CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION CE031761 REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1129261

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

FOR

GILLINGHAM COMMUNITY CHURCH

Carter & Coley Chartered Accountants 3 Durrant Road Bournemouth Dorset BH2 6NE

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

]	Pag	e
Report of the Trustees	1	to	5
Independent Examiner's Report	6	to	7
Statement of Financial Activities		8	
Balance Sheet	9	to	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11	to	19
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	20	to	21

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

Introduction

This has been our first full year in our new premises (Wessex House) in the High Street. We have continued to develop our community work and have seen God at work in the lives of many people in the past year, and we have been blessed by a number of new people joining the church and becoming integrated into the life of the fellowship.

Structure

At the end of this reporting period, the number of church Partners stands at 72. We have continued with a team of four Leaders, one of whom (Pete Bond) stepped out of the Team for a short period to facilitate some retraining associated with a change in paid employment. Additionally, right at the end of this reporting period, Jules Bond has begun a two-month sabbatical period.

GCC continues to have 5 part-time employees although two employees left the church during the year and were replaced. Of the employees, two have primary responsibility for the Open Door community work, one has primarily administrative responsibilities, one has both children's work and administrative responsibilities and one has responsibility for younger children's work and our Little Shoots group. Two of the part-time employees are also on the Leaders Team, but most of their paid work is outside of their role as a Leader. The group of employees and volunteers at Wessex House have worked extremely well together over the past year and there is a unity of purpose within the team.

The Trustees of GCC instructed solicitors to help with the process of converting GCC from a registered charity and limited company, into the single entity of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. This process was completed on 22nd March 2023. At present there is a team of four Trustees, but now the conversion to a CIO is complete, it is anticipated the team will be expanded in the coming months.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES Wessex House

Although some renovation work continues, we now have a building that largely meets the needs of the community work we are engaged in. Space for meeting together on Sunday's remains constrained, and we have no single large meeting space that can accommodate all the fellowship. At present we make use of different rooms (with local live AV streaming), and continue to explore how we can make best use of the space available.

Current building work that is approaching completion includes provision of a dedicated counselling room, a kitchen, a Foodbank storage area, a new staircase, and a shower room for use by our drop-in clients (that will include facilities for washing and drying clothes).

We have begun to allow outside groups to use spaces in the premises to support community activities in the town. Currently this includes the Gillingham Walking Group and a Carers Support Group. Having implemented a number of Health and Safety improvements, including a number of new policies, we are now in a position to expand the number of outside users and have opened this up for applications via our web site.

Affiliations and external relationships

GCC continues to be a member of the Evangelical Alliance, and GCC Leaders meet regularly with the leaders of other churches in the town.

The relationship between GCC and LifeLinks International has been valuable over the years, but there has been very little development of the LifeLinks network in the UK, which remains very small. As a result, the Leaders have explored alternative UK-based affiliations that would provide more meaningful support to the church as a whole. The affiliation with LifeLinks International was formally ended during the year, but with parting on very good terms.

Exploration of options during the year led to ongoing talks with the Pioneer network of churches, which seems a very good 'fit' for GCC and the possibility of formal links with Pioneer is being explored.

Community activities

Open Door

The church continues to operate 'Open Door' drop-in sessions in our High Street-facing café on Monday to Thursday mornings. This combines our food distribution for Gillingham Foodbank and poverty relief work (which take place on Mondays and Thursdays) along with our social support and help that primarily takes place on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. During all these sessions, light refreshments are offered and support is provided as needed. Our Tuesday and Wednesday sessions include socialising, prayer, games, cooking/money management sessions, craft, etc as well as discussions of spiritual matters. All sessions are managed by one of our part-time employees along with a team of volunteers and other professionals. In the reporting year we have seen a greater than 50% increase in the use of both the Foodbank and other Open Door support services. To help with the fuel poverty crisis, we also officially registered our Tuesday and Wednesday morning sessions as a 'Warm Welcome Space' to help people cope over the colder months. Happily, Open Door has become established as a real community hub, with an expanding number of regular visitors.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Gillingham Foodbank

GCC remains heavily involved with the running of Gillingham Foodbank, and Wessex House is the primary distribution centre for food to clients, which occurs mainly on Monday and Thursday mornings. Many different organisations, companies and individuals have been instrumental in making the foodbank such a success, and the church relies on a number of volunteers during each food distribution session. People in need of support from the Foodbank will usually have at least two people from the church team talk with them, to try to see if there is any other support that is needed or if there are other issues relating to poverty, debt, financial management, benefits advice or mental health support that our team might be able to help with. Together with our Open Door drop-in sessions on a Tuesday and Wednesday, the church therefore continues to be an important source of help to people in the local community, especially those experiencing the effects of poverty.

Debt relief, benefits support, financial management

Alongside our food distribution on Mondays and Thursdays we also offer support for debt management, benefits advice and financial planning through the help of professionals from Citizens Advice, who (through grant funding) are dedicated to support people we see at those times. This is a vital part of the service we provide as it helps enable us to address some of the root causes of poverty and the need for people to be dependent on the foodbank for support.

