

FRANCHE COMMUNITY CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 701151

Details

Other names	FRANCHE EVANGELICAL CHURCH
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1989-02-01
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Franch Community Church Chestnut Grove Kidderminster DY11 5QA
Phone	01562631234
Email	franchcommunitychurch@gmail.com
Website	www.franchcommunitychurch.co.uk

Activities

Objects: The Church's objects (the Objects") shall be: i. To advance the Christian Faith, in accordance with the doctrinal basis set out in the Church's statement of faith, in Kidderminster, the surrounding districts and such other parts of the United Kingdom and the world, in such ways as the Trustees may from time to time decide. ii. To prevent or relieve poverty by providing grants, items, and services to individuals in need and/or charities, or other organisations, in the areas of operations as above, in such ways as the Trustees may from time to time decide. iii. To advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation, with the objective of improving the conditions of life in the areas of operations, as above, in such ways as the Trustees may from time to time decide. iv. To encourage and facilitate the above and other related activities by the provision and maintenance of buildings, facilities, and land, in such ways as the Trustees may from time to time decide.

Activities: Franch Community Church is about building relationships which are accepting and caring, impacting and meeting needs in our community with the love of God, through pastoral ministry and practical actions. We have been operating an independent food bank from the church plus bread distribution by recommendation only, to the many needy people including via schools in the area.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Worcestershire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£94,029	£78,366	-	-
2023-12-31	£141,676	£109,699	-	-
2022-12-31	£108,367	£101,902	-	-
2021-12-31	£78,480	£75,610	-	-
2020-12-31	£74,783	£53,270	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
John Balcon		2020-12-01
Leonard Stamp		2026-04-04
Richard Hague		2019-06-04

Accounts

Franch Community Church, Kidderminster

Chestnut Grove, Kidderminster DY11 5QA

Registered Charity Number: 701151

Trustees' Annual Report for the period 1st January – 31st December 2024

Overview

This has been a year of transition for Franch Community Church (FCC) with challenges and a renewed vision.

Despite significant changes in leadership and oversight, FCC has continued in its mission to serve the community of Franch and the surrounding area.

FCC continues to operate as a registered charity governed by a Constitution, which the Trustees have reviewed periodically to ensure it reflects the current status and needs of the church.

Our premises, located adjacent to Franch Community Primary School, remain a good hub for worship, outreach, and community support.

Governance and Trustees

The Trustees met monthly throughout 2024 to oversee the charity's operations, finances, staffing and strategic direction.

The year saw several changes in Trustee roles resulting in the Trusteeship being reduced from four to two people. These transitions were handled with a commitment to continuity and accountability.

The Trustees are currently seeking additional Trustees in line with the FCC Constitution.

Leadership Transitions

2024 began under the inspired leadership of Minister Sam Guille, who had faithfully served FCC for seven years.

Sam's ability to communicate the message of Jesus in a relevant and engaging way, both within the church and in local schools, was a blessing to many. However, during the year, Sam discerned a calling toward education and announced his departure in September. His final service on 6th October was a moving celebration of his ministry.

Following Sam's departure, Paul Guille and Barbara Guille also stepped down from their roles, leaving Richard and Heidi Hague as the Elders and Church Leaders.

These transitions were marked by prayer and gratitude.

Staffing

A significant milestone in 2024 was the formal employment of FCC's two staff members:

- Sam Guille – Minister
- John Balcon – Food Bank Manager

Effective from 1st January 2024, both transitioned from self-employment to employment status, with contracts and job descriptions agreed and signed.

The payroll is administered via Stewardship.

Salaries are aligned with the recommendations of The Resolution Foundation.

Safeguarding

FCC addressed and resolved safeguarding issues during the year.

Trustees received safeguarding training from Pioneer.

FCC remains committed to maintaining a safe and welcoming environment for all.

Finance

Following the advice of our independent examiner, we continue to revise our methods of accounting by regularly updating our monthly spreadsheets, which has enabled the Trustees to have a more transparent view of the Charity's finances.

Both income and expenditure have reduced during 2024, compared with 2023.

There are sufficient Reserves to support the Charity for the foreseeable future.

During the year, funds have been transferred from the Current Account to new Savings Accounts.

The Treasurer was Mrs Barbara Guille until 15th Nov 2024 and then was, and is currently, John Balcon.

Our independent Examiner is Brian Richard Price.

His report is attached with this report together with the SOFA.

Mission

Under Sam's leadership, FCC focused on three ministry goals: deepening faith, strengthening fellowship, and expanding mission.

He continued these focuses until his departure.

While attendance at services remained low, the spiritual enthusiasm among members remained strong.

Preaching / Teaching ministry

While Sam was the main preacher during 2024, messages were also brought by the Elders and visiting speakers.

For most Sundays, the services followed a pattern of musical worship; preaching on a theme or following a series; testimony and spoken worship and communion.

A table was provided for children to do creative activities.

There were also opportunities for prayer ministry after the service.

Food Bank Ministry

The Wyre Forest Food Bank, is an independent Food Bank, a member of the Independent Food Aid Network (IFAN), and part of the ministry of FCC.

