

THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS

England & Wales · Charity number 285794

Details

Other names	GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALEN, THE GREEK CHURCH
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1983-02-02
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The Greek Orthodox Church of SMM Church Road St. Leonards-On-Sea East Sussex TN37 6EE
Phone	01424 429694
Email	gochastings@gmail.com
Website	www.hastings-orthodox-church.co.uk

Activities

Objects: BY SUCH MEANS AS ARE CHARITABLE TO PROMOTE THE GREEK ORTHODOX FAITH AND THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS FOR THE OLD AND SICK PEOPLE THE STUDENTS AND THE POOR OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX FAITH LIVING IN HASTINGS AND ENVIRONS AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC.

Activities: The church is a space open to everyone to come and worship, to get advice from our priest and to speak with committee and community members. There is also a Greek school within the charity that teaches the Modern Greek language to children and adults.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Religious Activities, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Human Rights/religious Or Racial Harmony/equality Or Diversity
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** HASTINGS AND ENVIRONS
- East Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£73,124	£62,064	-	-
2024-08-31	£75,790	£79,967	-	-
2023-08-31	£79,805	£62,045	-	-
2022-08-31	£65,717	£50,676	-	-
2021-08-31	£62,710	£94,395	-	-
2020-08-31	£66,321	£54,755	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas Lulias	Chair	2019-06-12
Demetrios Demetriades		
John Neofitou		2015-03-18
Lina Kumar		2019-12-12
MARIA KINIARI		2015-03-18
Sotirios Peter Joannou		1982-07-20

THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS

England & Wales - Charity number 285794

Accounts

Registered Charity Number: 285794

**THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS
(GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE)**

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025



Caladine
Chartered Certified Accountants

THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Page 1

Church address

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church
Church Road
St Leonards-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN37 6EE

Charity number

285794

Charity trustees

His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas Lulias
Mr Demetrios Demetriades
Mr Sotirios Joannou
Miss Maria Kiniari
Mrs Lina Kumar
Mr John Neofitou

Financial administrator

Mrs I Edwards
8 Baldslow Down
St Leonards on Sea
East Sussex
TN37 7NH

Independent examiner

J R Caladine FCCA CTA FCIE
Caladine Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Chantry House
22 Upperton Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 1BF

Trustees' Report

The trustees present their Annual Report and the Financial Statements of the church for the year ended 31 August

Structure, governance and management

The Greek Orthodox Community of Hastings (the "charity"), which is also known as the Greek Orthodox Church of St. Mary Madgalene, was registered with the Charity Commission on February 1983 and is governed by a Declaration of Trust as amended on 17 July 2018.

Trustees are appointed by the church Executive Committee. Newly appointed trustees are invited to induction meetings to familiarise themselves with the work of our Charity, they are introduced to the Church executive committee and we familiarise them with the Deed of Trust and the Constitution of the Greek Orthodox Communities. We offer guidance and provide them with a welcome pack.

The Charity operates under the spiritual guidance of His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas and the Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain

Objectives

The objects of the Charity are by such means as are charitable to promote the Orthodox Faith to all Orthodox Christians and the Greek Orthodox charitable institutions for the old and sick people the students and the poor of the Orthodox Faith and all denominations living in Hastings and environs and the advancement of the education of the public.

Activities and achievements

Organisation of Elections for Church Committee

The recent organisation of elections within our Church community stands as a testament to what we can achieve when united in faith and purpose, successfully bringing the congregation together in a shared, transparent process. This initiative, a long-standing request from the Archdiocese, was embraced by our parish as an opportunity for active participation, fostered by the profound guidance and participation of our Father, whose spiritual leadership infused every step with wisdom and pastoral care. He walked alongside us not merely as an overseer, but as a shepherd ensuring that the proceedings remained rooted in prayerful discernment and mutual respect, creating a sacred space where every member felt both seen and heard. Through his encouragement, the congregation came together with open hearts, allowing us to elect the most appropriate committee members in a manner that reflected not just our collective voice, but our shared commitment to Christ-centered stewardship. Far from being a mere administrative task, the election became a profound act of unity, strengthening our bonds and ensuring our leadership truly reflects the will of the people under the blessed guidance of our spiritual father.

Church House

The refurbishment of the Church house property at 39 St. Margarets St. has delivered a strong and successful return on investment. With key improvements to all areas of the house, the Church has successfully protected the asset while substantially raising its income-generating capacity. Quality work was delivered at a reasonable cost through the engagement of skilled professionals, enhancing the property's market appeal. The decision to lease the property to a management company has resulted in a 40% increase in monthly revenue over the prior arrangement. This outcome has yielded both immediate financial gains and ongoing long-term stability for the Church. Overall, the refurbishment has proved to be a sound investment, securing the Church's income stream and reinforcing its financial position.

Church Hall

The Church Hall refurbishment plans aim to enhance the building's functionality and appeal, making it a more attractive and versatile venue for a wide range of users, including individuals, companies, clubs, charities, and other organisations. By addressing specific features such as modernised facilities, improved accessibility, flexible spaces, and updated technology, the refurbishment will ensure the hall meets contemporary standards and caters to diverse needs. These upgrades are designed to create a welcoming and professional environment suitable for various gatherings, events, and activities, while also incorporating sustainable practices to reduce the building's environmental impact.

Activities and achievements (continued)

Notably, the renovation has already begun through the dedicated volunteer efforts of the Church congregation. Their commitment has resulted in significant financial savings, allowing more of the budget to be directed toward high-impact improvements and essential materials. The generous support from the congregation—both in time and resources—has been instrumental in driving this project forward and reflects a shared vision for the hall's future.

The anticipated outcome of these improvements will result in a significant increase in rental revenue, aligning with the success achieved by the Church House. By broadening the hall's appeal and usability, the refurbishment aims to attract a wider audience, maximising its potential as a community hub. This initiative not only supports the financial sustainability of the hall but also strengthens its role in fostering community engagement and providing a high-quality space for local events and activities.

Promoting Church Activities on Social Media

To strengthen the Church's presence on social media, a consistent posting schedule is maintained, featuring a mix of photos, videos, and text to keep content engaging and informative. Highlighting Orthodox traditions, feast days, and liturgical practices through educational posts help deepen understanding and appreciation among followers. Sharing personal stories and testimonials from parishioners fosters emotional connections and inspire both members and newcomers. In line with our commitment to accessibility, we have invested in new equipment and adopted the online broadcasting of our catechesis groups. This initiative allows us to accommodate a broader audience, including those who are unable to visit our premises to attend the sessions in person. Promoting this online offering through social media can help ensure that no one is excluded from spiritual education and community life. Promoting upcoming events, such as festivals, retreats, and charity drives, with clear and detailed announcements is recommended to encourage participation. Future additions to our social media will include incorporating interactive content, such as Q&A sessions, polls, and live videos, to further engage the audience and address questions about the Orthodox faith.

Financial review

Total cash receipts in the year were £73,124 (2024: £75,790) and total payments were £62,064 (2024: £79,967). Cash funds at the year end stood at £66,228 (2024: £55,168)

Future plans

The Church committee is pleased to present a series of suggestions aimed at further promoting Church activities through social media, the Church website, and collaborations with local organisations and companies. Additionally, recommendations are provided to enhance efforts in welcoming newcomers, introducing them to the Orthodox way of life, and involving them in Church events and activities. These suggestions are offered with the goal of fostering a vibrant, inclusive, and engaged community.

1. Enhancing the Church Website

To improve the Church website, it is suggested that the design be optimised for user-friendliness, with clear navigation and up-to-date information. A dedicated section for newcomers could be developed, offering guidance on what to expect during services, how to get involved, and answers to frequently asked questions. Implementing features such as online event registration and RSVPs may streamline participation and improve event planning. Adding a blog or news section to share articles, reflections, and updates about Church activities could keep the website dynamic and informative. Incorporating multimedia resources, such as videos of sermons, virtual tours of the Church, and recordings of choir performances, may provide visitors with a deeper connection to the Church's life and traditions.

2. Collaborating with Local Organisations and Companies

To strengthen ties with the local community, it is suggested that partnerships be formed with local organisations and businesses. Collaborative events, such as charity drives, cultural festivals, and educational workshops, could benefit both the Church and the broader community. Seeking sponsorships from local businesses to support Church events, with recognition provided on social media, the website, and event materials, is recommended. Organising community service initiatives, such as food drives and neighbourhood clean-ups, may demonstrate the Church's commitment to serving the local area. Networking with local leaders and organisations to create opportunities for mutual support and collaboration is also encouraged.

Future plans (continued)

3. Welcoming Newcomers

To create a welcoming environment for newcomers, it is suggested that a dedicated greeting team be established to welcome them at services, introduce them to other members, and provide guidance. Preparing welcome packets containing information about the Church, its history, and upcoming events, along with small gifts such as prayer books or icons, may help newcomers feel valued. Hosting regular orientation sessions to help newcomers learn about the Orthodox faith, Church practices, and ways to get involved is recommended. Sending follow-up communications, such as emails or notes, to express gratitude for their visit and extend invitations to future events could foster a sense of belonging. Organising informal social gatherings, such as coffee hours and pot lucks, may provide opportunities for newcomers to connect with members in a relaxed setting.

