

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

**Annual Report
Year Ended 31 May 2022**

Charity No. 297880

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Annual Report

Year Ended 31 May 2022

Contents	Page
Trustees and advisors	1
Trustees' Report	2
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees	8
Statement of Financial Activities	9
Balance Sheet	10
Notes and Accounting Policies	11

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Trustees and Advisors

Year Ended 31 May 2022

Registered Charity Number

297880

Trustees and Principal Officers

The Trustees are incorporated, by a Charity Commission Certificate dated 8 March 1994, under the title "The English Benedictine Congregation Trustees Registered."

Trustees:

The Right Reverend P C Jamison OSB
The Very Reverend G F Straw OSB
The Right Reverend W G Scott OSB
The Right Reverend J A Wiseman OSB
The Right Reverend R M P Stonham OSB
The Right Reverend Anna Brennan OSB

Principal Officers:

Chairman and President
Secretary & Treasurer

Registered Office

Buckfast Abbey
Buckfastleigh
Devon
TQ11 0EE

Professional Advisers

Bankers:

National Westminster Bank plc
59 High Street
Exeter
Devon EX4 3DP

Investment Managers:

Ruffer LLP
80 Victoria Street
London
SW1E 5JL

UBS
5 Broadgate
London
EC2M 2AN

Independent Examiner:

S K Austen FCCA
Francis Clark LLP
Chartered Accountants
Sigma House
Oak View Close
Edginswell Park
Torquay
TQ2 7FF

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Trustees' Report

The Trustees present their report along with the consolidated financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 May 2022.

Reference and Administrative Information

The trustees, principal address and particulars of the Charity's professional advisors are given on page 1.

Structure, Governance and Management

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust is a charity established and governed by a Trust Deed dated 7 October 1987. It is registered with the Charity Commission under the reference number 297880 and the name: English Benedictine Congregation Trust.

The President of the Charity is the Abbot President of the English Benedictine Congregation. He is elected by the General Chapter of the English Benedictine Congregation to serve for a four-year term. The Trustees are appointed by the President with the Executive function being performed by the Congregational Bursar who is the Secretary and Treasurer to the Trust. The Congregational Bursar is elected by the General Chapter to serve for a four-year term.

Objectives and Activities

The principal object of the Charity is to advance the Roman Catholic religion, in any part of the world. The Trustees have agreed that in order to advance the objects of the Charity they will support and encourage the monastic communities which constitute the English Benedictine Congregation. In addition to the principal objectives stated above, the Charity is engaged in the administration of property connected with the English Benedictine Congregation as a whole, education, training and support of members of the Congregation, and the support of other organisations engaged in similar work, especially other Benedictine monasteries which are linked with the English Benedictine Congregation in the world-wide Benedictine Confederation.

The Trustees have had due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. For further information on the activities undertaken to further public benefit see below.

Achievements and Performance of the Charity

Throughout the year, the Charity has continued to fulfil its primary aim of working for the English Benedictine Congregation. The most important form that this work takes is the provision of the material support through which the Abbot President of the Congregation may carry out his duty of helping the monasteries of the Congregation. He does this in several ways. In the first place, he presides over the elections of Abbots and Abbesses; in the second place, he conducts Visitations of the monasteries which form the Congregation. Each monastery is visited at least once every four years. By means of these Visitations, the Abbot President seeks to ensure that the Rule of St Benedict, the Constitutions of the Congregation and the law of the Church are being observed, but he does not seek to interfere in the life, prayer and work of the communities. Thus, the freedom of each monastery to make its own decisions about its life and work, are preserved: The Congregation exists in order to promote the good of all the monasteries, not to exercise control over them.

In order to ensure that the formal Visitations of the monasteries are as fruitful as possible, as well as to give support to the Abbots and Abbesses, the Abbot President makes informal visits to the monasteries on a more frequent basis. These informal visits also have the advantage of enabling him to ascertain if there are likely to be any difficulties at the Visitation or at the election of the Abbots and Abbesses.