It continues to provide vital support to families and individuals in need.

It is recognised by the Wyre Forest District Council Financial Inclusion team, Community Housing and Citizens Advice as a unique and essential service to the Wyre Forest

It is primarily from these agencies that the referrals come.

A summer buffet was organised to celebrate the Food Bank's volunteers, past and present and promotional mugs and pens were distributed to volunteers and supporters to raise awareness and appreciation for this essential ministry.

Donations of both food and monies come from many individuals and a variety of organisations including businesses, churches and supermarkets, as well as occasional grants.

We are very pleased that we have been able to meet all the referral needs over the year.

Property and Facilities

FCC secured a new three-year contract for gas and electricity.

Monthly work parties ensure regular maintenance and improvements to the premises, which remain a valued resource for the local community.

Off-road parking is provided, behind the church, especially for the larger groups that use the building.

Groups

An Events group conducted successful events such as a Litter Pick, a Macmillan Coffee morning and supporting Operation Christmas Child.

A Knit and Natter group has helped many non-church people to come together to talk and meet new people, whilst knitting and doing other crafts.

Oversight and Transition

FCC has been part of the Pioneer Network for many years. However, due to geographical limitations, it became clear that a new oversight arrangement was needed. Discussions began with Hope Church, Worcester (Catalyst Network), and on 4th December, FCC formally agreed to pursue a partnership with Hope Church.

Pioneer has continued to offer support as a spiritual oversight.

FCC is grateful for their encouragement during this transitional period.

Looking Ahead

As FCC enters a new chapter, the Trustees and Leadership Team are committed to:

- Strengthening the partnership with Hope Church, Worcester
- Deepening discipleship and spiritual growth
- Enhancing community outreach and pastoral care
- Ensuring robust governance and financial stewardship

We give thanks to God for His faithfulness and to all who have served and are currently serving FCC.

May we continue to be a light in Franche and the surrounding area, sharing the hope of Christ with all.

Richard Hague

Chair of Trustees

Franch Community Church, Kidderminster DY11 5QA

September 2025

FRANCHE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Summary of Financial Activities
For the Period 1st January to 31st December 2024

INCOME	Church	Food Bank	Total funds	Previous Year
Planned giving	8,754		8,754	7,516
Collections	4,247		4,247	4,794
Gifts to Church	1,195		1,195	2,145
Gift Aid recovered	2,529		2,529	2,805
Govt Grants	17,389		17,389	40,000
Non-Govt Grants	15,790		15,790	34,392
Investments	1,659		1,659	948
Food Bank		36,071	36,071	42,147
Receipts from Church Hire	6,394		6,394	6,929
Total income	57,958	36,071	94,029	141,676
EXPENDITURE				
Missionary and Charitable giving	2,155		2,155	1,917
Clergy and Staffing costs	35,349		35,349	25,508
Church Running Expenses	12,331		12,331	38,725
Food Bank		28,531	28,531	43,549
Total expenditure	49,835	28,531	78,366	109,699
Net income/ (expenditure) resources before transfer	8,123	7,540	15,663	31,977

Statements of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Savings Accounts - Kingdom Bank	72,607	50,948
Savings Accounts - Co-operative Bank	10,000	0
Current Account - Co-operative Bank	14,569	30,565
Total Current Assets	97,176	81,513

Signed on behalf of Trustees



Richard P Hague (Chairman)

7th April 2025

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Franche Community Church

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ending 31st December 2024

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

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

Name:

Brian Price

Signature:

Brian R. Price

Date:

29th April 2025

Relevant professional qualification or body:

Address:

1 Humphries Drive
Hosbrook
Kiddminster
Worce
DY10 1XL

Accounts

Franch Community Church, Chestnut Grove, Kidderminster, DY11 5QA

Registered Charity Number 701151

Trustees' Annual report for the period 1st January – 31st December 2023

Franch Community Church is registered with the Charity Commission and governed by a Constitution. The Trustees who manage the Charity are Paul Guille (chairman), Sam Guille (Minister), Richard Hague and John Balcon (Food Bank Manager). Jayne Mclean resigned from her position on the Trustees in August of this year. The Church is led by the Minister and Elder's. They function through full consultation with the Trustees and members of the Church.

The Trustees meet monthly to oversee all aspects of the Charity and to receive reports from the Minister, Food Bank Manager, Treasurer and the Chair of the Trustees. During this challenging period of inflationary instability, we have managed our responsibilities and can report that the Charity has continued in a good position throughout 2023.

As part of our Trustees' meetings, we have been inviting others to join with us to discuss the local situation. So far we have met with the WFDC Financial Inclusion officers; Citizens Advice; The Community Housing Group Team. Also during this year we have teamed up with the local Salvation Army/ Employment Plus - Employment Development Coordinator who uses the building weekly to meet clients.

Despite the ongoing uncertainty of the financial climate within the United Kingdom we have thankfully continued to receive support from many local businesses and supporters, and have been joined by new supporters this year. This has been vital as we have seen the cost of distributing food boxes increase in line with the cost of living and grocery prices.