4. Introducing the Orthodox Way of Life

To help newcomers and members deepen their understanding of the Orthodox way of life, it is suggested that educational programs, including classes and workshops on Orthodox theology, history, and practices, be offered. Highlighting seasonal celebrations, such as Lent and Easter, through special services, activities, and educational materials may enrich the community's participation. Planning family-oriented events, such as youth programs, family retreats, and craft workshops tied to Orthodox traditions, could engage all age groups. Developing a mentorship program to pair newcomers with experienced members who can guide them in understanding and living the Orthodox way of life is also recommended.

5. Promoting Events and Activities

We are making great strides in promoting events and activities, with growing engagement across our platforms and a strong foundation in place to connect with both members and the broader community. However, more work remains to be done. To build on this momentum, it is suggested that an updated event calendar be consistently maintained on the Church website and social media platforms to ensure the community stays well-informed. Expanding our reach through flyers, posters in local spaces, and announcements in public places can help attract new attendees. Strengthening word-of-mouth outreach by encouraging members to personally invite friends, family, and coworkers will also be key. Additionally, organising collaborative events—such as cultural festivals, concerts, and lectures on topics of general interest—offers a valuable opportunity to appeal to a wider audience and showcase the Church's vibrant, welcoming community. By continuing to build on our progress in these areas, we can deepen our impact and reach even more people in meaningful ways.

6. Measuring Success and Gathering Feedback

To evaluate the effectiveness monitoring social media metrics, website traffic, and event attendance may provide valuable insights into engagement levels and areas for improvement. Using the feedback and data collected to refine outreach and engagement strategies is recommended to ensure the Church continues to grow and thrive as a welcoming and inclusive community. In conclusion, these suggestions are offered with the aim of enhancing the Church's outreach efforts and creating a welcoming environment for all. By leveraging social media, improving the Church website, collaborating with local organisations, and implementing thoughtful welcoming strategies, the Church can share the beauty and richness of the Orthodox way of life with a broader audience.

The trustees report was approved by the board of trustees



.....
Maria Kiniari
Trustee

Date:

Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the trustees of the Greek Orthodox Community of Hastings (the "charity") for the year ended 31 August 2025, which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the charity 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 CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



John Caladine FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
Caladine Limited
Chantry House
22 Upperton Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 1BF

Date:


Receipts and Payments Account

	2025	2024
	£	£
Receipts		
Donations - Plate Gift Aided	11,964	13,818
Donations - Plate Cash	8,947	11,105
Donations - General	15,717	18,073
Community Hall Hire - Various	7,401	12,325
House - Rent Received	12,426	8,000
Church Shop	4,345	4,867
Church Tea & Coffee Sales	629	135
Memorials & Feasts	777	725
Baptism & Christenings	3,175	1,785
Funeral	60	150
HMRC Gift Aid Received	6,463	4,222
Weddings	710	175
Events & Fundraising	129	-
Interest Received	381	410
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total receipts	73,124	75,790
Payments		
Salaries	15,914	17,822
Church General Expenses	10,338	13,348
Church Insurance	7,239	6,886
Church General Repairs and maintenance	326	15,349
Church Shop - Stock	2,249	1,071
Church Administration	-	225
Church & Hall Utilities	9,154	8,484
Hall Repairs	971	476
House Repairs	8,946	8,425
Garden & Grounds	1,206	1,256
Charitable Family Donations	1,370	2,584
Accountancy	1,080	1,236
Visiting Priest	-	1,110
Cleaning	1,520	1,160
Office Costs	577	-
Website Expenses	269	266
Insurance	-	-
Bank charges	94	99
Miscellaneous expenses	811	170
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total payments	62,064	79,967
Net movement in funds	11,060	(4,177)
Cash funds b/f at 1 September 2024	55,168	59,345
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash funds c/f at 31 August 2025	66,228	55,168
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	2025		2024	
	£	£	£	£
<u>ASSETS</u>				
<u>Monetary Assets</u>				
Cash at bank and in hand				
Lloyds Bank	46,109		35,024	
CAF Cash	1,789		2,519	
CAF Gold	17,057		16,681	
Paypal	189		5	
Petty Cash	1,084		939	
		<u>66,228</u>		<u>55,168</u>
Cash funds made up of				
Restricted funds		-		-
Unrestricted funds:				
Reserve (designated)	15,000		15,000	
General Funds	51,228		40,168	
		<u>66,228</u>		<u>55,168</u>
		<u>66,228</u>		<u>59,345</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>				
<u>Creditors</u>				
Accountancy/Independent examination fee		<u>1,080</u>		<u>1,080</u>

Approved by the Trustees on



.....
Maria Kiniari
Trustee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared as a Receipts and Payments in accordance with section 133 of the Charities Act 2011.

Designated funds

Reserves - The church endeavours to maintain cash reserve of at least £15,000 for unforeseen emergencies and has set up a designated fund for this purpose.

THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS

England & Wales - Charity number 285794

Accounts

Registered Charity Number: 285794

**THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS
(GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE)**

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024



Caladine
Chartered Certified Accountants

THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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Church address St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church
Church Road
St Leonards-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN37 6EE

Charity number 285794

Charity trustees His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas Lulias
Mr Demetrios Demetriades
Mr Sotirios Joannou
Miss Maria Kiniari
Mr John Neofitou

Financial administrator Mrs I Edwards
8 Baldslow Down
St Leonards on Sea
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TN37 7NH

Independent examiner J R Caladine FCCA CTA FCIE
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Trustees are appointed by the church Executive Committee. Newly appointed trustees are invited to induction meetings to familiarise themselves with the work of our Charity, they are introduced to the Church executive committee and we familiarise them with the Deed of Trust and the Constitution of the Greek Orthodox Communities. We offer guidance and provide them with a welcome pack including:

- Equal Opportunities Statement
- The Essential Trustee – what you need to know’.
- Our Safeguarding policy – we are registered with CCPAS to ensure full compliance with safeguarding including DBS checks where appropriate.
- Health & Safety and Fire Risks
- Good Governance – we strive to ensure we are fully in compliance in everything we do.

The Charity operates under the spiritual guidance of His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas and the Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain

Our reporting and administrative procedures are in place to ensure we give due consideration to and endeavour to minimise all risks, our trustee’s together with the executive committee regularly meet to discuss and oversee the work of the various sub-committees.

Objectives and activities

The objects of the Charity are by such means as are charitable to promote the Orthodox Faith to all Orthodox Christians and the Greek Orthodox charitable institutions for the old and sick people the students and the poor of the Orthodox Faith and all denominations living in Hastings and environs and the advancement of the education of the public.

The Executive Committee in co-operation with our parish priest, Reverend Ierotheos Georghiou is fully committed to ensuring everyone is made welcome and invited to participate in worship, learning and social activities at our Church and are encouraged to become part of the lively parish community at St Mary Magdalene.

The principal charitable activities can be defined as follows:

- Prayer and Worship for the community at Holy Services.
- Catechesis, or Christian religious teaching of children and adults to develop knowledge and faith including introduction to the Holy Sacraments.
- Pastoral and Social Care and Advice for our parish community.
- Providing space and facilities for activities including education and social development of children and adults within the local and wider Hastings community.
- Greek Language School for Children and Adults.
- Sunday Crèche for younger children to learn, discover and grow in the orthodox faith.
- Provision of meeting and group activities space to the wider community and minority groups of many cultures and nationalities from a wide catchment area.
- Community Social Events to promote social inclusion and friendship within the wider community.

The executive committee together with our priest consults with our parishioners when planning for community services, activities and events.

We give due consideration to the Commissions guidelines in relation to public benefit and the specific guidance to charities for the advancement of religion.

The dedication of our volunteers and community members continues to be the solid foundation that ensures our Church and its facilities are open and available to all.

Trustees' Report

Achievements and performance

- We continue to reach out and offer support to all within the wider community and particularly Orthodox Christians who have arrived in the local area in recent years.
- Our parish community and congregation continues to enjoy multicultural worship, prayer, friendship and social integration with Orthodox Christians from Romania, Russia, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Georgia, Ukraine Greece, Cyprus, and indeed, many other nationalities within our wider local community.
- To help promote community cohesion and greater participation we continue the saying of important parts of our liturgy services in 4 different languages to help integration into the Church community.
- Future restoration plans include the provision of two new classrooms/meeting rooms, crèche and disabled facilities at the rear of our Church to facilitate expansion of the valued community needs and further expansion of the language schools.
- The Community Hall continued to be a regular meeting place for different communities and local creative groups.