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Trustees' Report

The Constitutions of the Congregation state:

"The purpose of the Visitation is the preservation, strengthening and renewal of the Religious Life, including the laws of the Church and our Constitutions."

This activity has the effect of helping the monasteries to be more effective examples of the Christian life, which includes promoting justice, peace and social harmony. As the former Chair of the Charity Commission has written, this is part of the public benefit of the advancement of religion since it "helps to provide a moral and ethical framework for people to live by" and so "can play an important part in building a better society." Visitations also help the monasteries to be more effective promoters and exponents of the specific works which offer tangible public benefit, including provision of facilities for public worship, the pastoral leadership of many parishes, relief of poverty, the running of courses on spirituality and on the proper place of work in a life well-lived, leading retreats, providing spiritual guidance and a means of incorporating the values of the Rule of St. Benedict into the lives of lay persons we call oblates, conducting schools, sponsoring a centre which promotes psychological health and wellbeing, welcoming guests of all faiths as well as those without religious faith for a period of respite from the busy-ness of their life, welcoming school groups to supplement their education through contact with the monastery, providing for the needs of pilgrims and travellers.

Three Abbots are elected by the General Chapter to act as advisers to the Abbot President and become Trustees. The trust provides travel expenses to enable the members to attend the meetings of this group, which is called the Abbot President's Council. One of these Abbots also fulfils the function of the Abbot President in respect of the monastery of which the Abbot President himself is a member. The Abbot President has invited the Abbess of Stanbrook to join this group of advisers. She was appointed a trustee on 17th May, 2021.

In preparing for a Visitation, the Abbot President receives reports on the finances of the monastery concerned, on their training programme for monks and nuns and on their procedures for safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. He may also seek the advice of Officials of the Congregation. Usually, the Abbot President is assisted in carrying out the Visitation by an Assistant Visitor. The costs of these preparations and assistance are also provided by the Charity. Another official of the Congregation gives advice to the monasteries on the organisation of theological studies, one who is resident in Rome handles the Congregation's business at the offices of the Roman curia and another advises the Abbot President in matters of Canon Law.

The Secretary of the Congregation, assists in the administration of the Congregation and supports the work of the Abbot President. The costs of the Secretary and the Secretariat are met by the Trust.

Since 2013, the Constitutions have given the Abbot President an ongoing role in ensuring that the monasteries of the English Benedictine Congregation achieve best practice in the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults: "The Abbot President may, after consulting his Council, at any time enquire into the compliance of the monastery with approved policies with regard to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, as this is required by the competent ecclesiastical and civil authorities. He shall always do so during the course of an ordinary Visitation." (Declaration 46). To this end, the Abbot President required all the monasteries to work towards accreditation by Praesidium, an independent organisation which helps organisations to reduce their risk of sexual abuse. All EBC monasteries have achieved accreditation against Praesidium's 25 standards. The Trust is funding this work for the monasteries of the Congregation.

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Trustees' Report

Other official duties of the Abbot President, which the Charity has supported during the year, include representing the Congregation at the annual Synod of Presidents, a meeting of Abbots President of all the Benedictine Congregations throughout the world. The Abbot President serves on the Board of Sant' Anselmo, the international college in Rome where monks and nuns are able to pursue theological studies. Some of the monasteries of the Congregation have established foundations, or new monasteries in poor countries, which require financial assistance from those monasteries. The Trust has sought to give encouragement to these foundations through informal visits made by the Abbot President from time to time. The Congregation has established a link with a lay Benedictine Movement in Chile which has been mutually beneficial, especially in promoting the ethos of the schools established by the monasteries. The Trustees have been pleased to contribute to the expenses incurred by the Abbot President in fulfilling these responsibilities and have continued to support the former Abbot President in his work of assisting a Congregation of Benedictine Sisters in Tanzania. These are ways in which the Trust promotes the Benedictine way of life on an international level.

The Charity promotes cooperation and exchange of ideas among the monasteries of the Congregation. The General Chapter of 2017 established a Continuing Formation Commission, charged with supporting and resourcing ongoing human, intellectual and spiritual formation in the monasteries and organizing conferences to take this work forward. During Covid lockdown, the Commission organised webinars at which internationally renowned monks, nuns and others gave talks on topics of mutual interest and answered questions. All the monasteries of the Congregation took part in these Zoom meetings. The work of this Commission has been supported by the Trust.

While most of the costs of the General Chapter in 2017 were shared out among the monasteries of the Congregation, the Trust also contributed some financial support. The next General Chapter was due in July 2021, but the restrictions on travel at that time necessitated postponement until July 2022. The extra year was put to good use as a period for all the members of the monasteries of the Congregation to discern what issues should be included in the agenda. This process was supported by the members of the Continuing Formation Commission which for this purpose became the General Chapter Preparation Group (GPG). The expenses of the GPG, and of the Agenda Committee whose work preceded and informed it, were provided by the trust.

These are ways in which the Trust promotes dialogue among the monasteries and good practice in the Congregation. Although meetings of the Superiors of all the monasteries of the Congregation with the Abbot President have not taken place in person this year, such encounters have continued via Zoom. The trust paid for professional facilitators to support some of these meetings.

The production of the Ordo, a booklet laying out the liturgical celebrations of the year and the Benedictine Yearbook, a publicly available catalogue of the monasteries which follow the Rule of St. Benedict in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland, are conducted under the auspices of the Trust. The dedicated Editors receive some support from officials of the Congregation. The Congregation also runs a website which gives details of the monasteries of the Congregation and enables general enquiries via email to be responded to.

During the year, the trust has made grants to other charities for projects which are in accord with its aims:

- Together for the Common Good describes its mission like this: "We call people to fulfil their vocational responsibility and foster social solidarity by putting Common Good principles into practice and by working with others of different opinions and backgrounds in shared purpose."
<https://togetherforthecommongood.co.uk/>

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Trustees' Report

- Million Minutes' Proximity Project "is a process of learning, development and support in the art of accompaniment" <https://millionminutes.org/>

These particular activities of the Trust are beneficial to persons or groups of people who are not members of the Trust and may thus be considered to be a section of the public. Application to join a Benedictine Community is open to all; suitability is assessed on the basis of whether the candidate shares the beliefs of the Catholic Church and values of the Community and has an aptitude for the way of life which the Community has agreed among themselves to live. Thus, the section of the public who may benefit from the particular activities of the Trust is not exclusive. It is for this reason, and because a number of the activities are available to a wider constituency, that we identify from among the foregoing activities of the Trust those which we consider to be of public benefit:

- Supporting the Abbot President in his enhanced role in ensuring that the monasteries of the Congregation comply with approved policies with regard to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.
- Participation of the Abbot President in the Synod of Presidents, and in the Board of Sant'Anselmo, both of which exist to promote the wellbeing of all members of the Benedictine Confederation.
- Material support for the assistance given by the former Abbot President to Benedictine sisters in Tanzania.
- Facilitating the human, intellectual and spiritual growth of the monks and nuns through the work of the Continuing Formation Commission.
- Producing a Yearbook to inform the general public about the monasteries of this region.
- Website provision, including a means of responding to general enquiries.

In addition, the Trust pays the subscriptions for all the monasteries of the Congregation to the Conference of Religious and for the membership of the Abbot President of the Unione dei Superiori Generali.

Safeguarding

The IICSA report into Ealing Abbey and St Benedict's School (pubd. October 2019) included a summary of the improvements in safeguarding currently underway in the EBC. The Trustees noted that there were no specific recommendations for the EBC.

The Trustees welcomed the Roman Catholic Church Investigation Report of the Independent Inquiry (IICSA) into the sexual abuse of children in England and Wales, published in November 2020 with recommendations for the whole Church.

The trust has cooperated fully with the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry and their report into Fort Augustus Abbey was published in August 2021.

The Trust, like the monasteries it serves, is committed to good safeguarding. Good safeguarding is essential if we are to fulfil our mission of spreading the Gospel. We share and support the goal of IICSA to ensure that children are given the care and protection they need. A full statement is available on our website.

