normally meets twice a year. The Chairman and Treasurer have been authorised to consult and, if in agreement, to take action between meetings, subject to discussion and endorsement of significant issues at the next Council meeting.

Council Members, who must be members of the Mission, may be elected by the Council at any time. Members of the Mission guarantee to contribute an amount up to £1 in the event of a winding up.

Council Members serving during the year were:

P.H. Beaufrère (Hon Treasurer)	Rev’d. D. Chesney	Rev’d. N.J. Copsey
Rev’d. N.J. Little	H.J.Mollison	M. Norris
C.C. Roberts	C.J. Townsend	Dr. M. Walker*
M.G.J. Yeatts (Hon. Chairman)		

\*Resigned during year

**Honorary Secretary** Vacant

**Mission Clergyman** Rev’d. D. Chesney

**Registered Office** Quinces, The Street, Sheering, Bishops Stortford, CM22 7LU

**Honorary Examiner** David Woods, FCA

**Bankers** Barclays Bank PLC

# THE FELSTED SCHOOL MISSION

## Report of the Council of Management

The members of the Council present their Report and Financial Statements of the Felsted School Mission ("the Mission") for the year ended 31 December 2024.

**Activities and Financial Review** The principal activity of the Mission is the rendering of pecuniary and other assistance to the Church of the Ascension, Victoria Docks London E16 3HJ.

Results are set out in the Statement of Financial Activities, which shows a deficit for the year. The financial position of the Mission at the end of the year was satisfactory. Income in the year included further donations arising from the Youth Appeal, launched mainly to help provide funding for a Youth and Childrens Worker at the Ascension Church.

The Council is of the opinion that for the foreseeable future the financial position of the Mission will remain satisfactory.

**Dividends** A distribution of profits is not permitted by the terms of the Mission's Memorandum and Articles of Association.

**Corporate Governance** The Council is committed to high standards of Corporate Governance. This statement, together with the Statement of Responsibility of the Council of Management overpage indicate that FSM applies the principles of good governance in administration and financial reporting.

**Reserves Policy** The Council considers that sufficient funds should be retained in liquid form to meet short term liabilities and any possible shortfall in income. Cash and deposits at the year end should normally equate to at least six months' expenditure (2024 17 months'). Other FSM reserves should be held in longer term investments, with the intention of generating income and maintaining their real value over the longer term.

**Investment Policy** is vested in the hands of the Council, with day-to-day control exercised by the Chairman and Treasurer. Short term funds are placed on deposit, at call, with the Central Board of Finance of the Church of England. FSM's fixed asset investment portfolio comprises predominantly equity-based listed investments in reputable managed funds, including M & G Charifund. "Blue chip" equity investment is considered a good long term store of value for FSM funds.

**Risk Management** The Council considers that the level of risk faced by FSM is low, firstly because its main activity is that of supplying assistance to Ascension Church within its resources and on a voluntary basis, and secondly because its financial reserves are substantial. A risk assessment has been undertaken and this subject would be revisited should there be any significant change in FSM's activities.



## THE FELSTED SCHOOL MISSION

**Responsibilities of Council of Management** Company Law requires the Council of Management to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs and of the surplus or deficit for the year.

In preparing those financial statements, the Council of Management is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The Council of Management is responsible for:

- keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2011;
- safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by members of the Council on 22 May 2025, and signed on its behalf by:

M.G.J. Yeatts (Chairman)

P.H. Beaufrère (Treasurer)

### NOTICE OF MEETING

**The 81st Annual General Meeting will be held at Ascension Church Centre, Baxter Road. London E16 3HJ and via Zoom on Thursday, 22 May 2025, at 5.30pm.**

#### **AGENDA**

- 1. Election of Chairman**
- 2. Apologies for absence**
- 3. To approve the Minutes of the 80th Annual General Meeting**
- 4. To adopt the Accounts**
- 5. To receive and adopt the Annual Report**
- 6. To elect the Council of Management**
- 7. Any other business**

**A Meeting of the Council of Management will be held immediately after the Annual General Meeting**

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Total Funds (Unrestricted)	Total Funds (Unrestricted)
	2024 £	2023 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		
Appeal Donations	9446	11265
Felsted School & Prep. Donations	8224	5652
Other Donations	2738	200
Dividends and Interest Received	26087	24678
Total Incoming Resources	46495	41795
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		
Youth Worker	31823	27544
Contribution to Missioner's Expenses (see Note 5)	5000	6000
Sundry Grants and Donations	13679	11930
Administration (see Note 5)	2195	1836
Total Resources Expended	52697	47310
<b>NET OUTGOING RESOURCES</b>	-6202	-5515
Surplus on Revaluation of Listed Investments	30580	28825
	24378	23310
Fund balances at 1/1/24	649325	626015
Fund balances at 31/12/24	673703	649325

## NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Year to 31 December 2024

1. In accordance with *Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice*, the accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of Listed Investments (see Note 2 below), and conform with applicable accounting standards
2. Listed Investments are stated at market value as at 31 Dec 2024.
3. The Mission is a Registered Charity and is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.
4. Movement in Funds

	At 1 January 2024	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	At 31 December 2024
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
Designated Revaluation Fund	358699	30580		389279
General Funds	290626	46495	52697	284424
Total Funds	649325	77075	52697	673703

Designated Revaluation Fund, required by the Companies Act 2011, represents the amount by which Investments exceed historic cost

5. Expenses Reimbursed to Trustees. Contribution to Missioner's Expenses £5000 (2023 £6000) was payable to Rev'd Dave Chesney. Included in Administration is £134 (2023 £113) paid to P H Beaufreire, to defray out-of-pocket expenses incurred on behalf of the Mission.

# THE FELSTED SCHOOL MISSION

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

## BALANCE SHEET as at 31 December 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
Listed Investments	<b>620708</b>	590128
At Market Value (Historic Cost £231,429 (2023 £231,429))		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Sundry Debtors	<b>653</b>	1447
Income Tax Recoverable	<b>3293</b>	2995
CBF Church of England Deposit Fund	<b>55000</b>	55000
Cash at Bank	<b>18980</b>	10556
	<u><b>77926</b></u>	<u>69998</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>698634</b>	660126
<b>CREDITORS - AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR</b>		
Other Creditors	<b>24931</b>	10801
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u><b>673703</b></u>	<u>649325</u>
<b>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</b>		
Designated Revaluation Fund	<b>389279</b>	358699
General Funds	<b>284424</b>	290626
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><b>673703</b></u>	<u>649325</u>

### Audit Exemption

The members of the Council confirm in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 that:

- (a) for the year ended 31 December 2024 the company is entitled to exemption from audit under S144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is required.
- (b) the members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006
- (c) they acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2011 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

Approved by the Members of the Council on 22 May 2025, and signed on its behalf by:

M.G.J. Yeatts (Chairman)

P.H. Beaufrière (Treasurer)

## SUBSCRIPTION FORM

I wish to subscribe to the Felsted School Mission.

- ☐ I have completed the Gift Aid Declaration
- ☐ I enclose a cheque for £\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ I enclose a completed Standing Order.  
(Please complete the Declaration and Standing Order below)

## GIFT AID DECLARATION

**Please treat all donations I make to The Felsted School Mission on or after 6 April 2000 as Gift Aid donations.**

**In making this declaration I understand that I must pay or have paid an amount of Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax equal to the tax to be reclaimed on my donations. I realise that I may cancel this declaration at any time and that, after notifying The Felsted School Mission of the cancellation, no further tax will be reclaimed from the date of cancellation.**

Name..... Address.....

.....

Signature .....

Date .....

## STANDING ORDER

To the Manager: Bank.....

Address.....

.....

Account No ..... Sort Code - -

**Please pay to BARCLAYS BANK PLC at their Braintree Branch (Code 20-97-65), for The Felsted School Mission (A/C10406074) the sum of:**

(amount in words) ..... £ (figures) ..... (\*Delete as necessary)  
\* Annually/Monthly

Starting on.....day of.....

and continue payments until this order is countermanded.

Signature ..... Date.....

Please return to P. H. Beaufrère, Quinces, The Street, Sheering, Bishops Stortford, Herts CM22 7LU

# Legacy Appeal

*Felsted School has been supporting The Mission for over 100 years through donations from its Pupils, Parents, Staff and Old Felstedians. It would be wonderful if we could continue this generosity for many years to come. **Please help by leaving a legacy to Felsted School Mission in your Will.***

## Legacies may be either:

- pecuniary - a stated sum of money, or
- residuary – a percentage share of the remainder of your Estate after costs and specific legacies.

## Making or amending a Will

- using a Solicitor is strongly recommended.
- if you have already made a Will, a Codicil overwrites existing instructions without the need to rewrite the Will.
- however, a Codicil must be signed and witnessed

## How to identify FSM in your Will

- the name: The Felsted School Mission
- the registered charity number: 241674
- the registered address: Quinces, The Street, Sheering, Bishops Stortford, CM22 7LU

## Inheritance Tax (IHT)

- legacies to the Mission are charitable and thus deducted from your Estate before calculating IHT
- the normal rate of IHT, 40%, is reduced to 36% if more than 10% of your net Estate is left to charity.

*If you have any questions, please contact the Hon Treasurer at the registered address above.*