Financial review

Total cash receipts in the year were £75,790 (2023: £79,805) and total payments were £79,967 (2023: £62,045). Cash funds at the year end stood at £55,168 (2023: £59,345)

Future plans

The Church committee is pleased to present a series of suggestions aimed at further promoting Church activities through social media, the Church website, and collaborations with local organizations and companies. Additionally, recommendations are provided to enhance efforts in welcoming newcomers, introducing them to the Orthodox way of life, and involving them in Church events and activities. These suggestions are offered with the goal of fostering a vibrant, inclusive, and engaged community.

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To strengthen the Church's presence on social media, it is suggested that a consistent posting schedule be maintained, featuring a mix of photos, videos, and text to keep content engaging and informative. Highlighting Orthodox traditions, feast days, and liturgical practices through educational posts could help deepen understanding and appreciation among followers. Sharing personal stories and testimonials from parishioners may foster emotional connections and inspire both members and newcomers. Promoting upcoming events, such as festivals, retreats, and charity drives, with clear and detailed announcements is recommended to encourage participation. Incorporating interactive content, such as Q&A sessions, polls, and live videos, could further engage the audience and address questions about the Orthodox faith.

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3. Collaborating with Local Organizations and Companies

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Future plans cont'd

4. Welcoming Newcomers

To create a welcoming environment for newcomers, it is suggested that a dedicated greeting team be established to welcome them at services, introduce them to other members, and provide guidance. Preparing welcome packets containing information about the Church, its history, and upcoming events, along with small gifts such as prayer books or icons, may help newcomers feel valued. Hosting regular orientation sessions to help newcomers learn about the Orthodox faith, Church practices, and ways to get involved is recommended. Sending follow-up communications, such as emails or notes, to express gratitude for their visit and extend invitations to future events could foster a sense of belonging. Organizing informal social gatherings, such as coffee hours and pot lucks, may provide opportunities for newcomers to connect with members in a relaxed setting.

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6. Promoting Events and Activities

To ensure the community is well-informed about upcoming activities, it is suggested that an updated event calendar be maintained on the Church website and social media platforms. Distributing flyers and posters in the local community and posting announcements in public spaces may attract new attendees. Encouraging members to invite friends, family, and coworkers to Church events could leverage word-of-mouth outreach. Organizing collaborative events, such as cultural festivals, concerts, and lectures on topics of general interest, may appeal to a broader audience and showcase the Church's vibrant community.

7. Measuring Success and Gathering Feedback

To evaluate the effectiveness monitoring social media metrics, website traffic, and event attendance may provide valuable insights into engagement levels and areas for improvement. Using the feedback and data collected to refine outreach and engagement strategies is recommended to ensure the Church continues to grow and thrive as a welcoming and inclusive community.

In conclusion, these suggestions are offered with the aim of enhancing the Church's outreach efforts and creating a welcoming environment for all. By leveraging social media, improving the Church website, collaborating with local organizations, and implementing thoughtful welcoming strategies, the Church can share the beauty and richness of the Orthodox way of life with a broader audience.

Independent examination

J R Caladine FCCA CTA FCIE was appointed during the year to undertake the Independent Examination.

The trustees report was approved by the board of trustees



.....
Maria Kiniari
Trustee

Date: 31st March 2025

Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the trustees of the Greek Orthodox Community of Hastings (the "charity") for the year ended 31 August 2024, which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

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John Caladine FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
Caladine Limited
Chantry House
22 Upperton Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 1BF

Date: 31st March 2025


Receipts and Payments Account

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Receipts		
Donations - Plate Gift Aided	13,818	5,914
Donations - Plate Cash	11,105	7,777
Donations - General	18,073	16,583
Community Hall Hire - Various	12,326	25,388
House - Rent Received	8,000	11,700
Church Shop	4,867	3,299
Church Tea & Coffee Sales	135	404
School fees	-	84
Memorials & Feasts	725	1,188
Baptism & Christenings	1,785	1,255
Funeral	150	-
HMRC Gift Aid Received	4,222	5,330
Weddings	175	240
Events & Fundraising	-	464
Interest Received	410	179
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total receipts	75,790	79,805
Payments		
Salaries	17,822	12,157
Church General Expenses	13,348	6,937
Church Insurance	6,886	5,863
Church General Repairs and maintenance	15,348	7,582
Church Shop - Stock	1,071	1,659
Church Administration	225	2,050
Church & Hall Utilities	8,484	6,109
Hall Repairs	476	12,707
House Repairs	8,425	416
Garden & Grounds	1,256	275
Charitable Family Donations	2,584	731
Accountancy	1,236	1,310
Visiting Priest	1,110	3,100
School Expenses	-	180
Cleaning	1,160	371
Office Costs	-	25
Website Expenses	266	206
Insurance	-	227
Bank charges	99	140
Miscellaneous expenses	170	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total payments	79,967	62,045
Net movement in funds	(4,177)	17,760
Cash funds b/f at 1st September 2023	59,345	41,585
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash funds c/f at 31 August 2024	55,168	59,345
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
<u>ASSETS</u>				
<u>Monetary Assets</u>				
Cash at Bank and in hand				
Lloyds Bank	35,024		40,256	
CAF Cash	2,519		1,898	
CAF Gold	16,681		16,279	
Paypal	5		5	
Petty Cash	939		907	
		<u>55,168</u>		<u>59,345</u>
Cash funds made up of				
Restricted funds		-		-
Unrestricted funds:				
Reserve (designated)	15,000		15,000	
General Funds	40,168		44,345	
		<u>55,168</u>		<u>59,345</u>
		<u>55,168</u>		<u>59,345</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>				
<u>Creditors</u>				
Accountancy Fee/Independent Examination		<u>1,080</u>		<u>1,080</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 31st March 2025



.....
Maria Kiniari
Trustee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared as a Receipts and Payments in accordance with section 133 of the Charities Act 2011.

Designated funds

Reserves - The church endeavours to maintain cash reserve of at least £15,000 for unforeseen emergencies and has set up a designated fund for this purpose.

THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS

England & Wales - Charity number 285794

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report for the period



From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day 01	Month September	Year 2022		Day 31	Month August	Year 2023

THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS

The Greek Orthodox Church of St Mary Magdalene

Charity No 285794

Church Road

St Leonards-on-Sea

East Sussex

Postcode TN37 6EE

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas	Patron	12/06/2019 to 31/08/2023	Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain
Mr Demetrios Demetriades	Trustee		Executive Committee
Mr John Neofitou	Vice Chair		Trustee
Miss Maria Kiniari	Vice Chair & Minute Secretary		Executive Committee
Mr Sotirios Joannou	Trustee		Executive Committee

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Accountants and Charity Advisors	Mr	
Financial Administrator	Mrs I Edwards	8 Baldslow Down, St Leonards on Sea, East Sussex TN37 7NH

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B	Structure, governance and management
Description of the charity's trusts	

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Declaration of Trust 1982 and as amended on 17 Jul 2018
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by Executive Committee
Additional governance issues (Optional information)	
<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees; • the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works; • relationship with any related parties; • trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them. 	<p>Newly appointed trustees are invited to induction meetings to familiarise themselves with the work of our Charity, they are introduced to the Church executive committee and we familiarise them with the Deed of Trust and the Constitution of the Greek Orthodox Communities. We offer guidance and provide them with a welcome pack including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equal Opportunities Statement • The Essential Trustee – what you need to know' • Our Safeguarding policy – we are registered with CCPAS to ensure full compliance with safeguarding including DBS checks where appropriate. • Health & Safety and Fire Risks • Good Governance – we strive to ensure we are fully in compliance in everything we do. • The Charity operates under the spiritual guidance of His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas and the Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain <p>Our reporting and administrative procedures are in place to ensure we give due consideration to and endeavour to minimise all risks, our trustee's together with the executive committee regularly meet to discuss and oversee the work of the various sub-committees.</p>

Section C	Objectives and activities
Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document	<p>The objects of the Charity are by such means as are charitable to promote the Orthodox Faith to all Orthodox Christians and the Greek Orthodox charitable institutions for the old and sick people the students and the poor of the Orthodox Faith and all denominations living in Hastings and environs and the advancement of the education of the public.</p> <p>The Executive Committee in co-operation with our parish priest, Reverend Ierotheos Georghiou is fully committed to ensuring everyone is made welcome and invited to participate in worship, learning and social activities at our Church and are encouraged to become part of the lively parish community at St Mary Magdalene.</p>