The trustees have been pleased to contribute to the cost of a research project by the University of Durham entitled "Boundary Breaking: The Ecclesial-cultural Implications of the Sex Abuse Crisis within the Catholic Church of England and Wales"

COVID

Since the trust does not rely on donations from the public for its income, it has not been adversely affected financially by the pandemic.

Going Concern

The trustees have considered the likely income and expenditure of the trust for the twelve months from the date of this report and conclude that the trust is a going concern.

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Trustees' Report

Financial Review

The accounts disclose net expenditure of £202,953 compared with net income of £150,695 in the previous year. Included in the net income are realised and unrealised gains and losses on the investment portfolio that amounted to a net gain of £42,392 (2021: gain of £310,734). Legal and professional costs of £189,148 (2021: £196,492) include the costs of the IICSA inquiry, the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry and the Fort Augustus claims referred to in Note 16.

The Charity's primary source of regular funding is investment income, income from mineral rights and contributions received from the Congregation's thirteen monasteries. Throughout the year this income has been applied to support the key objectives of the Charity, as detailed in note 5.

As the Charity is not a fundraising charity, it is necessary for it to hold a portfolio of investments in order to generate the revenue to cover the charitable activities. The investment portfolio is valued at 31 May 2022 and the income generated from this portfolio is currently adequate for the needs of the Charity.

The investment powers of the Charity are not restricted by the Trustee Act 2000.

The investment policy is to maximise the total investment return, within a controlled risk framework and to seek to achieve a total return which is in accordance with an agreed benchmark. The investment managers, Ruffers LLP, and UBS (in their role as advisers) were set the task of achieving this benchmark.

The Trust's investment policy states that the investment aims are to provide a real total return over an extended period of time and to maintain and, if possible, enhance the real value of the underlying investments within the confines of the socially responsible and ethical guidelines.

At 31 May 2022 reserves amounted to £1,444,238 of which £715,967 were unrestricted.

Reserve funds are held to ensure the Charity is able to continue its charitable work. The trustees consider that the level of Reserves held are adequate to enable the Charity to continue into the future, without being excessive to the Charity's needs. Details of fund designations are given in the notes to the accounts.

Funds Held as Custodian Trustee on Behalf of Others

The Trust acts as Custodian Trustee for a collection of books and papers relating to Scottish Ecclesiastical history. Ownership of the collection has remained uncertain and the collection is currently housed in the National Library of Scotland, see note 14 for further details.

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust is connected by its trustees and by its Constitution with other charities and not-for-profit corporations, registered in both England and Wales and elsewhere, which are connected with the Abbeys which form the English Benedictine Congregation. These bodies include:

1. Ampleforth Abbey, York, YO62 4EN
2. Belmont Abbey, Hereford, HR2 9RZ
3. Buckfast Abbey, Buckfastleigh, Devon, TQ11 0EE
4. Colwich Abbey, Stafford, ST18 0UF
5. Curzon Park Abbey, Chester, CH4 8AB
6. Douai Abbey, Upper Woolhampton, Reading, Berks, RG7 5TQ
7. Downside Abbey General Trust, Stratton-on-the-Fosse, Bath, BA3 4RH
8. Ealing Abbey, London, W5 2DY
9. Portsmouth Abbey, Portsmouth, Rhode Island, USA.
10. St. Louis Abbey, Missouri, USA.
11. Stanbrook Abbey, Wass, YO61 4AY
12. Washington Abbey, Washington DC, USA.
13. Worth Abbey, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 4SB

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Trustees' Report

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements The Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, The Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust Deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks. Since the year end a new Risk Management Policy has been adopted and the Risk Register has been brought up to date.

Compliance with the Charity's Governing Document and Current Statutory Requirements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the governing document of the Charity, current statutory requirements and with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS 102).

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



The Reverend F Straw OSB
Secretary to the Trust

Date: 15/12/22

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The English Benedictine Congregation Trust for the year ended 31 May 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the 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").