The continued aim of the Charity is to serve the community in Franch by providing both spiritual and practical help, through support and guidance for its members and anyone within the wider Wyre Forest area of Kidderminster, Bewdley and Stourport-on-Severn in the county of Worcestershire.

We are a Charity seeking to support residents in the Wyre Forest through connecting and communicating with our local community. Our premises are located in the heart of the Franch estate adjacent to Franch Community Primary School. Our independent Wyre Forest Food Bank has continued operating from our building without charge (with volunteer support) on Tuesdays and Fridays with the distribution of food and bread.

During 2023 we have received funding from many sources including Be Global who as one of our most regular and long term supporters agreed to underwrite our Biffa grant this year as required by the terms of the grant; the WFDC Household Relief Fund; Community Housing Group; local councillors; local churches; local businesses; local schools; the Co-op; Monday Night group; Bewdley & Stourport Rotary club; various Trust's; UK Games Expo; Arnold Clark Community Fund; the Julia and Hans Rausing Trust; Morrison supermarket in Kidderminster from their customer giving tree; all of which have helped us with the running of the Food

Bank. We also received an award through the Biffa Landfill Tax Fund for community building improvements which included repairs to the roof, an upgrade of the ovens in the main kitchen, a new coffee bar installation and a complete rebuild of our toilet facilities.

Franché Community Church's established Food Bank provides a unique distribution service to the community with emergency food boxes packed to meet individual and family needs, distributed only to those referred to us by the Community Housing Group; Citizens Advice; Job Centre Plus; WFDC Hub; Barnardo's and Brookside Children's Centres; Home Start; Onside Advocacy (and other NHS affiliates); St Basil's Hostel; various churches and local schools, as well as other charities and community groups.

This year, our regular Sunday morning worship service, has continued in the format of eating together, and creating a welcoming church family that includes everyone. In September we refocused away from full meals to cake and biscuits to be sure our meetings were about being together and not just eating. To make it all inclusive we have begun to focus on spreading the Christian message to families, young people and those who have never heard it or been to a church. Alongside which we continue to meet to pray on a weekly basis for the needs of our community, the nation, and the mission of the church and by using Facebook, YouTube, WhatsApp. We seek to encourage the learning and practice of an evangelical, charismatic, Godly and Biblical lifestyle that can impact those who regularly attend, along with those who visit occasionally either online or in person.

Some of those who view Franché Community Church as their church are actively involved and included as volunteers within a wide range of tasks, from simply providing a listening ear, to open advice, food box packers and distributors. We seek to offer support through our connections with various local groups in Franché, Marlpool and Habberley; with the County, District and Town Councillors, Council Officers and the Community Housing Officers, working with those in social and private rental properties.

Our Minister also seeks to pray and offer spiritual support (through the joy, hope and the blessing of the Christian Faith), within the Church and the wider community to anyone who requests this. He continues to work with the local schools, councillors, agencies and the wider community. He is increasing our connections with other charities working in our area, including being a Director for our local Home Start group.

Attendance at church services continues to be lower than expected but the enthusiasm for the purposes of the church amongst those attending remains positive and with the ongoing support of our members and supporters we anticipate 2024 being as productive as this year.

We are looking to continually improve the facilities and have created a plan for the regular maintenance of the premises. This enables us to further our vision to provide facilities for the local community in a safe and friendly environment, and also connect with the wider community through social media. We also continue to offer off-road parking in an area of Franché that is often congested.

During 2023 we have completed a full electrical inspection and installed a full new breaker board; PAT tested the electrical equipment in the building and improved our smoke alarms.

We received some minor damage from vandalism this year which was reported and dealt with by the police, as using the previously installed CCTV they were able to identify the culprits. It was not necessary to report the incident to our insurers.

There has been no reported safeguarding incident in this year.

The Trustees, following an updating of the Objects of the Charity to better reflect our activities, continued to undertake the review of the Constitution of the Charity. We have not arrived at a satisfactory point of agreement and will continue to pursue completion of this task in 2024 to ensure the Constitution adequately reflects the current undertakings of the Charity. Alongside this, we have also undertaken an external review of our Safeguarding policy, introduced and reviewed a number of our policies and procedures to ensure we are up to date in all departments.

We have established a budget for the future and implemented plans to increase our reserves in savings accounts and are confident that the Charity is secure going forward, as we are maintaining communication with those in the community looking for suitable facilities to hire and support the ongoing work of the Charity.

Following the advice of our independent Examiner we continue to revise our methods of accounting by regularly updating our monthly spreadsheets, which has enabled the Trustees to have a more transparent view of the Charity's finances.

Treasurer is Mrs Barbara Guille.

Our independent Examiner is Brian Richard Price

His report is attached with this report.

Franch Community Church is overseen by the National Pioneer Network of Churches.

The Church is also a member of The Evangelical Alliance.