<p>Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)</p>	<p>The principal charitable activities can be defined as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prayer and Worship for the community at Holy Services. • Catechesis, or Christian religious teaching of children and adults to develop knowledge and faith including introduction to the Holy Sacraments. • Pastoral and Social Care and Advice for our parish community. • Providing space and facilities for activities including education and social development of children and adults within the local and wider Hastings community. • Greek Language School for Children and Adults. • Sunday Crèche for younger children to learn, discover and grow in the orthodox faith. • Provision of meeting and group activities space to the wider community and minority groups of many cultures and nationalities from a wide catchment area. • Community Social Events to promote social inclusion and friendship within the wider community. <p>The executive committee together with our priest consults with our parishioners when planning for community services, activities and events. We give due consideration to the Commissions guidelines in relation to public benefit and the specific guidance to charities for the advancement of religion.</p> <p>Repairs, Restoration and Maintenance of the fabric of the Church and Community Hall continues to present a formidable challenge as we are situate in a raised open position adjacent to the seafront in St Leonards-on-Sea. The fabric of the buildings suffer from the constant effects of erosion due to the marine environment and exposure to the elements.</p>
<p>Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)</p>	
<p>You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policy on grant making; • policy programme related investment; • contribution made by volunteers. 	<p>We are constantly having to prioritise our limited resources and funds to manage the many smaller individual servicing, repair and upkeep needs of the Historic and Community Buildings whilst also continuing to develop strategies of the restoration Master Plan.</p> <p>The dedication of our volunteers and community members continues to be the solid foundation that ensures our Church and its facilities are open and available to all.</p>

Section D	Achievements and performance
<p>Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year</p>	<p>We summarise our main achievements in the past year as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We continue to reach out and offer support to all within the wider community and particularly Orthodox Christians who have arrived in the local area in recent years. • Our parish community and congregation continues to enjoy multicultural worship, prayer, friendship and social integration with Orthodox Christians from Romania, Russia, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Georgia, Ukraine Greece, Cyprus, and indeed, many other nationalities within our wider local community. • To help promote community cohesion and greater participation we continue the saying of important parts of our liturgy services in 4 different languages to help integration into the Church community. • Future restoration plans include the provision of two new classrooms/meeting rooms, crèche and disabled facilities at the rear of our Church to facilitate expansion of the valued community needs and further expansion of the language schools. • The Community Hall continued to be a regular meeting place for different communities and local creative groups. • We have completed the following urgent maintenance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community Hall and church boilers have been replaced by new modern boilers which will give us possibility to save on gas charges. - Refurbishment has been completed to walls in church hall. - Plumbing has been changed in all washrooms in church and church hall. - Drainage of the Church cellar that flooded due to pump failure, servicing and cleaning of the pumps and re-siting of the warning system. - Carried out essential minor repairs and refurbishments to the Community Hall, to help maintain hire income. - Repair of stain glass window was carried.

Section E	Financial review
<p>Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves</p>	<p>Our policy is to continue where feasible, to maintain a restricted reserve of £15,000 for unforeseen emergencies.</p>
<p>Details of any funds materially in deficit</p>	<p>None at present</p>
<p>Further financial review details (Optional information)</p>	

<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the charity’s principal sources of funds (including any fundraising); • how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity; • investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted. 	<p>The financial results for this year clearly reflects the continuous joint efforts and dedication of our volunteers, the entire community and our administrators in their support of the Church to ensure the income streams.</p> <p>Community Hall incomes have increased due contract with Hasting and Bexhill Mencap and other private users.</p> <p>Maintaining all these income streams is crucial to allow the Church to continue to manage our buildings and provide much needed affordable space, services and facilities to the wider local community.</p> <p>Despite our continued efforts the overall financial resources available to the trustee’s means we are continuously juggling to allocate adequate funds required to keep pace with ongoing maintenance and repair costs.</p> <p>.</p> <p>Principal sources of funds are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donations from the Collection Plate • Standing Orders and other General Donations • Gift Aid – continuing to promote greater community awareness • Fundraising events • House rental income. • Community Hall – general community hire <p>The Church owns a freehold house which is currently let and provides much needed additional income.</p> <p>Increasing further income from hire of the Community Hall is badly hampered by the lack of disabled access, this work must be prioritised and completed at the earliest opportunity, due to urgent repairs works it has been necessary to postpone this work temporarily this financial year. We plan to make further grant funding applications to help us to complete this as soon as possible.</p> <p>In the meantime, we continue to receive regular payments for hire funds from community group activities in the hall.</p> <p>Church shop has been updated and stock purchased for providing extra income stream for church.</p>
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Section F	Other optional information
	<p>Further advancement of a sustainable community focused restoration and development `Master Plan` that maximises existing Church resources, enables a major financial contribution towards the massive repair costs of restoration of the Historic Church is slowly progressing and we hope that the coming year will see this advance to Stage 1 that will enable a full planning application and a submission to the Heritage Lottery Fund for an initial grant assessment.</p> <p>We has appointed Conservation Architect and professional team to manage the project and have set up a Steering Group to oversee the advancement and fulfilment of the master plan.</p> <p>Our Church community will continue to maximise our combined efforts to ensure adequate income to maintain our buildings and provide space, resources and support to the local community groups during the coming 2023/2024 financial year.</p> <p>The outcome of the planning application process and future grant applications will determine the way forward for the preservation of the Historic Church for future generations and will we pray, guide us towards a more secure and viable future.</p>

Section G**Declaration**

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Maria Kiniari	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair of Trustees	Administrator
Date		

Registered Charity Number: 285794

**THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS
(GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE)**

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023



Caladine
Chartered Certified Accountants

THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Page 1

<u>Church address</u>	St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church Church Road St Leonards-on-Sea East Sussex TN37 6EE
<u>Charity number</u>	285794
<u>Charity trustees</u>	His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas Lulias Mr Demetrios Demetriades Mr Sotirios Joannou Miss Maria Kiniari Mr John Neofitou
<u>Financial administrator</u>	Mrs I Edwards 8 Baldslow Down St Leonards on Sea East Sussex TN37 7NH
<u>Independent examiner</u>	J R Caladine FCCA CTA FCIE Caladine Limited Chartered Certified Accountants Chantry House 22 Upperton Road Eastbourne East Sussex BN21 1BF

Trustees' Report

The trustees present their Annual Report and the Financial Statements of the church for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Structure, governance and management

The Greek Orthodox Community of Hastings (the "charity"), which is also known as the Greek Orthodox Church of St. Mary Madgalene, was registered with the Charity Commission on February 1983 and is governed by a Declaration of Trust as amended on 17 July 2018.

Trustees are appointed by the church Executive Committee. Newly appointed trustees are invited to induction meetings to familiarise themselves with the work of our Charity, they are introduced to the Church executive committee and we familiarise them with the Deed of Trust and the Constitution of the Greek Orthodox Communities. We offer guidance and provide them with a welcome pack including:

- Equal Opportunities Statement
- The Essential Trustee – what you need to know'.
- Our Safeguarding policy – we are registered with CCPAS to ensure full compliance with safeguarding including DBS checks where appropriate.
- Health & Safety and Fire Risks
- Good Governance – we strive to ensure we are fully in compliance in everything we do.

The Charity operates under the spiritual guidance of His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas and the Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain

Our reporting and administrative procedures are in place to ensure we give due consideration to and endeavour to minimise all risks, our trustee's together with the executive committee regularly meet to discuss and oversee the work of the various sub-committees.

Objectives and activities

The objects of the Charity are by such means as are charitable to promote the Orthodox Faith to all Orthodox Christians and the Greek Orthodox charitable institutions for the old and sick people the students and the poor of the Orthodox Faith and all denominations living in Hastings and environs and the advancement of the education of the public.

The Executive Committee in co-operation with our parish priest, Reverend Ierotheos Georghiou is fully committed to ensuring everyone is made welcome and invited to participate in worship, learning and social activities at our Church and are encouraged to become part of the lively parish community at St Mary Magdalene.

The principal charitable activities can be defined as follows:

- Prayer and Worship for the community at Holy Services.
- Catechesis, or Christian religious teaching of children and adults to develop knowledge and faith including introduction to the Holy Sacraments.
- Pastoral and Social Care and Advice for our parish community.
- Providing space and facilities for activities including education and social development of children and adults within the local and wider Hastings community.
- Greek Language School for Children and Adults.
- Sunday Crèche for younger children to learn, discover and grow in the orthodox faith.
- Provision of meeting and group activities space to the wider community and minority groups of many cultures and nationalities from a wide catchment area.
- Community Social Events to promote social inclusion and friendship within the wider community.

The executive committee together with our priest consults with our parishioners when planning for community services, activities and events.

We give due consideration to the Commissions guidelines in relation to public benefit and the specific guidance to charities for the advancement of religion.

Repairs, Restoration and Maintenance of the fabric of the Church and Community Hall continues to present a formidable challenge as we are situate in a raised open position adjacent to the seafront in St Leonards-on-Sea. The fabric of the buildings suffer from the constant effects of erosion due to the marine environment and exposure to the elements.

Trustees' Report

Objectives and activities (continued)

We are constantly having to prioritise our limited resources and funds to manage the many smaller individual servicing, repair and upkeep needs of the Historic and Community Buildings whilst also continuing to develop strategies of the restoration Master Plan.

The dedication of our volunteers and community members continues to be the solid foundation that ensures our Church and its facilities are open and available to all.