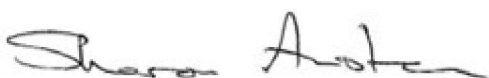
I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Report) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



S K Austen FCCA
Chartered Accountant
Sigma house
Oak View Close
Edginswell Park
Torquay
Devon
TQ2 7FF

Date: 4 January 2023

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Statement of Financial Activities

Year Ended 31 May 2022

	Notes	Restricted Fund £	Funds General £	Total 2022 £	Restricted Fund £	Funds General £	Total 2021 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies		-	101,693	101,693	-	143,237	143,237
Charitable activities		-	8,715	8,715	-	17,375	17,375
Investments	3	16,165	10,764	26,929	17,113	8,484	25,597
Other		-	595	595	-	583	583
Total income		16,165	121,767	137,932	17,113	169,679	186,792
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds							
Investment managers fees		6,589	10,596	17,185	5,717	9,704	15,421
Charitable activities	5	179,129	186,603	365,732	141,017	190,393	331,410
Total expenditure		185,718	197,199	382,917	146,734	200,097	346,831
Net gains/(losses) on investments		24,357	18,035	42,392	150,859	159,875	310,734
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-	-	-
Net (expenditure)/ income and net movement in funds		(145,196)	(57,397)	(202,593)	21,238	129,457	150,695
Reconciliation of funds:							
Total funds brought forward		873,467	773,364	1,646,831	852,229	643,907	1,496,136
Total funds carried forward		728,271	715,967	1,444,238	873,467	773,364	1,646,831

There were no other gains or losses for the year.

All income and expenditure derived from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 11 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Balance Sheet

31 May 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	7	725	1,452
Investments	8	1,850,648	1,867,757
		<u>1,851,373</u>	<u>1,869,209</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	9	10,200	20,316
Cash at bank and in hand		172,680	237,066
		<u>182,880</u>	<u>257,382</u>
Creditors - Amounts falling due within one year			
Other creditors	10	51,749	91,022
Amount due to subsidiary company	10	2,000	2,000
		<u>53,749</u>	<u>93,022</u>
Net current assets/(liabilities)		<u>129,131</u>	<u>164,360</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,980,504</u>	<u>2,033,569</u>
Creditors - Amounts falling due after more than one year			
Other creditors	10	33,333	-
Provisions for liabilities	16	<u>502,933</u>	<u>386,738</u>
Total net assets		<u>1,444,238</u>	<u>1,646,831</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds		715,967	773,364
Restricted fund	11	728,271	873,467
	12	<u>1,444,238</u>	<u>1,646,831</u>

The notes on pages 11 to 19 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 15/12/22 and approved on their behalf by:-


The Right Reverend P C Jamison OSB
Trustee


The Very Reverend G F Straw OSB
Trustee

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Notes and Accounting Policies

Year Ended 31 May 2022

1 Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) **Basis of preparation and assessment of going concern**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The functional and presentational currency of these financial statements is pounds sterling.

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

b) **Group accounts**

In accordance with the provisions of the Charities SORP (FRS102), group accounts have not been prepared.

c) **Income recognition**

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Investment and royalty income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Donations are recognised when receivable. Legacies are included, following the granting of probate, when the Charity is advised by the personal representative of an Estate that payment will be made or property transferred and the amount involved can be quantified.

Where the Charity does not have any discretion in the collection and distribution of donations and has no entitlement to the donations, then these amounts are conduit funding. Amounts relating to conduit funding are not included in the Statement of Financial Activities of the Charity.

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Notes and Accounting Policies

Year Ended 31 May 2022

1 **Accounting Policies** *(continued)*

d) **Expenditure recognition**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is shown gross of irrecoverable VAT.

Costs of raising funds include investment managers' fees and those costs incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Costs of charitable activities include costs incurred directly on achieving the objects of the Charity, and support costs which have been allocated in full to charitable activities.

Grants payable are recognised when payment is made to the recipient or when the grant is communicated to the recipient if earlier.