Locally we are involved with the other churches and charities in Kidderminster area, working with them and other ministers and churches in the Wyre Forest area to provide support to each other and in the community as our local area requires, and we are also connected with the Kidderminster and Husum Twinning Association, participating in a visit to Germany.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees

Paul Guille

FRANCHE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Summary of Financial Activities

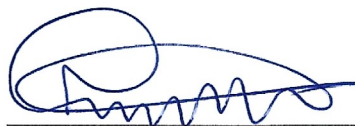
For the Period 1st January to 31st December 2023

	Church	Food Bank	Total funds	Previous Year
INCOME				
Planned giving	7,516		7,516	7,058
Collections and undesignated giving	4,794		4,794	3,969
Gifts to Church	26,537		26,537	3,215
Gift Aid recovered	2,805		2,805	2,453
Investments	948		948	0
Food Bank		92,147	92,147	86,630
Receipts from Church Hire	6,929		6,929	5,042
Total income	49,529	92,147	141,676	108,367
EXPENDITURE				
Missionary and Charitable giving	1,917		1,917	1,585
Clergy and Staffing costs	25,508		25,508	19,881
Church Running Expenses	38,725		38,725	23,944
Food Bank		43,549	43,549	56,493
Total expenditure	66,150	43,549	109,699	101,903
Net income/ (expenditure) resources before transfer	-16,621	48,598	31,978	

Statements of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Savings Account	50,948	0
Co-operative Bank	30,565	47,422
Total Current Assets	81,513	47,422

Signed on behalf of Trustees



Paul Guille (Chairman)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Franche Community Church

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ending 31st December 2023

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to :

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
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Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

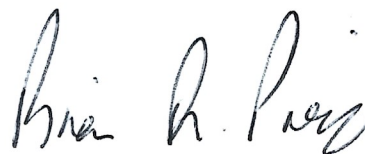
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- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

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

Name: BRIAN RICHARD PRICE



Relevant professional qualification or body:

Address: 1 HUMPHRIES DRIVE
MOORBROOK

Date: KIDDERMINSTER WORCS DY10 1XQ

24 FEBRUARY 2024

Accounts

Franche Community Church, Chestnut Grove, Kidderminster, DY11 5QA

Registered Charity Number 701151

Trustees' Annual report for the period 1st January – 31st December 2022

Franche Community Church is registered with the Charity Commission and governed by a Constitution. The Trustees meet monthly to oversee all aspects of the Charity and to receive reports from the Minister, Food Bank Manager, Treasurer and the Chair of the Trustees. During 2022 with the Covid restrictions being removed, we have managed our responsibilities and can report that the Charity has continued in a good position throughout this year.

The continued aim of the Charity is to serve the community in Franche by providing both spiritual and practical help, through support and guidance for its members and anyone within the wider Wyre Forest area of Kidderminster, Bewdley and Stourport-on-Severn in the county of Worcestershire.

We are a Charity seeking to support residents in the Wyre Forest through connecting and communicating with our local community. Our premises are located in the heart of the Franche estate adjacent to Franche Community Primary School. We have continued operating on Tuesday and Friday for the Food Bank distribution of food and bread, and have fully reopened the building for other events as permitted during this year.

Despite the ongoing uncertainty with regards to the cash crisis affecting the country, we are thankful that our regular supporters have managed to maintain their support, and newer supporters (perhaps becoming more socially aware) have risen to the challenges of providing for our extra Food throughout the year.

Given the current trends in donating to charities we are thankful for the support we receive from our members and other contributors, both individuals and organisations that faithfully support our work and the new contributors, both individuals and organisations that have bought into the vision and needs of the Charity.

During 2022, we have received funding from many sources including 'The Intouch Foundation', which this year rebranded as 'Be Global', the Wyre Forest District Council's Covid Winter & Summer Relief Funds; WFDC Covid Recovery Grant; Worcestershire County Council's Covid Relief Fund; the Community Housing Group; local councillors; local churches; local businesses; the Co-op; Monday Night Group; Bewdley repair Café; the Kidderminster Lions; Bewdley & Stourport Rotary clubs; local schools; various Trusts; UK Games Expo; Arnold Clark Community Fund; Grantham Yorke; MB Distribution; and directly from the Lottery Community Fund all of which have helped us significantly with the running of the Food Bank.

The Church is led by the Minister supported by Elders, and they are continuing to develop a wider support team to assist them in the oversight of the growing work. Some of the Elders are also Trustees.

Some of those who view Franche Community Church as their church are actively involved and included as volunteers within a wide range of tasks, from simply providing a listening ear, to open advice, food box packers and distributors. We seek to offer support through our connections with various local groups in Franche, Marlpool and Habberley, and with County, District, and Town Councillors, Council Officers and the Community Housing Officers, working with those in social and private rental properties.

Our Minister also seeks to pray and offer spiritual support (through the joy, hope and the blessing of the Christian Faith), within the Church and the wider community to anyone who requests this. He has also been registered for the solemnising of marriages. He continues to work with the local schools, Councillors, agencies and the wider community. He is also continuing to increase our connections with the other charities working in the Wyre Forest.