Additional support for purchase of significant household items is made available through Acts435, and through the Foodbank we are also able to provide money for gas and/or electricity to those in particular need.

Counselling service

During this year, we have also been able to establish a counselling service that is being offered 1-2 days per week and is run by a professional counsellor from within the church (on a voluntary basis). Mental health issues commonly go hand-in-hand with poverty and as well as giving practical help to relieve food or fuel poverty, being able to offer appropriate, professional counselling for some of those in need is a major new development for us. This service has been very successful, and has expanded to include a student counsellor who is also able to offer support under supervision.

Children and youth support

Our children's worker runs a well-established weekly parent and toddler group ('Little Shoots') that has proved to be very popular, and we continue to be involved in local school assemblies with Sharon Williams and Jules Bond both being actively involved at Wyke and Gillingham schools.

An after-school youth drop-in ('The Gap') has been established on Tuesday afternoons in our café area during term-time. This too is becoming well-established and is attracting a growing number of children.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Overseas

Many in our fellowship have connections with Christian ministries in countries overseas, some of which we have also supported as a church. Currently our regular support as a church has been to Celebrate Hope Ministries in Uganda, Compassion, Vision for Bangladesh, and Hope Now Ukraine.

Finance

Because of the major renovation and conversion work that continued at Wessex House throughout the year, finances continued to be tight. A substantial amount of work has now been done on the building and we have again been fortunate to receive a number of important grants to support this work, as well as the giving from the fellowship.

A new budgeting process has been established for the coming (2023-2024) year, with revised cost centres and responsibilities. Now that the immediate essential renovation work has largely been completed, this will help improve our financial management and cash flow in the future. However, while maintaining prudent financial management is of course essential, we are conscious that as a church, we ultimately operate under God's guidance and provision.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees seek to retain a minimum of three months average expenditure in reserves to enable the Church activities to continue in the short term without interruption.

Summary

The work of the church and its role in the community has continued to grow during the past year. Our vision, especially in terms of reaching the poor and vulnerable in the community and offering them help and support has never been more important with the recent economic climate, and we have seen more people using our services as a result.

As a church, we look to be guided by God through His Holy Spirit in the direction we are taking and seek to put His love, mercy and justice for all into action in our locality. Ultimately, our aim is to serve our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and to extend His kingdom in the place where he has brought each of us.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS Charitable Incorporated Organisation CE031761

Registered Charity number 1129261

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Principal address

3 Durrant Road Bournemouth Dorset BH2 6NE

Trustees S Gibbons Project Manager - retired Dr A Sparkes Veterinary Surgeon Ms R J Wright Pastoral & Faculty Administrator Ms A M Siderfin Gardener

CIO Secretary Dr A Sparkes

Independent Examiner

Carter & Coley Chartered Accountants 3 Durrant Road Bournemouth Dorset BH2 6NE

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 30 May 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Dr A Sparkes - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF GILLINGHAM COMMUNITY CHURCH

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Gillingham Community Church ('the CIO')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the CIO you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

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

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF GILLINGHAM COMMUNITY CHURCH

Independent examiner's statement

I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

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

- 1. accounting records were not kept in respect section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- 2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3. the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) 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; or

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.

Andrew A Clark FCA

Carter & Coley Chartered Accountants 3 Durrant Road Bournemouth Dorset BH2 6NE

30 May 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM Donations and legacies Investment income	Notes 2 3	Unrestricted funds £ 122,919 24	Restricted funds £ 55,732	2023 Total funds £ 178,651 24	2022 Total funds £ 214,313 94
Total		122,943	55,732	178,675	214,407
EXPENDITURE ON Charitable activities Church Other Total		105,675 <u>19,108</u> <u>124,783</u>	55,732 	161,407 <u>19,108</u> <u>180,515</u>	103,158 <u>17,830</u> <u>120,988</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(1,840)	-	(1,840)	93,419
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS Total funds brought forward		260,333		260,333	166,914
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		258,493		258,493	260,333

The notes form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET 31 MARCH 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS Tangible assets	8	440,429	-	440,429	445,636
CURRENT ASSETS Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	9	4,652 <u>36,210</u> 40,862		4,652 <u>36,210</u> 40,862	6,056 <u>38,374</u> 44,430
CREDITORS Amounts falling due within one year	10	(30,348)	-	(30,348)	(33,077)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		10,514		10,514	11,353
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		450,943	-	450,943	456,989
CREDITORS Amounts falling due after more than one year	ar 11	(192,450)	-	(192,450)	(196,656)
NET ASSETS		258,493		258,493	260,333
FUNDS	14				
Unrestricted funds				<u>258,493</u>	260,333
TOTAL FUNDS				258,493	260,333

The notes form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET - continued 31 MARCH 2023

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 30 May 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

Dr A Sparkes - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

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

Expenditure

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 a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Freehold property	-	2% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	-	25% on reducing balance

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charity's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

DONATIONS AND LEOACIES	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations and gifts	99,415	108,718
Collections	206	220
Gift aid	20,528	22,469
Grants	55,177	79,548
Church events	1,325	-
Government grants	2,000	3,358
	178,651	214,313

The balance of restricted funds at the year end will be spent in supporting the Church's outreach work.