Achievements and performance

We summarise our main achievements in the past year as follows:

- We continue to reach out and offer support to all within the wider community and particularly Orthodox Christians who have arrived in the local area in recent years.
- Our parish community and congregation continues to enjoy multicultural worship, prayer, friendship and social integration with Orthodox Christians from Romania, Russia, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Georgia, Ukraine Greece, Cyprus, and indeed, many other nationalities within our wider local community.
- To help promote community cohesion and greater participation we continue the saying of important parts of our liturgy services in 4 different languages to help integration into the Church community.
- Future restoration plans include the provision of two new classrooms/meeting rooms, crèche and disabled facilities at the rear of our Church to facilitate expansion of the valued community needs and further expansion of the language schools.
- The Community Hall continued to be a regular meeting place for different communities and local creative groups.

We have completed the following urgent maintenance:

- Community Hall and church boilers have been replaced by new modern boilers which will give us possibility to save on gas charges.
- Refurbishment has been completed to walls in church hall.
- Plumbing has been changed in all washrooms in church and church hall.
- Drainage of the Church cellar that flooded due to pump failure, servicing and cleaning of the pumps and re-siting of the warning system.
- Carried out essential minor repairs and refurbishments to the Community Hall, to help maintain hire income.
- Repair of stain glass window was carried out.

Financial review

The financial results for this year clearly reflects the continuous joint efforts and dedication of our volunteers, the entire community and our administrators in their support of the Church to ensure the income streams.

Despite our continued efforts the overall financial resources available to the trustee's means we are continuously juggling to allocate adequate funds required to keep pace with ongoing maintenance and repair costs.

Principal sources of funds are as follows:

- Donations from the Collection Plate
- Standing Orders and other General Donations
- Gift Aid – continuing to promote greater community awareness
- Fundraising events
- House rental income.
- Community Hall – general community hire

Maintaining all these income streams is crucial to allow the Church to continue to manage our buildings and provide much needed affordable space, services and facilities to the wider local community.

Community Hall incomes have increased due contract with Hasting and Bexhill Mencap and other private users. Increasing further income from hire of the Community Hall is badly hampered by the lack of disabled access, this work must be prioritised and completed at the earliest opportunity, due to urgent repairs works it has been necessary to postpone this work temporarily this financial year. We plan to make further grant funding applications to help us to complete this as soon as possible.

In the meantime, we continue to receive regular payments for hire funds from community group activities in the hall. Church shop has been updated and stock purchased for providing extra income stream for church.

Reserves

The church endeavours to maintain cash reserve of at least £15,000 for unforeseen emergencies and has set up a designated fund for this purpose.

Future plans

Further advancement of a sustainable community focused restoration and development `Master Plan` that maximises existing Church resources, enables a major financial contribution towards the massive repair costs of restoration of the Historic Church is slowly progressing and we hope that the coming year will see this advance to Stage 1 that will enable a full planning application and a submission to the Heritage Lottery Fund for an initial grant assessment.

We has appointed Conservation Architect and professional team to manage the project and have set up a Steering Group to oversee the advancement and fulfilment of the master plan.

Our Church community will continue to maximise our combined efforts to ensure adequate income to maintain our buildings and provide space, resources and support to the local community groups during the coming 2023/2024 financial year.

The outcome of the planning application process and future grant applications will determine the way forward for the preservation of the Historic Church for future generations and will we pray, guide us towards a more secure and viable future.

Independent examination

J R Caladine FCCA CTA FCIE was appointed during the year to undertake the Independent Examination.

The trustees report was approved by the board of trustees



.....
Maria Kiniari
Trustee

Date: 12th February 2024

Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the trustees of the Greek Orthodox Community of Hastings (the "charity") for the year ended 31 August 2023, which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the charity 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 CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



John Caladine FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
Caladine Limited
Chantry House
22 Upperton Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 1BF

Date: 12th February 2024

Receipts and Payments Account

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £
Receipts						
Donations - Plate Gift Aided	5,914	-	5,914	7,973	-	7,973
Donations - Plate Cash	7,777	-	7,777	9,779	-	9,779
Donations - General	16,583	-	16,583	17,263	-	17,263
Community Hall Hire - Various	25,388	-	25,388	14,031	-	14,031
House - Rent Received	11,700	-	11,700	8,812	-	8,812
Church Shop	3,299	-	3,299	3,945	-	3,945
Church Tea & Coffee Sales	404	-	404	21	-	21
School fees	84	-	84	167	-	167
Memorials & Feasts	1,188	-	1,188	1,227	-	1,227
Baptism & Christenings	1,255	-	1,255	1,405	-	1,405
Funeral	-	-	-	482	-	482
HMRC Gift Aid Received	5,330	-	5,330	486	-	486
Weddings	240	-	240	115	-	115
Events & Fundraising	464	-	464	-	-	-
Interest Received	179	-	179	11	-	11
Total receipts	79,805	-	79,805	65,717	-	65,717
Payments						
Salaries	12,157	-	12,157	11,903	-	11,903
Church General Expenses	6,937	-	6,937	5,978	-	5,978
Church Insurance	5,863	-	5,863	5,600	-	5,600
Church General Repairs and maintenance	7,582	-	7,582	9,235	1,108	10,343
Church Shop - Stock	1,659	-	1,659	3,843	-	3,843
Church Administration	2,050	-	2,050	2,200	-	2,200
Church & Hall Utilities	6,109	-	6,109	5,465	-	5,465
Hall Repairs	12,707	-	12,707	400	-	400
House Repairs	416	-	416	410	-	410
Garden & Grounds	275	-	275	757	-	757
Charitable Family Donations	731	-	731	55	-	55
Accountancy	1,310	-	1,310	1,407	-	1,407
Visiting Priest	3,100	-	3,100	-	-	-
School Expenses	180	-	180	360	-	360
Cleaning	371	-	371	616	-	616
Office Costs	25	-	25	361	-	361
Website Expenses	206	-	206	215	-	215
Insurance	227	-	227	598	-	598
Bank charges	140	-	140	145	-	145
Miscellaneous expenses	-	-	-	20	-	20
Total payments	62,045	-	62,045	49,568	1,108	50,676
Net movement in funds	17,760	-	17,760	16,149	(1,108)	15,041
Cash funds b/f at 1st September 2022	41,585	-	41,585	25,436	1,108	26,544
Cash funds c/f at 31 August 2023	59,345	-	59,345	41,585	-	41,585

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
<u>ASSETS</u>				
<u>Monetary Assets</u>				
Cash at Bank and in hand				
Lloyds Bank	40,256		11,021	
CAF Cash	1,898		13,754	
CAF Gold	16,279		16,119	
Paypal	5		294	
Petty Cash	907		399	
	<u> </u>	<u>59,345</u>	<u> </u>	<u>41,585</u>
Cash funds made up of				
Restricted funds		-		-
Unrestricted funds:				
Reserve (designated)	15,000		15,000	
General Funds	44,345		26,585	
	<u> </u>	<u>59,345</u>	<u> </u>	<u>41,585</u>
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
		<u>59,345</u>		<u>41,585</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>				
<u>Creditors</u>				
Accountancy Fee/Independent Examination		<u>1,080</u>		<u>960</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 12th February 2024



.....
Maria Kiniari
Trustee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared as a Receipts and Payments in accordance with section 133 of the Charities Act 2011.

Restricted funds

The funds of the charity include funds comprising the following restricted funds:

	Movements in funds						
	Balance at 1 Sept 2021	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Balance at 1 Sept 2022	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Balance at 31 August 2023
	£	£	£		£	£	£
Building funds	1,108	-	(1,108)	-	-	-	-
	<u>1,108</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,108)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Building funds

These represents funds given and used to restore and improve the church building.

Designated funds

Reserves - The church endeavours to maintain cash reserve of at least £15,000 for unforeseen emergencies and has set up a designated fund for this purpose.

Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the trustees of the Greek Orthodox Community of Hastings (the "charity") for the year ended 31 August 2023, which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the charity 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 CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



John Caladine FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
Caladine Limited
Chantry House
22 Upperton Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 1BF

Date: 12th February 2024

THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS

England & Wales - Charity number 285794

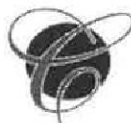
Accounts

Registered Charity Number: 285794

**THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS
(GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE)**

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022



Caladine

Chartered Certified Accountants

THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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Church address

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church
Church Road
St Leonards-on-Sea
East Sussex
TN37 6EE

Charity number

285794

Charity trustees

His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas Lulias
Mr Demetrios Demetriades
Mr Sotirios Joannou
Miss Maria Kiniari
Mrs Lina Kumar
Mr John Neofitou

Financial administrator

Mrs I Edwards
8 Baldslow Down
St Leonards on Sea
East Sussex
TN37 7NH

Independent examiner

J R Caladine FCCA CTA FCIE
Caladine Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Chantry House
22 Upperton Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 1BF

Trustees' Report

The trustees present their Annual Report and the Financial Statements of the church for the year ended 31 August 2022.

Structure, governance and management

The Greek Orthodox Community of Hastings (the "charity"), which is also known as the Greek Orthodox Church of St. Mary Magdalene, was registered with the Charity Commission on February 1983 and is governed by a Declaration of Trust as amended on 17 July 2018.

Trustees are appointed by the church Executive Committee. Newly appointed trustees are invited to induction meetings to familiarise themselves with the work of our Charity, they are introduced to the Church executive committee and we familiarise them with the Deed of Trust and the Constitution of the Greek Orthodox Communities. We offer guidance and provide them with a welcome pack including:

- Equal Opportunities Statement
- The Essential Trustee – what you need to know'.
- Our Safeguarding policy – we are registered with CCPAS to ensure full compliance with safeguarding including DBS checks where appropriate.
- Health & Safety and Fire Risks
- Good Governance – we strive to ensure we are fully in compliance in everything we do.

The Charity operates under the spiritual guidance of His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas and the Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain

Our reporting and administrative procedures are in place to ensure we give due consideration to and endeavour to minimise all risks, our trustee's together with the executive committee regularly meet to discuss and oversee the work of the various sub-committees.

Objectives and activities

The objects of the Charity are by such means as are charitable to promote the Orthodox Faith to all Orthodox Christians and the Greek Orthodox charitable institutions for the old and sick people the students and the poor of the Orthodox Faith and all denominations living in Hastings and environs and the advancement of the education of the public.

The Executive Committee in co-operation with our parish priest, Reverend Ierotheos Georghiou is fully committed to ensuring everyone is made welcome and invited to participate in worship, learning and social activities at our Church and are encouraged to become part of the lively parish community at St Mary Magdalene.

The principal charitable activities can be defined as follows:

- Prayer and Worship for the community at Holy Services.
- Catechesis, or Christian religious teaching of children and adults to develop knowledge and faith including introduction to the Holy Sacraments.
- Pastoral and Social Care and Advice for our parish community.
- Providing space and facilities for activities including education and social development of children and adults within the local and wider Hastings community.
- Greek Language School for Children and Adults.
- Sunday Crèche for younger children to learn, discover and grow in the orthodox faith.
- Provision of meeting and group activities space to the wider community and minority groups of many cultures and nationalities from a wide catchment area.
- Community Social Events to promote social inclusion and friendship within the wider community.

The executive committee together with our priest consults with our parishioners when planning for community services, activities and events.

We give due consideration to the Commissions guidelines in relation to public benefit and the specific guidance to charities for the advancement of religion.

Repairs, Restoration and Maintenance of the fabric of the Church and Community Hall continues to present a formidable challenge as we are situated in a raised open position adjacent to the seafront in St Leonards-on-Sea. The fabric of the buildings suffer from the constant effects of erosion due to the marine environment and exposure to the elements.

Trustees' Report

Objectives and activities (continued)

We are constantly having to prioritise our limited resources and funds to manage the many smaller individual servicing, repair and upkeep needs of the Historic and Community Buildings whilst also continuing to develop strategies of the restoration Master Plan.

The dedication of our volunteers and community members continues to be the solid foundation that ensures our Church and its facilities are open and available to all.

Achievements and performance

As well as the activities already outlined, particular achievements of note in 2021-22 were as follows:

- the Church invested money in a Card payments terminal which was introduced in the year. - this has significantly increased church shop sales.
- the Church house has been rented directly through the Church . This has supplied regular increased income .
- the Church committee is constantly looking for new possible income. From March 2022 the church room was rented to Hastings and Bexhill Mencap for six months.
- Church hall income has increased due to the hard work of the Hall manager. The Hall has had regular bookings for weekend events and it is partly booked during week.

Financial review

The financial results for this year clearly reflects the continuous joint efforts and dedication of our volunteers, the entire community and our administrators in their support of the Church.

Despite our continued efforts the overall financial resources available to the trustee's means we are continuously juggling to allocate adequate funds required to keep pace with ongoing maintenance and repair costs.

Development of the master plan is being progressed to help us to secure a sustainable future. It is hoped that future planning permission to build a new hall and allow development of further facilities will help us to generate additional funding to enable the Church to contribute substantially to fund the major repairs and restoration that are urgently required.

Principal sources of funds are as follows:

- Donations from the Collection Plate
- Standing Orders and other General Donations
- Gift Aid – continuing to promote greater community awareness
- Our Partnership with the Hastings Friendship Group to deliver resources for the `One Hastings Many Voices` projects.
- House rental income
- Community Hall – general community hire
- Funding Grants

The Church owns a freehold house which is currently let and provides much needed additional income.

We continue to receive regular payments from community groups hiring the hall.

Church shop has been updated and stock purchased for providing extra income stream for church.

Reserves

The church endeavours to maintain cash reserve of at least £15,000 for unforeseen emergencies and has set up a designated fund for this purpose.

Future plans

Further advancement of a sustainable community focused restoration and development 'Master Plan' that maximises existing Church resources, enables a major financial contribution towards the massive repair costs of restoration of the Historic Church is slowly progressing and we hope that the coming year will see this advance to Stage 1 that will enable a full planning application and a submission to the Heritage Lottery Fund for an initial grant assessment.

We has appointed Conservation Architect and professional team to manage the project and have set up a Steering Group to oversee the advancement and fulfilment of the master plan.

Our Church community will continue to maximise our combined efforts to ensure adequate income to maintain our buildings and provide space, resources and support to the local community groups during the coming 2022/23 financial year.

The outcome of the planning application process and future grant applications will determine the way forward for the preservation of the Historic Church for future generations and will we pray, guide us towards a more secure and viable future.

Independent examination

J R Caladine FCCA CTA FCIE was appointed during the year to undertake the Independent Examination.

The trustees report was approved by the board of trustees

Maria Kiniari

Maria Kiniari
Trustee

Date: 28.04.2023

Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the trustees of the Greek Orthodox Community of Hastings (the "charity") for the year ended 31 August 2022, which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the charity 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 CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



John Caladine FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
Caladine Limited
Chantry House
22 Upperton Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 1BF

Date: 29 April 2023

Receipts and Payments Account

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £
Receipts						
Donations - Plate Gift Aided	7,973	-	7,973	11,738	-	11,738
Donations - Plate Cash	9,779	-	9,779	-	-	-
Donations - General	17,263	-	17,263	12,865	9,550	22,415
Community Hall Hire - Various	14,031	-	14,031	2,429	-	2,429
House - Rent Received	8,812	-	8,812	8,792	-	8,792
Church Shop	3,945	-	3,945	3,665	-	3,665
Church Tea & Coffee Sales	21	-	21	-	-	-
School fees	167	-	167	740	-	740
Memorials & Feasts	1,227	-	1,227	520	-	520
Baptism & Christenings	1,405	-	1,405	3,435	-	3,435
Funeral	482	-	482	40	-	40
HMRC Gift Aid Received	486	-	486	8,243	-	8,243
Weddings	115	-	115	280	-	280
Other income	-	-	-	409	-	409
Interest Received	11	-	11	4	-	4
Total receipts	65,717	-	65,717	53,160	9,550	62,710
Payments						
Salaries	11,903	-	11,903	17,084	-	17,284
Church General Expenses	5,978	-	5,978	6,258	-	6,058
Church Insurance	5,600	-	5,600	5,298	-	5,298
Church General Repairs and maintenance	9,235	1,108	10,343	5,634	30,573	36,207
Church Shop - Stock	3,843	-	3,843	1,397	-	1,397
Church Administration	2,200	-	2,200	3,274	-	3,274
Church & Hall Utilities	5,465	-	5,465	4,029	-	4,029
Hall Repairs	400	-	400	50	-	50
House General Expenses	20	-	20	-	-	-
House Repairs	410	-	410	472	-	472
Garden & Grounds	757	-	757	706	-	706
Charitable Family Donations	55	-	55	-	-	-
Accountancy	1,407	-	1,407	1,266	-	1,266
Visiting Priest	-	-	-	1,075	-	1,075
School Expenses	360	-	360	320	-	320
Cleaning	616	-	616	-	-	-
Office Costs	361	-	361	-	-	-
Website Expenses	215	-	215	173	-	173
Legal & Professional fees	-	-	-	16,569	-	16,569
Insurance	598	-	598	-	-	-
Bank charges	145	-	145	-	-	-
Miscellaneous expenses	-	-	-	217	-	217
Total payments	49,568	1,108	50,676	63,822	30,573	94,395
Net movement in funds	16,149	(1,108)	15,041	(10,662)	(21,023)	(31,685)
Cash funds b/f at 1st September 2021	25,436	1,108	26,544	36,098	22,131	58,229
Cash funds c/f at 31 August 2022	41,585	-	41,585	25,436	1,108	26,544

The notes on page 8 form part of these Financial Statements.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
<u>ASSETS</u>				
<u>Monetary Assets</u>				
Cash at Bank and in hand				
Lloyds Bank	11,021		982	
CAF Cash	13,754		8,936	
CAF Gold	16,119		16,108	
Paypal	294		117	
Petty Cash	399		401	
		<u>41,585</u>		<u>26,544</u>
Cash funds made up of				
Restricted funds		-		1,108
Unrestricted funds:				
Reserve (designated)	15,000		15,000	
General Funds	26,585		10,436	
		<u>41,585</u>		<u>25,436</u>
		<u>41,585</u>		<u>26,544</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>				
<u>Creditors</u>				
Accountancy Fee/Independent Examination		<u>960</u>		<u>960</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 28 April 2022

Maria Kiniari

Maria Kiniari
Trustee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared as a Receipts and Payments in accordance with section 133 of the Charities Act 2011.

Restricted funds

The funds of the charity include funds comprising the following restricted funds:

	Movements in funds						Balance at 31 August 2022 £
	Balance at 1 Sept 2020 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Balance at 1 Sept 2021 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	
	Building funds	22,131	9,550	(30,573)	1,108	-	
	<u>22,131</u>	<u>9,550</u>	<u>(30,573)</u>	<u>1,108</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,108)</u>	<u>-</u>

Building funds

These represents funds given and used to restore and improve the church building.

Designated funds

Reserves - The church endeavours to maintain cash reserve of at least £15,000 for unforeseen emergencies and has set up a designated fund for this purpose.

THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS

England & Wales - Charity number 285794

Accounts

Trustees' Annual Report for the period



From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day 01	Month September	Year 2020		Day 31	Month August	Year 2021

THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS

The Greek Orthodox Church of St Mary Magdalene

Charity No 285794

Church Road

St Leonards-on-Sea

East Sussex

Postcode TN37 6EE

Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas	Patron	12/06/2019 to 31/08/2021	Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain
Mr Demetrios Demetriades	Trustee		Executive Committee
Mr John Neofitou	Vice Chair		
Miss Maria Kiniari	Vice Chair & Minute Secretary		Executive Committee
Mr Sotirios Joannou	Trustee		Executive Committee

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Accountants and Charity Advisors	Mr John Calladine	Chantry House, 22 Upperton Road, Eastbourne, BN21 1BF
Financial Administrator	Mrs I Edwards	8 Baldslow Down, St Leonards on Sea, East Sussex TN37 7NH

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B

Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts	
Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Declaration of Trust 1982 and as amended on 17 Jul 2018
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Trust
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by Executive Committee

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees; • the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works; • relationship with any related parties; • trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them. 	<p>Newly appointed trustees are invited to induction meetings to familiarise themselves with the work of our Charity, they are introduced to the Church executive committee and we familiarise them with the Deed of Trust and the Constitution of the Greek Orthodox Communities. We offer guidance and provide them with a welcome pack including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equal Opportunities Statement • The Essential Trustee - what you need to know' • Our Safeguarding policy - we are registered with CCPAS to ensure full compliance with safeguarding including DBS checks where appropriate. • Health & Safety and Fire Risks • Good Governance - we strive to ensure we are fully in compliance in everything we do. • The Charity operates under the spiritual guidance of His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas and the Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain <p>Our reporting and administrative procedures are in place to ensure we give due consideration to and endeavour to minimise all risks, our trustee's together with the executive committee regularly meet to discuss and oversee the work of the various sub-committees.</p>
--	--

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document	<p>The objects of the Charity are by such means as are charitable to promote the Orthodox Faith to all Orthodox Christians and the Greek Orthodox charitable institutions for the old and sick people the students and the poor of the Orthodox Faith and all denominations living in Hastings and environs and the advancement of the education of the public.</p> <p>The Executive Committee in co-operation with our parish priest, Reverend Ierotheos Georghiou is fully committed to ensuring everyone is made welcome and invited to participate in worship, learning and social activities at our Church and are encouraged to become part of the lively parish community at St Mary</p>
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Magdalene.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The principal charitable activities can be defined as follows:

- Prayer and Worship for the community at Holy Services.
- Catechesis, or Christian religious teaching of children and adults to develop knowledge and faith including introduction to the Holy Sacraments.
- Pastoral and Social Care and Advice for our parish community.
- Providing space and facilities for activities including education and social development of children and adults within the local and wider Hastings community.
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- Community Social Events to promote social inclusion and friendship within the wider community.

The executive committee together with our priest consults with our parishioners when planning for community services, activities and events.

We give due consideration to the Commissions guidelines in relation to public benefit and the specific guidance to charities for the advancement of religion.

Repairs, Restoration and Maintenance of the fabric of the Church and Community Hall continues to present a formidable challenge as we are situated in a raised open position adjacent to the seafront in St Leonards-on-Sea. The fabric of the buildings suffer from the constant effects of erosion due to the marine environment and exposure to the elements.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grant making;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

We are constantly having to prioritise our limited resources and funds to manage the many smaller individual servicing, repair and upkeep needs of the Historic and Community Buildings whilst also continuing to develop strategies of the restoration Master Plan.

We have encountered a number of unforeseeable frustrations and delays in progressing the master plan to secure the funding urgently needed to complete the restoration works to the Church, we are however pleased to report that we are now in appointment of a Conservation Registered Architect and associated professional team to take us forward with the master plan stage 1 process.

The dedication of our volunteers and community members continues to be the solid foundation that ensures our Church and its facilities are open and available to all.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

We summarise our main achievements in the past year as follows:

- We continue to reach out and offer support to all within the wider community and particularly Orthodox Christians who have arrived in the local area in recent years. The Pandemic has seen the congregation fall and events cease.
- Our parish community and congregation continues to enjoy multicultural worship, prayer, friendship and social integration with Orthodox Christians from Romania, Russia, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Georgia, Ukraine Greece, Cyprus, and indeed, many other nationalities within our wider local community.
- To help promote community cohesion and greater participation we continue the saying of important parts of our liturgy services in 4 different languages to help integration into the Church community.
- Future restoration plans include the provision of two new classrooms/meeting rooms, crèche and disabled facilities at the rear of our Church to facilitate expansion of the valued community needs and further expansion of the language schools.
- The Community Hall continued to be a regular meeting place for different communities and local creative groups.
- We have completed the following urgent maintenance:
 - Emergency installation of scaffold to facilitate
 - Church has hired specialized historic architect to do drawing for Master plan project and supervise repairs of roof.
 - South wind of church roof has to been damaged. Emergency installation of scaffold to facilitate repairs.
 - This work was carried and roof was repaired. Also acrylic sheets has been installed to protect windows from damage.
 - Drainage of the Church cellar that flooded due to pump failure, servicing and cleaning of the pumps and re-siting of the warning system.
 - Carried out essential minor repairs and refurbishments to the Community Hall, to help maintain hire income.
 - Repair of stain glass window was carried.
 - Electrical works has been carried to bring it to church to standards.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Our policy is to continue where feasible, to maintain a restricted reserve of £15,000 for unforeseen emergencies.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None at present

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The financial results for this year clearly reflects the continuous joint efforts and dedication of our volunteers, the entire community and our administrators in their support of the Church to ensure the income streams were restored due Covid .

Contributions were affected during Pandemic .

Community Hall incomes has been Advertising of the Greek Lessons for

Maintaining all these income streams is crucial to allow the Church to continue to manage our buildings and provide much needed affordable space, services and facilities to the wider local community.

Despite our continued efforts the overall financial resources available to the trustee's means we are continuously juggling to allocate adequate funds required to keep pace with ongoing maintenance and repair costs.

Development of the master plan is being progressed to help us to secure a sustainable future. It is hoped that future planning permission to build a new hall and allow development of further facilities will help us to generate additional funding to enable the Church to contribute substantially to fund the major repairs and restoration that are urgently required.

Principal sources of funds are as follows:

- Donations from the Collection Plate
- Standing Orders and other General Donations
- Gift Aid - continuing to promote greater community awareness
- Our Partnership with the Hastings Friendship Group to deliver resources for the `One Hastings Many Voices` projects.
- House rental income
- Community Hall - general community hire
- Funding Grants

The Church owns a freehold house which is currently let and provides much needed additional income.

Increasing further income from hire of the Community Hall is badly hampered by the lack of disabled access, this work must be prioritised and completed at the earliest opportunity, due to urgent repairs works it has been necessary to postpone this work temporarily this financial year. We plan to make further grant funding applications to help us to complete this as soon as possible.

In the meantime, we continue to receive regular payments for hire funds from community group activities in the hall.

Church shop has been updated and stock purchased for providing extra income stream for church.

Section F

Other optional information

Further advancement of a sustainable community focused restoration and development `Master Plan` that maximises existing Church resources, enables a major financial contribution towards the massive repair costs of restoration of the Historic Church is slowly progressing and we hope that the coming year will see this advance to Stage 1 that will enable a full planning application and a submission to the Heritage Lottery Fund for an initial grant assessment.

We has appointed Conservation Architect and professional team to manage the project and have set up a Steering Group to oversee the advancement and fulfilment of the master plan.

Our Church community will continue to maximise our combined efforts to ensure adequate income to maintain our buildings and provide space, resources and support to the local community groups during the coming 2021/2022 financial year.

The outcome of the planning application process and future grant applications will determine the way forward for the preservation of the Historic Church for future generations and will we pray, guide us towards a more secure and viable future.