Franche Community Church's long established Food Bank provides a unique distribution service to the community with emergency food boxes packed to meet individual and family needs, distributed only to those referred to us by the Community Housing Group; Citizens Advice; Job Centre Plus; WFDC Hub; Barnardo's and Brookside Children's Centres; Home Start; Onside Advocacy (and other NHS affiliates); St Basil's Hostel; various churches and local schools, as well as other charities and community groups.

Requests by referrals for Food Bank support have grown enormously and with the help and good enterprises of local schools, churches and businesses, personal contributions and regular collections from local supermarkets, especially The Co-op and Morrisons, and working with the Kidderminster Food Bank, we have been able to sustain this work and distribute food as required, throughout the year.

Overall, we have been surprised and delighted by the increased support we have received both financially and voluntarily. However, this has placed an enormous strain on the team running the Food Bank. The Food Bank was rebranded in April and all regular staff and volunteers were issued with Wyre Forest Food Bank branded polo shirts.

This year, our regular Sunday morning worship service, has continued in the format of eating together, and creating a welcoming church family that is open to everyone. To make it all inclusive we have begun to focus on spreading the Christian message to families, young people and those who have never heard it the Christian message or even visited a church. Alongside which, we continue to meet to pray on a weekly basis for the needs of our community, the nation, and the mission of the church, by using Facebook, YouTube, WhatsApp and Zoom meetings. We continually seek to encourage the learning and practice of an evangelical, charismatic, godly and Biblical lifestyle that can impact those who regularly attend, along with those who visit occasionally either online or in person.

Attendance in person has been slow to return to pre Covid levels but we have seen all of our members return by the end of this year, and with some new visitors we are confident of continuing growth in the new year.

We are looking to continually improve the facilities and have created a plan for the regular maintenance of the premises. During this year we have undertaken a full electrical inspection of the premises, and installed new flooring in the store room area, following on from the store room extension with a new internal wall. This has enabled us to further our vision to provide facilities for the local community in a safe and friendly environment, and also connect with the wider community through social media. We also continue to offer off-road parking in an area of Franche that is often congested.

Following some vandalism in the car park and to the premises we have arranged the installation of a new alarm system and CCTV coverage of the building to increase security. We have also been addressing items highlighted in our independent Quinquennial inspection report and seeking to build budgetary provision in for the major items and future projects.

One serious incident was reported to the Charity Commission this year involving the total loss of funds to scammers. We are very thankful for the prompt action of our Bank and their immediate return of the full amount back into our Bank account.

We have since opened new savings accounts with the Kingdom Bank to enable stronger management of the funding, with the objective of having a minimum three months reserve.

Safeguarding training has been provided by the Pioneer Network and Richard Hague, Sam Guille and Paul Guille completing the online courses. One consequence of the training has been to raise the profile of our safeguarding policy at a Trustee level and within our community as a whole, we are thankful that there have been no safeguarding incidents to report in 2022.

In light of the current undertakings of the Charity, the Trustees have begun looking at a revision of the Constitution beginning with the Objects and looking at improving the future governance of the charity. The Trustees agreed to review our Constitution and to propose changes that more accurately reflect the way that the Charity is operating, with a much more involved community focus. A proposal was emailed to the Charity Commissioners for their approval and we intend to further consider each clause of our Constitution during 2023 to reflect how we are both currently operating and with a view to the future.

Through the input of our independent Examiner, we continue to revise our methods of accounting by improving our monthly spreadsheets which has enabled the Trustees to have a more transparent view of the Charity's finances.

The Trustees of Franche Community Church are Sam Guille, Minister; Paul Guille, Chair; Richard Hague; Jayne Maclean and John Balcon, Manager of the Food Bank.

Treasurer is Mrs Barbara Guille.

Our independent Examiner is Brian Richard Price

His report is attached with this report.

Franch Community Church is overseen by the National Pioneer Network of Churches.

The Church is also a member of The Evangelical Alliance.

Locally we are involved with 'Churches Together in Kidderminster' working with them and other ministers and churches in the Wyre Forest area to provide support to each other and in the community as our local area requires. We are also connected with the Kidderminster and Husum Twinning Association, participating in a visit from Germany in June 2022 and planning a return visit to Germany in 2023.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees

Paul Guille

Dated

FRANCHE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Summary of Financial Activities For the Period 1st January to 31st December 2022

	Church	Food Bank	Total funds	Previous Year
INCOME				
Planned giving	7,058		7,058	6,675
Collections and undesignated giving	3,969		3,969	7,515
Gifts to Church	3,215		3,215	3,354
Gift Aid recovered	2,453		2,453	0
Investments	0		0	0
Food Bank		86,630	86,630	58,983
Receipts from Church Hire	5,042		5,042	1,953
Total income	21,737	86,630	108,367	78,480
EXPENDITURE				
Missionary and Charitable giving	1,585		1,585	482
Clergy and Staffing costs	19,881		19,881	17,666
Church Running Expenses	23,944		23,944	14,478
Food Bank		56,493	56,493	42,984
Total expenditure	45,410	56,493	101,902	75,610
Net income/ (expenditure) resources before transfer	-23,673	30,137	6,464	

Statements of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Savings Account	0
Co-operative Bank	47,422
Total Current Assets	47,422

