



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

Charity name: Chatham Memorial Synagogue

Charity registration number: 800902

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The provision of Jewish worship and education both for the Jewish community of north and mid Kent and for the wider community.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The synagogue routinely hosts visits from local schools, colleges and youth groups (e.g. cubs); from members of other faith communities to promote a greater understanding of the Jewish religion and traditions; and Open Days for the general public.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Volunteers are integral to the running of the Synagogue; they undertake the following roles: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leading all religious services• Maintaining the building and the grounds.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcoming visitors to the synagogue. • Running of the Education Programme. • Security Management. • Guides for Open Days at the Synagogue. • Management Team. • Board of Trustees.
Other		Chatham Memorial Synagogue is committed to improving its environmental footprint wherever possible.

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p><u>Extended access to services</u></p> <p>The synagogue has held services regularly on the Jewish Sabbath and major festivals, both in the synagogue and simultaneously on Zoom. The continuation of this hybrid service format has enabled people who are unable to attend in person, for example because of health concerns or disabilities, to be part of the services. It has also enabled many individuals from overseas to attend, and the Synagogue has routinely had online visitors from Israel, United States, France, New Zealand and South Africa.</p> <p>Non-Jewish visitors, who are interested in learning about the synagogue and the Jewish religion, were also welcomed in person and on Zoom to services and other events.</p> <p><u>Heritage Open Day</u></p> <p>The Synagogue was again able to hold our annual Heritage Open Day. This attracted a huge 130 visitors over just one day. This compares to around 30 visitors at a similar event prior to the Pandemic. Visitors were able to look around the building and cemetery, learn about the history of the building, the site and of the Jewish community in Medway, together with a little about Judaism. This was coupled with the opportunity to taste some traditional Jewish food while chatting to members of the Jewish Community and others.</p> <p>Feedback from visitors was that this was a much needed and effective way to break down barriers between communities, and was overwhelmingly positive with an average rating of 9.5 out of 10.</p>

		<p>Visitors' favourite areas from the tours were the history, the beautiful building, learning about Judaism, and the personal stories, especially linking these into the Holocaust. 83% of attendees had never visited the Synagogue before, although many commented that they had walked past it on multiple occasions.</p> <p>Most visitors wanted to attend out of general curiosity, an interest in heritage and/or culture, or a desire to learn a bit about the Jewish community and its customs. The vast majority felt the building was beautiful, with additional comments such as "It's a hidden gem!". There were, however, expected comments about the dilapidation of the building and burial ground with a desire to see these areas restored.</p> <p><u>Education Programme</u></p> <p>Visits by local schools, youth groups and religious groups have continued at better than pre-pandemic levels, again with very positive feedback received from teachers about the level of detail provided, and its appropriateness for the children whose ages ranged from 5 to 11.</p> <p>The Synagogue has hopes to increase the scale of this programme over coming years.</p> <p><u>Inter Faith activities</u></p> <p>The Synagogue continues to be a core member of Medway Inter Faith Action. This year we again held a service as part of Inter Faith Week, with extra and clear explanations to enable our guests to understand the nuances of the service. Although, Post-Pandemic, the Medway Walk for Peace no longer comes as far as Rochester, the Synagogue was delighted to help organise this annual event, including leading the interfaith prayers alongside other faith leaders.</p> <p><u>Holocaust Memorial Day</u></p> <p>The Synagogue continues to be one of the core joint organisers of the annual Medway Holocaust Memorial Day event.</p> <p>This year the event was held in the Synagogue, and drew our largest ever audience of 150 people- capacity for the main Synagogue prayer hall. The event included participation from 7 schools as well as other faith groups and Kent Police.</p> <p><u>Communities and Faith Forum</u></p> <p>The synagogue continues to play a leading role in the Communities and Faith Forum (CFF). CFF was formed by the Synagogue for Medway's wider communities during the Pandemic, bringing together 50</p>
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		organisations and communities across different faiths, races, ethnicities and localities to help thousands of individuals across Medway from March 2020 in terms of food, prescriptions, getting to medical appointments and many other tasks. CFF continues beyond Covid, with regular WhatsApp interaction between the different communities on an almost daily basis.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The charity has continued to cover its running expenses and routine repairs. A number of large grants were received for ongoing maintenance to the synagogue building and associated professional fees.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Reserves are held for future expenses and building repairs.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	The reserves balance at 31 December was £277,581. This is considered by the Trustees to be sufficient but not excessive at this time: as the building and its burial ground comprise a significant heritage site, any unexpected repairs are likely to be substantial requiring significant reserves.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	None
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	No uncertainties

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Membership subscriptions, donations and grants
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<p>The risks associated with maintenance of a grade 2* listed building.</p> <p>During recent years the risk of attack due to antisemitism or antisocial behaviour has risen, and this is a concern to the Charity.</p> <p>Since the Hamas attack in Israel on 7th October 2023 there have been wider community tensions which concern the Board of Trustees and Management Committee.</p>