Provisions for liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the year end as a result of a past event, it is probable that a payment will be made and the amount can be reliably estimated.

e) **Investments**

All listed investments are originally recorded at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value at the balance sheet date using the quoted market price. Investment property is included in the accounts at the trustees' best estimate of its fair value.

Realised and unrealised gains and the losses on the investments are credited/charged directly to the Statement of Financial Activities.

Investments in the subsidiary company are included in the accounts at historic cost.

f) **Fixed assets and depreciation**

Fixed assets are included in the accounts at their historical cost (in the case of donated assets, at fair value at the date of acquisition) and are written off by equal annual instalments over the expected useful lives of the assets by depreciation as follows:

Office equipment	25% straight line
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g) **Fund accounting**

i The Charity's general funds consist of funds which the Charity may use for its charitable purposes at its discretion.

ii Funds have been designated as capital to ensure that a certain level of income is generated sufficient to meet the future needs of the charity. The Trustees have decided that setting aside funds in this way is a useful financial discipline which will help the Charity make the best use of its resources, even though there is no legal force for the designation. Each year an amount is transferred to or from the fund equal to the return on its underlying investments for the year so that the capital value is maintained.

iii Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the relevant fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Notes and Accounting Policies

Year Ended 31 May 2022

2 Related party transactions and Trustees' expenses and remuneration

All Trustees are Monks of the Order of St Benedict and do not receive any remuneration by virtue of their position as Trustees. Expenses incurred by the Trustees are reimbursed to the Benedictine Monastic House of which they are a member. 2 Trustees (2021 - 2 trustees) were reimbursed expenses, including travel expenses, to the value of £4,525 (2021 - £30,932).

During the year the charity also paid for Trustees Indemnity insurance.

3 Investment Income	2022 £	2021 £
UK investments listed on recognised stock exchange	<u>26,929</u>	<u>25,597</u>

4 Subsidiary

The charity has a wholly owned UK subsidiary EBC Trading Limited.

On 1 June 2016, the trading activity of the subsidiary was transferred to The English Benedictine Congregation Trust and the subsidiary therefore had no income or expenditure in the two years to 31 May 2022.

The aggregate of the assets, liabilities and funds of EBC Trading Limited was:

	2022 £	2021 £
Assets	2,000	2,000
Liabilities	-	-
Funds	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Notes and Accounting Policies

Year Ended 31 May 2022

5 Charitable Activities	Activities Undertaken Directly £	Support Costs £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Promotion of cooperation and exchange of ideas	21,778	619	22,397	31,439
Support of visitations by the Abbot President	25,727	731	26,458	44,450
Education and training of members of the congregation	114,136	3,242	117,378	42,593
Contribution to care costs of former Fort Augustus monks	-	-	-	-
Abbot President and Secretariat expenses	8,455	240	8,695	16,077
Expenses of officials	1,610	46	1,656	359
Legal and professional fees	-	189,148	189,148	196,492
	<u>171,706</u>	<u>194,026</u>	<u>365,732</u>	<u>331,410</u>

Education and training of members of the congregation includes a three year institutional grant of £99,999 to the Religious Life Safeguarding Service (2021: £9,750 to Together for the Common Good).

The charity did not employ any staff.

6 Support Costs

Total support costs for the year amount to £194,026 and these have been allocated to charitable activities in proportion to the direct costs, with the exception of legal and professional fees.

Support costs (including governance costs) comprise:

	2022 £	2021 £
Legal and professional costs	189,148	196,492
Independent examiners fees - independent examination	1,000	1,000
- other	5,840	6,200
Procurator in curia	1,044	3,211
Exchange (gains)/losses	(7,456)	26,247
Praesidium	4,450	19,942
Rescripts	-	469
Consultancy fees	-	7,929
	<u>194,026</u>	<u>261,490</u>

Legal and professional costs of £189,148 (2021: £196,492) include the cost of the IICSA inquiry, the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry and the costs of the Fort Augustus claims referred to in Note 16.