/

Signed on behalf of Trustees

0

Paul Guille (Chairman)



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

**Independent examiner's
report on the accounts**

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

FRANCHE COMMUNITY CHURCH

On accounts for the year
ended

31.12.2022

Charity no
(if any)

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

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

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Brian R. Price

Date:

6.3.2023

Name:

BRIAN RICHARD PRICE

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

—

Address:

1 HUMPHRIES DRIVE, HOOBROOK,
KIDDERMINSTER,
WORCS DY10 1XQ

Accounts

Franch Community Church, Chestnut Grove, Kidderminster, DY11 5QA

Registered Charity Number 701151

Trustees' Annual report for the period 1st January – 31st December 2021

Franch Community Church is registered with the Charity Commission and governed by a Constitution. The Church is led by the Minister and an Elder, who chairs the Trustees, and they are continuing to develop a wider support team to assist them in the oversight of the growing work. They function through full consultation with the other Trustees and members of the Church.

The Trustees meet monthly to oversee all aspects of the charity and to receive reports from the Minister, Food Bank Manager, Treasurer and the Chair of the Trustees. During this unsettled period we have managed our responsibilities and can report that the Charity has continued in a good position throughout 2021, despite the ongoing uncertainty with regards to Covid-19.

The continued aim of the Charity is to serve the community in Franch by providing both spiritual and practical help, through support and guidance for its members and anyone within the wider Wyre Forest area of Kidderminster, Bewdley and Stourport-on-Severn in the county of Worcestershire.

Some of those who view Franch Community Church as their church are actively involved and included as volunteers within a wide range of tasks, from simply providing a listening ear, to open advice, food box packers and distributors. We seek to offer support through our connections with various Franch, Marlpool and Habberley groups, and with County, District and Town Councillors and Council Officers.

Our Minister also seeks to pray and offer spiritual support (through the joy, hope and the blessing of the Christian Faith), within the Church and the wider community to anyone who requests this. He continues to work with the local schools, councillors, agencies and the wider community. He is increasing our connections with other charities working in our area, including this year agreeing to be a director for our local Home Start group. He continues to be involved in the operation of a "Messy Church" based at a local school, which is the joint effort of three local churches, and this is planned to recommence at Easter 2022.

We are a Church seeking to support everyone in the Wyre Forest through connecting and communicating with our local community. Our premises are located in the heart of the Franch estate adjacent to Franch Community Primary School. We have continued operating on Tuesday and Friday for the Food Bank distribution of food and bread, and have

reopened the building for other events as permitted during the continuing Covid-19 outbreak.

Requests by referrals for Food Bank support have grown enormously and with the help and good enterprises of local schools, churches and businesses, personal contributions and regular collections from local supermarkets and working with the Kidderminster Food Bank, we have been able to sustain this work and distribute food as required, throughout the year.

During 2021, we have also received funding from The Intouch Foundation, the Wyre Forest District Council's Covid Winter & Summer Relief Funds, WFDC Covid Recovery Grant, Worcestershire County Council's Covid Relief Fund, Community Housing and directly from the Lottery Community Fund which has helped us to improve our infrastructure with improved food storage and the general running costs of the Food Bank.

Other significant financial support has come from All Churches Trust Fund, Bewdley Rotary Club, Grantham York Trust, Franche Community School, Hope Church, MB Distribution and Kidderminster Male Voice Choir.

Franche Community Church's established Food Bank provides a unique distribution service to the community with emergency food boxes packed to meet individual and family needs, distributed only to those referred to us by the Community Housing Group, Citizens Advice, Job Centre Plus, WFDC Hub, Barnardo's and Brookside Children's Centres, Home Start, Onside Advocacy (and other NHS affiliates), St Basil's Hostel, various churches and local schools, as well as other charities and community groups.

This year, we have altered our regular Sunday morning worship service, our vision has changed to include eating together, and creating a welcoming church family that is open to everyone. To make it all inclusive we have begun to focus on spreading the Christian message to families, young people and those who have never heard it or been to a church. Alongside which we continue to meet to pray on a weekly basis for the needs of our community, the nation, and the mission of the church, by using Facebook, YouTube, WhatsApp and Zoom meetings; we seek to encourage the learning and practice of an evangelical, charismatic, Godly and Biblical lifestyle that can impact those who regularly attend, along with those who visit occasionally either online or in person.

We are looking to continually improve the facilities as funds permit. This year we have upgraded our lighting to LED's and have improved our audio visual equipment (received from grants). This has enabled us to further our vision to provide facilities for the local community in a safe and friendly environment, and also connect with the wider community through

social media. We also continue to offer off-road parking in an area of Franche that is often congested.

Given the current trends in donating to charities in general we are thankful for the support we receive from our members and other contributors, both individuals and organisations that faithfully support our work.

2021 has been another very difficult year for the Charity with so many unknowns making planning extremely difficult, with lockdowns, the closure of buildings, the restrictions on worship and an exploding demand for Food Bank support.

Restrictions have also meant that we have been unable to let the building for part of this year, thus reducing one of the regular income streams for the Charity, with a direct impact on the community at large.