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Trust deed
How is the charity constituted? (e.g. unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Existing trustees maintain a skills register for the Charity. When a skill is identified as being needed, new trustees may be selected by recommendation from the existing trustees, based on their experience or expertise that meet this need. Potential new trustees, once nominated, must be discussed by the Trustee Board and consensus reached before that individual is approached. The Synagogue Trust Deed specifies that all Trustees of the Synagogue must be Jewish.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	Trustees are encouraged to keep up to date with information and guidance from the Charity Commission. Trustees are provided with updated information relating to legalities routinely, and are directed to keep note of both the Charity Commission and NCVO newsletters.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The charity is currently run entirely by volunteers. The Trustee Board holds overall responsibility for the running of the Charity, including fundraising and restoration. The Board sets the strategic direction for the Charity including engagement with the wider community, and raising the profile of the Charity. The Management Committee is responsible for the day to day running of the Synagogue including services, social activity, routine maintenance, and the education programme.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	N/A
Other		N/A

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Chatham Memorial Synagogue
Other name the charity uses	N/A
Registered charity number	800902
Charity's principal address	366 High Street Rochester Kent ME1 1DJ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Mr Jonathan Hyam Weiner	Treasurer		
2	Mrs Josephine Lydia Freeman			
3	Dr Dalia Halpern-Matthews	Chair		
4	Ms Cassandra Freeman			
5	Countess Phyllis Sondes			
6	Rabbi Sylvia Rothschild			
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
N/A		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/A		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Stockbroker	Evelyn Partners	45 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7BG
Bankers		
Accountants		

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

N/A

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

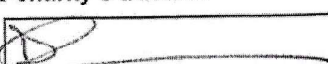
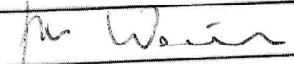
Policies and procedures in force:

- Code of Ethics
- Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults
- Communications Standards
- Whistleblowing
- Conflicts of Interest
- Reserves
- Data Protection
- Breach Management
- Equal Opportunities

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Dalia Halpern-Matthews	Jonathan Hyam Weiner
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer

Date 29/10/2024



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Chatham Memorial Synagogue

No (if any)

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01/01/2023	To	Period end date 31/12/2023
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Contributions	7,754	-	-	7,754	10,252
Board of Deputies	330	-	-	330	500
Donations	26,935	-	-	26,935	4,311
Grants	1,719	17,193	-	18,912	129,685
Gift Aid	4,531	-	-	4,531	2,178
School Visits	3,415	-	-	3,415	2,263
Social Events	585	-	-	585	-
Insurance Claims	19,112	-	-	19,112	-
Sundry Income	-	-	-	-	9
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	64,381	17,193	-	81,574	149,198
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
Deposit Interest	122	-	-	122	14
Investment Income	5,074	-	-	5,074	3,954
Sub total	5,196	-	-	5,196	3,968
Total receipts	69,577	17,193	-	86,770	153,166
A3 Payments					
Utilities	2,543	-	-	2,543	2,681
Telephones	970	-	-	970	827
Alarm	1,570	-	-	1,570	1,433
Insurance	5,684	-	-	5,684	4,593
Security	2,245	-	-	2,245	640
Cleaning	56	-	-	56	1,462
Board of Deputies	890	-	-	890	780
Repairs	5,691	10,650	-	16,341	82,579
Legal and professional fees	2,736	6,543	-	9,279	32,165
Catering	574	-	-	574	57
Online donation fees	457	-	-	457	289
Sundries	1,074	-	-	1,074	5,705
Sub total	24,490	17,193	-	41,683	133,211
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Increase/(decrease) in investment portfolio	5,337	-	-	5,337	(25,300)
Sub total	5,337	-	-	5,337	(25,300)
Total payments	19,153	17,193	-	36,346	158,511
Net of receipts/(payments)	50,424	-	-	50,424	- 5,345
Capitalised repairs	-	-	-	-	23,083
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Funds last year end	227,157	-	-	227,157	255,586
Cash funds this year end	277,581	-	-	277,581	227,157

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank	277,581	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	277,581	-	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

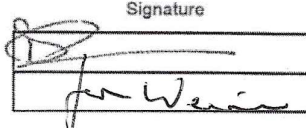
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Capital expenditure	-	-	23,083
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	Investments		-	172,091
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Dalia Halpern-Matthews	29/10/24
	Jonathan Hymas Weiner	29/10/24



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Chatham Memorial Synagogue

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2023

Charity no
(if any)

800902

Set out on pages

1-2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 12 / 2023**.

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:

Date:

29.10.2024

Name:

Sally Meah

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

FCCA

Address:

TC Group

Star House, Star Hill, Rochester

Kent, ME1 1UX

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.