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Maria Kiniari	Maria Kiniari
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair of Trustees	Administrator
Date	30.04.2022	

Registered Charity Number: 285794

**THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS
(GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE)**

ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021



Caladine

Chartered Certified Accountants

THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF HASTINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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Charity number 285794

Charity trustees His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas Lulias
Mr Demetrios Demetriades
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Independent examiner J R Caladine FCCA CTA FCIE
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Trustees' Report

Objectives and activities (continued)

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- We continue to reach out and offer support to all within the wider community and particularly Orthodox Christians who have arrived in the local area in recent years. The Pandemic has seen the congregation fall and events cease.
- Our parish community and congregation continues to enjoy multicultural worship, prayer, friendship and social integration with Orthodox Christians from Romania, Russia, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Georgia, Ukraine Greece, Cyprus, and indeed, many other nationalities within our wider local community.
- To help promote community cohesion and greater participation we continue the saying of important parts of our liturgy services in 4 different languages to help integration into the Church community.
- Future restoration plans include the provision of two new classrooms/meeting rooms, crèche and disabled facilities at the rear of our Church to facilitate expansion of the valued community needs and further expansion of the language schools.
- The Community Hall continued to be a regular meeting place for different communities and local creative groups.
- We have completed the following urgent maintenance:
 - Emergency installation of scaffold to facilitate
 - Church has hired specialized historic architect to do drawing for Master plan project and supervise repairs of roof.
 - South wind of church roof has to been damaged. Emergency installation of scaffold to facilitate repairs.
 - This work was carried and roof was repaired. Also acrylic sheets has been installed to protect windows from damage.
 - Drainage of the Church cellar that flooded due to pump failure, servicing and cleaning of the pumps and re-siting of the warning system.
 - Carried out essential minor repairs and refurbishments to the Community Hall, to help maintain hire income.
 - Repair of stain glass window was carried.
 - Electrical works has been carried to bring it to church to standards.

Financial review

The financial results for this year clearly reflects the continuous joint efforts and dedication of our volunteers, the entire community and our administrators in their support of the Church to ensure the income streams were restored due Covid .

Contributions were affected during Pandemic. Maintaining all these income streams is crucial to allow the Church to continue to manage our buildings and provide much needed affordable space, services and facilities to the wider local community.

Despite our continued efforts the overall financial resources available to the trustee's means we are continuously juggling to allocate adequate funds required to keep pace with ongoing maintenance and repair costs.

Development of the master plan is being progressed to help us to secure a sustainable future. It is hoped that future planning permission to build a new hall and allow development of further facilities will help us to generate additional funding to enable the Church to contribute substantially to fund the major repairs and restoration that are urgently required.

Financial review (continued)

Principal sources of funds are as follows:

- Donations from the Collection Plate
- Standing Orders and other General Donations
- Gift Aid – continuing to promote greater community awareness
- Our Partnership with the Hastings Friendship Group to deliver resources for the 'One Hastings Many Voices' projects.
- House rental income
- Community Hall – general community hire
- Funding Grants

The Church owns a freehold house which is currently let and provides much needed additional income.

Increasing further income from hire of the Community Hall is badly hampered by the lack of disabled access, this work must be prioritised and completed at the earliest opportunity, due to urgent repairs works it has been necessary to postpone this work temporarily this financial year. We plan to make further grant funding applications to help us to complete this as soon as possible.

In the meantime, we continue to receive regular payments for hire funds from community group activities in the hall.

Reserves

The church endeavours to maintain cash reserve of at least £15,000 for unforeseen emergencies and has set up a designated fund for this purpose.

Future plans

Further advancement of a sustainable community focused restoration and development 'Master Plan' that maximises existing Church resources, enables a major financial contribution towards the massive repair costs of restoration of the Historic Church is slowly progressing and we hope that the coming year will see this advance to Stage 1 that will enable a full planning application and a submission to the Heritage Lottery Fund for an initial grant assessment.

We have appointed Conservation Architect and professional team to manage the project and have set up a Steering Group to oversee the advancement and fulfilment of the master plan.

Our Church community will continue to maximise our combined efforts to ensure adequate income to maintain our buildings and provide space, resources and support to the local community groups during the coming 2021/2022 financial year.

The outcome of the planning application process and future grant applications will determine the way forward for the preservation of the Historic Church for future generations and will we pray, guide us towards a more secure and viable future.

Independent examination

J R Caladine FCCA CTA FCIE was appointed during the year to undertake the Independent Examination.

The trustees report was approved by the board of trustees



.....
Maria Kiniari
Trustee

Date: 1/6/2022

Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the trustees of the Greek Orthodox Community of Hastings (the "charity") for the year ended 31 August 2021, which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the charity 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 CIO's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.



John Caladine FCCA
Chartered Certified Accountant
Caladine Limited
Chantry House
22 Upperton Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 1BF

Date: 1 June 2022

Receipts and Payments Account

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020 £
Receipts						
Donations - Plate	11,738	-	11,738	9,411	-	9,411
Donations - General	12,865	9,550	22,415	12,026	1,300	13,326
Hall Hire	2,429	-	2,429	7,837	-	7,837
House - Rent received	8,792	-	8,792	7,905	-	7,905
Church shop	3,665	-	3,665	449	-	449
Common Room hire	-	-	-	210	-	210
Church tea & coffee sales	-	-	-	333	-	333
Gift Aided giving and refund	8,243	-	8,243	5,455	-	5,455
Interest received	4	-	4	51	-	51
School Fees	740	-	740	524	-	524
Grants	-	-	-	15,000	-	15,000
Memorial & Feasts	520	-	520	267	-	267
Baptisms & Feasts	3,435	-	3,435	1,490	-	1,490
Funeral	40	-	40	235	-	235
Events & Fundraising	-	-	-	90	-	90
Weddings	280	-	280	100	-	100
Other income	409	-	409	3,638	-	3,638
Total receipts	53,160	9,550	62,710	65,021	1,300	66,321
Payments						
Salaries / Expenses	17,284	-	17,284	12,661	-	12,661
Church general expenses	6,058	-	6,058	3,755	-	3,755
Church buildings insurance	5,298	-	5,298	5,189	-	5,189
Church repairs	5,634	30,573	36,207	3,612	1,240	4,852
Church shop - stock	1,397	-	1,397	200	-	200
Church administration	3,274	-	3,274	7,956	-	7,956
Church & Hall utilities	4,029	-	4,029	5,914	-	5,914
Legal & Professional fees	16,569	-	16,569	7,522	-	7,522
Hall repairs	50	-	50	165	-	165
House repairs	472	-	472	1,632	-	1,632
Garden & grounds	706	-	706	1,311	-	1,311
Miscellaneous	217	-	217	797	-	797
Accountancy	1,266	-	1,266	1,164	-	1,164
Teacher expenses	-	-	-	380	-	380
School expenses	320	-	320	172	-	172
Cleaning	-	-	-	74	-	74
Visiting priest	1,075	-	1,075	800	-	800
Website expenses	173	-	173	211	-	211
Total payments	63,822	30,573	94,395	53,515	1,240	54,755
Net movement in funds	(10,662)	(21,023)	(31,685)	11,506	60	11,566
Cash funds b/f at 1st September 2020	36,098	22,131	58,229	24,592	22,071	46,663
Cash funds c/f at 31 August 2021	25,436	1,108	26,544	36,098	22,131	58,229

The notes on page 8 form part of these Financial Statements.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
<u>ASSETS</u>				
<u>Monetary Assets</u>				
Cash at Bank and in hand				
Lloyds Bank	982		164	
CAF Cash	8,936		11,049	
CAF Gold	16,108		46,604	
Paypal	117		24	
Petty Cash	401		388	
		<u>26,544</u>	<u>58,229</u>	
Cash funds made up of				
Restricted funds		1,108		22,131
Unrestricted funds:				
Reserve (designated)	15,000		15,000	
General Funds	<u>10,436</u>		<u>21,098</u>	
		25,436		36,098
		<u>26,544</u>	<u>58,229</u>	
<u>LIABILITIES</u>				
<u>Creditors</u>				
Accountancy Fee/Independent Examination		<u>960</u>		<u>-</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 01.06.2022

M.K.

Maria Kiniari
Trustee

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared as a Receipts and Payments in accordance with section 133 of the Charities Act 2011.

Restricted funds

The funds of the charity include funds comprising the following restricted funds:

	Movements in funds						
	Balance at 1 Sept 2019	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Balance at 1 Sept 2020	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Balance at 31 August 2021
	£	£	£		£	£	£
Building funds	22,071	1,300	(1,240)	22,131	9,550	(30,573)	1,108
	<u>22,071</u>	<u>1,300</u>	<u>(1,240)</u>	<u>22,131</u>	<u>9,550</u>	<u>(30,573)</u>	<u>1,108</u>

Building funds

These represents funds given and used to restore and improve the church building.

Designated funds

Reserves - The church endeavours to maintain cash reserve of at least £15,000 for unforeseen emergencies and has set up a designated fund for this purpose.

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Date: 1 June 2022