Overall we have been surprised and delighted by the increased support we have received both financially and voluntarily. However this has placed an enormous strain on the team running the Food Bank.

We ended the year still in a place of limbo with no clear pathway out of the virus and thus are still finding it difficult at this stage to plan for the future. We have struggled to establish a budget or plan for the future; however we are confident that the Charity is secure going forward and will be able to recover the lost ground once all restrictions are lifted as we are maintaining communication with those in the community looking for suitable facilities.

Through the input of our independent Examiner we continue to revise our methods of accounting by improving our monthly spreadsheets which has enabled the Trustees to have a more transparent view of the Charity's finances.

The Trustees of Franche Community Church are Sam Guille, Minister; Paul Guille, Chair; Richard Hague; Jayne Maclean and John Balcon, Manager of the Food Bank.

Treasurer is Mrs Barbara Guille.

Our independent Examiner is Mr. John Scott.

His report is attached with this report.

Franch Community Church is overseen by the National Pioneer Network of Churches.

The Church is also a member of The Evangelical Alliance.

Locally we are involved with 'Churches Together in Kidderminster' working with them and other ministers and churches in the Wyre Forest area to

provide support to each other and in the community as our local area requires, and we are also connected with the Kidderminster and Husum Twinning Association participating in a currently Covid deferred visit from Germany, being re-planned for June 2022.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees

Paul Guille

FRANCHE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Summary of Financial Activities For the Period 1st January to 31st December 2021

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Previous Year
INCOME				
Planned giving	6675		6675	10233
Collections and undesignated giving	7515		7515	4174
Gifts to Church	3354		3354	15526
Other voluntary receipts	0		0	868
Gift Aid recovered	0		0	3470
Investments	0		0	0
Food bank		58983	58983	39795
Receipts from Church Hire	1953		1953	717
Total income	19497	58983	78480	74783
EXPENDITURE				
Missionary and Charitable giving	482		482	872
Clergy and Staffing costs	17666		17666	15160
Church Running Expenses	14478		14478	8736
Food Bank		42984	42984	30460
Total expenditure	32626	42984	75610	55228

Net income/ (expenditure) resources before transfe **-13129 15999 2870**

Statements of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Savings Account	0
Co-operative Bank	40710
Total Current Assets	40710

Signed on behalf of Trustees

Paul Guille (Chairman)

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Franche Community Church

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ending 31st December 2021

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to :

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

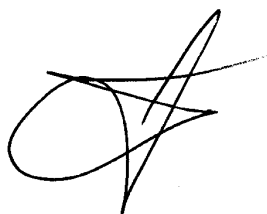
(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name:

JOHN SCOTT

Relevant professional qualification or body:

ACMA (Ret'd)



Address:

38 PARK LANE, BENDLEY, WORCS, DY12 2EU

Date:

6/9/22

Accounts

Franché Community Church, Chestnut Grove, Kidderminster DY11 5QA

Registered Charity Number 701151

Trustees Annual report for the period 1st January – 31st December 2020

Franché Community Church is registered with the Charity Commission and governed by a Constitution. The Church is led by the Minister and an Elder and this year they have begun to create a wider support team to assist them in the oversight of the growing work. They function through full consultation with the other Trustees and members of the Church.

The continued aim of the Church is to serve the community in Franché by providing both spiritual and practical help, through support and guidance for its members and anyone within the wider Wyre Forest area of Kidderminster, Bewdley and Stourport-on-Severn in the County of Worcestershire.

Many of those who view Franché Community Church as their church are actively involved and included as volunteers within a wide range of tasks, from simply providing a listening ear, to open advice, food box packers and food box distributors. We seek to offer support through our connections with Franché, Marlpool and Habberley communities, and with county, district and town councillors and council officers.

Our Minister also seeks to pray and offer spiritual support (through the joy, hope and the blessing of the Christian Faith), within the Church and the wider community to anyone who requests this. He continues to work with the local schools and councillors and is increasing our connections with other charities working in our area. He continues to be involved in the operation of a “Messy Church” based at a local primary school, which is the joint effort of three local churches.

We are a Church seeking to support everyone in the Wyre Forest through connecting and communicating with our local community. Our premises are located in the heart of Franché estate adjacent to Franché Community Primary School. We have only been open on Tuesday and Friday during this year, for the Food Bank distribution of essential food and bread, as we have been restricted by the Coronavirus outbreak and unable to use our facilities for polling, parties, social gatherings and other user groups.

Requests for Food Bank support have grown enormously and with the help and good enterprises of local schools, churches and businesses, the “Intouch Global Foundation”, Bewdley Rotary, personal contributions and regular collections from local supermarkets and working with the Kidderminster Food Bank at Baxter Church, we are able to sustain this work and distribute food as required. In this year, we have also received funding from the “DY10” charity, the Government’s Covid Winter Relief Fund, Worcester County Council’s Covid Relief Fund and directly from the Lottery Community Fund, which has helped us with essential supplies and to improve our infrastructure with re-designed food storage, and the general running costs of the Food Bank.

Franché Community Church's established Food Bank provides a unique distribution service to the community with emergency food boxes packed to meet individual and family needs, distributed only to those referred to us by the Job Centre, Local Council Hub, Job Centres, Night Stop, CAB, the Children's Centres, Wyre Forest Parenting and Family Support Unit, Brookside, Home Start, Refuge Support and Advocacy, West Mercia Women's Aid, various churches and St Basil's hostel.

We have managed to maintain a regular Sunday morning on-line worship service that is open to everyone, alongside which we run a children's group and we meet on-line to pray on a weekly basis for the needs of our community, the nation, and the mission of the church, by using Facebook, YouTube, WhatsApp and Zoom meetings; we seek to encourage the learning and practice of an evangelical, charismatic, Godly and Biblical lifestyle.

We are looking to continually improve the facilities as funds permit and this year have again spent further money on enhancements to our audio visual equipment, which will enable us to further our vision to provide facilities for the local community in a safe and friendly environment, and also to connect with the wider community through social media and offering off-road parking in an area of Franché that is often congested.

Given the current trends in giving to charities in general we are thankful for the support we receive from our members and other contributors, both individuals and organisations that faithfully support our work.

2020 has been a very difficult year for the charity with so many unknowns, making planning extremely difficult, with lock-downs, the closure of buildings, the restrictions on worship and an unprecedented demand for Food Bank support.

The church has not met in the building since the March 2020 lock-down as the Trustees have felt that the building does not provide adequate space for safe passage for all the members of the church, as we have such a wide age range within our congregation. We did however manage to meet "socially distanced" in the middle of the year by convening worship in the car park under the title of "Picnic in the Car Park" and we also met to sing "Carols in the Car Park" in December.

At the same time we agreed, due to changes in personnel, that we could not see ourselves continuing with our toddler provisions and announced the closure of Happy Moments and Mainly Music due to staffing issues. Later in the year we also made a decision to not reopen Café@Franché, to release Richard Hague to pursue Trustee matters and to seek further grant support for the charity.

Restrictions have also meant that we have been unable to let the building, thus reducing one of the regular sources of revenue for the charity, with a direct impact for the community at large.

Overall we have been surprised and delighted by the increased support we have received both financially and voluntarily; this had placed an enormous strain on the small team running the Food

Bank and this year we have decided to pass on responsibility for the Food Bank management to John and Merle Balcon, whilst also spreading the load across many new volunteers.

We end the year still in a place of limbo, with no clear pathway out of the consequences of the virus and thus are finding it difficult at this stage to plan for the future. With little regular income from the normal sources we have previously relied upon, we are struggling to establish a budget or plan for the future; however we are confident that the charity is secure going forward and will be able to recover the ground lost to the virus in a very short time once restrictions are lifted, as we are still in communication with the wider community looking for suitable facilities.

Through the input of our Independent Examiner we continue to revise our methods of accounting by improving our monthly spreadsheet which has enabled the Trustees in their management of the finances.

The Trustees of Franche Community Church are Sam Guille - Minister, Paul Guille - Chair, Richard Hague, Jayne Maclean and John Balcon, appointed Trustee at the meeting on the 01/12/2020 with responsibility for the management of the Food Bank at this crucial time.

Treasurer is Mrs Barbara Guille.

Our Independent Examiner is Mr. John Scott.

His report is attached with this report.

Franch Community Church is overseen by the National Pioneer Network of Churches.

The Church is also a member of The Evangelical Alliance.

Locally we are involved with 'Churches Together in Kidderminster' working with them and other ministers and churches in the Wyre Forest area to provide support to each other and in the community, as our local area requires, and we are also connected with the Kidderminster and Husum Twinning Association, participating in a currently Covid-deferred visit from Germany being re-planned for 2021.

Signed on behalf of the Charities Trustees

Paul Guille

FRANCHE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Summary of Financial Activities

For the Period 1st January to 31st December 2020

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Previous Year
INCOME				
Planned giving	10233		10233	7124
Collections and undesignated giving	4174		4174	7748
Gifts to Church	15526		15526	0
Other voluntary receipts	868		868	3830
Gift Aid recovered	3470		3470	178
Investments	0		0	0
Designated food bank		39795	39795	18580
Receipts from Church Hire	717		717	4434
Total income	34988	39795	74783	41894
EXPENDITURE				
Missionary and Charitable giving	872		872	1208
Clergy and Staffing costs	15161		15161	12859
Church Running Expenses	6777		6777	8736
Food Bank		30460	30460	9024
Total expenditure	22810	30460	53270	31827
Net income/ (expenditure) resources before transfer	12178	9335	21513	10067

FRANCHE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Statements of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Savings Account	1644
Santander Account	35818
Cash in Hand	347
Total Current Assets	37809

Signed on behalf of Trustees

Paul Guille

Independent Examiners report to the Trustees of Franche Community Church

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ending 31st December 2020

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

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

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

(1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

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

Name: JOHN SCOTT



Relevant professional qualification or body

ACMA (RETD)

Address 38 PARK LANE, BEWLEY, WORCS, DY12 2EU

Date 17/06/21