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Notes and Accounting Policies

Year Ended 31 May 2022

7 Fixed Assets - Tangible

	Office Equipment £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 June 2021	19,274	19,274
Addition	-	-
At 31 May 2022	19,274	19,274
Depreciation		
At 1 June 2021	17,822	17,822
Charge for year	727	727
At 31 May 2022	18,549	18,549
Net book value		
At 31 May 2022	725	725
At 31 May 2021	1,452	1,452

The Charity owns the Holme Eden Cemetery, which was acquired for nil consideration. The purpose of owning the cemetery is to enable its preservation. In the opinion of the Trustees the market value of the Cemetery remains at nil.

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Notes and Accounting Policies

Year Ended 31 May 2022

8 Investments

	2022 £	2021 £
Listed on a recognised stock exchange:		
Market value of portfolio at start of year	1,801,819	1,551,655
Transfers (to)/ from cash	(38,132)	(2,297)
Net investment/(withdrawals) made in the year	(59,501)	(58,273)
Realised and unrealised gains/(losses) on investments	42,392	310,734
Market value at end of year	1,746,578	1,801,819
UK cash held as part of the Investment Portfolio:		
Balance at start of year	63,938	61,641
Transfer from/(to) listed investments	38,132	2,297
Balance at end of year	102,070	63,938
Investment in subsidiary undertaking:		
Balance at 1 June 2021 and 31 May 2022	2,000	2,000
	1,850,648	1,867,757
Historical cost of listed investments at end of year	1,645,165	1,612,474

9 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Amounts due within one year:		
Accrued income	2,253	17,735
Prepayments	7,947	2,581
	10,200	20,316

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Notes and Accounting Policies

Year Ended 31 May 2022

10 Creditors

	2022 £	2021 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Accruals	18,416	91,022
Due to EBC Trading Limited	2,000	2,000
Grant payable	33,333	-
	<u>53,749</u>	<u>93,022</u>
Amounts falling due after more than one year:		
Grant payable	33,333	-
	<u>33,333</u>	<u>-</u>

11 Restricted Fund

The Fort Augustus Fund arose on the transfer to the Trust of a bank balance and land belonging to the former monastery. A condition of the Deed of Gift was that it should be retained in a restricted fund and the income and, if necessary, capital should be applied towards the costs of extraordinary care or health needs of any former monastery monks. Any remaining income and capital is to be applied towards promoting the educational, religious and charitable purposes of the Congregation. Under the Deed of Gift, the Trust is required to adopt a suitable investment policy to preserve its value against inflation and to produce a reasonable income yield. It has been agreed that costs other than the extraordinary care or health needs of any former monastery monks should not be allocated to the fund if its value falls to £500,000 or less during the lifetime of the aforesaid monastery monks.

12 Analysis of funds

	Balance b/fwd £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains & (Losses) £	Funds c/fwd £
Analysis of Fund movements						
– current year						
Restricted fund	873,467	16,165	(185,718)	-	24,357	728,271
Unrestricted fund:						
Capital	300,000	4,115		(11,111)	6,996	300,000
General	473,364	117,652	(197,199)	11,111	11,039	415,967
Total	1,646,831	137,932	(382,917)	-	42,392	1,444,238
Analysis of Fund movements						
– previous year						
Restricted fund	852,229	17,113	(146,734)	-	150,859	873,467
Unrestricted fund:						
Capital	300,000	3,474	-	(77,961)	74,487	300,000
General	343,907	166,205	(200,097)	77,961	85,388	473,364
Total	1,496,136	186,792	(346,831)	-	310,734	1,646,831

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Notes and Accounting Policies

Year Ended 31 May 2022

13 Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds – current year

	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted funds Capital £	General £	Total 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	725	725
Investments	858,310	300,000	692,338	1,850,648
Current assets	381,453	-	(198,573)	182,880
Current liabilities	(8,559)	-	(45,190)	(53,749)
Non-current liabilities	-	-	(33,333)	(33,333)
Provisions	(502,933)	-	-	(502,933)
	<u>728,271</u>	<u>300,000</u>	<u>415,967</u>	<u>1,444,238</u>

Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds – previous year

	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted funds Capital £	General £	Total 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	1,452	1,452
Investments	884,569	300,000	683,188	1,867,757
Current assets	384,454	-	(127,072)	257,382
Current liabilities	(8,818)	-	(84,204)	(93,022)
Provisions	(386,738)	-	-	(386,738)
	<u>873,467</u>	<u>300,000</u>	<u>473,364</u>	<u>1,646,831</u>

14 Assets Held as Custodian Trustees

The Trustees of St. Benedict's Abbey Trust were nominated custodians of a collection of books and papers relating to Scottish ecclesiastical history in the will of a T. Cassidy in the 1880s. From the outset, ownership of the Cassidy collection has remained uncertain. The collection is currently housed in the National Library of Scotland and custodianship has been legally transferred to the English Benedictine Congregation Trust. Since the Trust is not the legal owner of the collection, its estimated value has not been included in the fixed assets of the Trust.

15 Funds held as agent

During the year the English Benedictine Congregation Trust collected a subsidium totalling £29,436 (2021: £34,113) from its member houses as agent on behalf of Sant' Anselmo. The Congregation had no discretion over the use of these funds and they are therefore not included in income or expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Notes and Accounting Policies

Year Ended 31 May 2022

16 Provisions for Liabilities and Contingent Liabilities

A number of claims have been made against the English Benedictine Congregation in relation to former pupils of Fort Augustus Abbey School. The Trustees have been taking legal advice in relation to this matter and the Trustees are cooperating with the appropriate authorities.

A provision of £502,933 (2021: £386,738) has been included in respect of estimated future costs arising as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Provision at 1 June 2021	386,738	290,000
Provision utilised in the year	-	-
Additional provision in the year	116,195	96,738
Provision at 31 May 2022	<u>502,933</u>	<u>386,738</u>

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

**The Following Appendices Do Not Form Part Of
The Statutory Accounts But Are Included To
Provide Further Information**

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Appendix A

Income and Expenditure Account - Charity Year Ended 31 May 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Income		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	374	-
Legacy (mineral rights)	101,319	143,237
	101,693	143,237
Charitable Activities		
Contributions from EBC Houses	-	8,076
Year Book and Ordo	7,835	9,299
Visitation	880	-
	8,715	17,375
Investments		
Equity and gilt income receivable	26,774	25,216
Bank interest receivable	155	381
	26,929	25,597
Other:		
Royalties	206	169
Sundry income	389	414
	595	583
Total income	137,932	186,792
Expenditure		
Costs of raising funds:		
Investment managers fees	17,185	15,421
Charitable activities:		
Office costs – Douai	6,650	5,600
Printing, postage, stationery and computer	2,013	3,229
Education and training of congregation members expenses	13,908	12,151
Commission expenses – continuing formation	-	6,989
Commission expenses – Abbots' conference	1,017	3,048
Fort Augustus costs – incurred in year	63,402	44,279
Fort Augustus – increase in provision	116,195	96,738
Insurance	555	360
Subscriptions	4,654	4,512
General Chapter expenses	2,964	1,515
General Chapter Preparation Group	10,102	-
Visitation expenses	3,040	229
Motor and travel – Abbot President	23,681	14,616
– Inspector of Accounts	179	157
Miscellaneous expenses	229	173
Exchange rate difference	(7,456)	26,247
Professional fees	10,774	55,475
Consultancy	-	7,929
Accountancy fees	6,840	7,200
Procurator in Curia	1,044	3,211
Praesidium	4,451	19,942
Holme Eden expenses	95	-
Depreciation	727	4,815
Monks and Nuns support	-	450
Telephone: Abbot President	669	2,795
T4CG Grant	-	9,750
RLSS Grant	99,999	-
	365,732	331,410

The English Benedictine Congregation Trust

Appendix A

Income and Expenditure Account - Charity
Year Ended 31 May 2022

Total expenditure	382,917	346,831
Gains/(Losses) on revaluation and disposal of investments	42,392	310,734
Net (Decrease)/Increase in funds	<u>(202,593)</u>	<u>150,695</u>