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Valentine	6,000	5,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	-	20,000
Dorset Community Fund	-	3,000
Groundwork UK	-	500
Three Rivers Partnership	600	-
Foodbank	-	2,800
Trussell Trust	-	32,500
Asda	-	650
Arnold Clarke	-	1,000
IT Grant	-	14,098
Gillingham Foodbank	48,577	
	55,177	79,548

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Deposit account interest	24	94

....

. . . .

4. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	9,765	10,276
Independent examiners fee	1,650	1,500

5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Trustees' expenses

Two trustees were re-imbursed for properly incurred expenses totalling £217 during the year (2022 - \pounds nil).

Mrs H Gibbons, an employee of the Church and the wife of S Gibbons was re-imbursed properly incurred expenses of $\pounds 35$ (2022 - 183).

6. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
Church staff	5	5

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

7.	COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES				
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	
	INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM Donations and legacies	214,313	-	214,313	
	Investment income	94		94	
	Total	214,407	<u> </u>	214,407	
	EXPENDITURE ON Charitable activities				
	Church	102,359	799	103,158	
	Other	17,830		17,830	
	Total	120,189	799	120,988	
	NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	94,218	(799)	93,419	
	RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS Total funds brought forward	166,115	799	166,914	
	TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	260,333		260,333	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

IANGIDLE FIXED ASSE 15		Fixtures	
	Freehold	and	
	property	fittings	Totals
	£	£	£
COST	~	~	~
At 1 April 2022	440,441	28,009	468,450
Additions	2,973	1,585	4,558
At 31 March 2023	443,414	29,594	473,008
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2022	6,409	16,405	22,814
Charge for year	6,468	3,297	9,765
At 31 March 2023	12,877	19,702	32,579
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2023	430,537	9,892	440,429
At 31 March 2022	434,032	11,604	445,636
DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN	ONE YEAR		
		2023	2022

£

4,652

£

6,056

Prepayments and accrued income

9.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

10.	CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	2023	2022
	Bank loans and overdrafts (see note 12) Other creditors Accruals and deferred income	£ 4,206 24,493 <u>1,649</u>	£ 4,063 27,513 1,501
		30,348	33,077
11.	CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ON	2023	2022
	Bank loans (see note 12)	£ 192,450	£ 196,656
12.	LOANS		
	An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:		
		2023 £	2022 £
	Amounts falling due within one year on demand: Bank loans	4,206	4,063
	Amounts falling between one and two years: Bank loans - 1-2 years	4,353	4,206
	Amounts falling due between two and five years: Bank loans - 2-5 years	13,997	17,729
	Amounts falling due in more than five years:		
	Repayable by instalments: Bank loans more 5 years by instalments	174,100	174,721

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

13. SECURED DEBTS

The following secured debts are included within creditors:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank loans	<u>196,656</u>	200,719

Charge on the freehold property.

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/4/22	Net movement in funds	At 31/3/23
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	205,394	(1,840)	203,554
Building fund	54,939	<u> </u>	54,939
	260,333	(1,840)	258,493
TOTAL FUNDS	260,333	(1,840)	258,493

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	122,943	(124,783)	(1,840)
Restricted funds			
Acts 435	1,155	(1,155)	-
Valentine	6,000	(6,000)	-
Gillingham Foodbank	48,577	(48,577)	
	55,732	(55,732)	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	178,675	<u>(180,515</u>)	(1,840)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

14. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/4/21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/3/22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	111,176	94,218	205,394
Building fund	54,939		54,939
Restricted funds	166,115	94,218	260,333
Big Lottery	799	(799)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	166,914	93,419	260,333

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	214,407	(120,189)	94,218
Restricted funds Big Lottery		(799)	(799)
TOTAL FUNDS	214,407	(120,988)	93,419

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

15. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2023.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations and gifts	99,415	108,718
Collections Gift aid	206 20 528	220
Grants	20,528 57,177	22,469 79,548
Church events	1,325	79,540
Government grants	1,525	3,358
Covernment grunts		
	178,651	214,313
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	24	94
Total incoming resources	178,675	214,407
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities	5 0 400	10.007
Wages	59,109	48,337
Pensions Rent, rates and water	1,860 1,542	1,803 131
Insurance	2,457	2,760
Light and heat	6,000	2,735
Telephone	859	1,084
Sundries	233	1,566
Service and ministry costs	12,843	9,663
Donations related to ACTS 435	1,534	1,783
Open door giving	147	5,218
CAP Special events	200 2,809	1,400
Special events	2,009	
	89,593	76,480
Other		
Freehold property	6,468	6,409
Carried forward	6,468	6,409

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other		
Brought forward	6,468	6,409
Fixtures and fittings	3,297	3,867
Bank interest	9,343	6,054
	19,108	16,330
Support costs		
Management		
Subscriptions	3,162	2,531
Publicity	2,666	331
Training	489	679
Office expenses	2,208	2,115
Repairs and renewals	61,197	20,398
Travel	442	594
	70,164	26,648
Other		
Accountancy and legal fees	1,650	1,530
Total resources expended	180,515	120,988
Net (expenditure)/income	(1,840)	93,419

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements