

Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

Financial Accounts

31 December 2024

Charity Number 1058913

Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

Financial accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Contents	Page
Legal and Administrative Information	1
Trustees Report	2 - 4
Independent Examiners Report	5
Statement of Financial Activities	6
Balance Sheet	7
Notes to the accounts	8 – 11

Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

Legal and Administrative Information

Status

The synagogue was registered with the Charity Commission on 23rd September 1996 and is governed by a constitution and rules adopted on 28th June 1978.

Trustees and Council Members

Mr M Neville	Honorary Co-Chair
Mrs Lou Tribus	Honorary Co-Chair
Mrs Frances Gordon.	Honorary Vice Chairman
Mrs S Friedman	Honorary Treasurer (Appointed 9 June 2024)
Mrs Priscilla Dorrance	Honorary Secretary (Appointed 29 June 2024)
Mr M Pruskin	Honorary Warden
Mrs Alex Pachter	
Mr Martin Pachter	

Charity Number

1058193

Principal Address

Hainault Avenue
Giffard Park
Milton Keynes
MK14 5PQ

Independent Examiner

Mr N Boyce FCCA
Hickeson Boyce
68A High Street
Stony Stratford
Milton Keynes
MK11 1AQ

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
PO Box 170
Milton Keynes
MK6 1AL

Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

Trustees Report for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

The Trustees present their report along with the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 8 and comply with the applicable law and the requirements of SORP (FRS 102), Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

Constitution and Objects

The Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue, known in Hebrew as Bet Echud, is constituted under a deed of trust established in 1979 and is a registered charity No 1058193.

The principal objects of the Synagogue are the promoting of Judaism in the spheres of public worship, religious, educational, social, cultural and charitable activities.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Synagogue's governing document is its constitution, which is reviewed periodically. The Trustees of the Synagogue are its Council Members, including the Honorary Officers, who are elected by the membership in open meeting. There is also provision for up to three members to be co-opted to serve on Council until the subsequent Annual General Meeting.

The Trustees normally meet ten to eleven times a year and there are Sub-committees and Groups that report to the council, which then approves their activities. The main Sub-committees and Groups are:

- Ritual: This committee deals with all aspects of the provision of Synagogue services including festivals;
- Cheder education: This committee deals with the provision of religious schooling for children of members, through to bar/bat mitzvah age and beyond.

The Council, which takes appropriate external advice where necessary, makes all significant operational decisions except the appointment of a rabbi. The constitution requires that the appointment of a rabbi be approved by the membership in open meeting.

External Affiliations

The constitution provides that the Synagogue shall be a member of the Movement for Reform Judaism, for which benefit, affiliation fees are payable at a percentage of the previous year's subscription income. One of the benefits of membership of a synagogue is the availability of a burial plan, and a proportion of members' subscriptions are specifically levied in this respect: this is paid by the Synagogue to the Jewish Joint Burial Society.

Achievement of Objectives and Review of Activities

A full review of Synagogue activities is contained in the Synagogue's latest Annual Review which is circulated to all members prior to the Annual General Meeting. The key achievements during the year referred to in the Annual Review were:

- Ritual: Service leadership was shared between visiting student rabbis and our own lay readers.
- Cheder and Education: Cheder classes for the children are held in the Synagogue. We held monthly adult education sessions which have proved very popular.
- Social: We were able to hold parties to celebrate major Jewish holidays, including Purim, Sukkot and Chanukah. The Noshers and Sewing Group have met monthly.
- Welfare: The Welfare Group is running with the aim of keeping the Synagogue in touch with all members.
- Communication to Members: A weekly newsletter was sent to members via email. or post. Copies are also placed on our website.

- Grants: This year the High Holy Day Appeal beneficiaries were Willen Hospice, the Jewish Blind and Disabled Society and Voices of the Holocaust.

Plans for the Future

Within each of our main categories, the following are the short/medium-term goals:

- Rabbinic Support: We will liaise closely with Leo Baeck College and the new Progressive Movement for Judaism to ensure that we have sufficient visits from Student Rabbis.
- Ritual: We will continue to hold regular Shabbat services, alternating Friday evenings and Saturday mornings. We will hold services for the High Holy Days and major festivals. We will continue to hold some services in person and some online, to meet the varying needs of our members. The initiative to train new wardens and lay service leaders continues.
- Cheder and Education: We will continue to encourage local families with small children to join the community. We plan to continue further integration and merging between Cheder and the remainder of the community, with more social events and occasional child-friendly services.
- Programme Development: We will continue to evaluate methods of encouraging involvement by a broader range of members by offering more choices of activities.
- Welfare: We will continue to deliver support to the membership, particularly the elderly and recently bereaved. To build closer relationships between the Synagogue and the wider Milton Keynes community, we will continue to encourage the use of the hall by suitable outside groups.

Reserves Policy

It is the policy of the Synagogue to maintain our unrestricted funds, which are the free reserves of the Synagogue, at a level that is adequate to keep the Synagogue solvent. In conjunction with the subscriptions and other incoming resources, this provides sufficient funds to cover the administrative and support costs of the Synagogue.

The restricted funds are funds donated to the Synagogue for expenditure of a specific purpose or nature and are held in an appropriate form to enable the funds to be applied for the purpose for which they were established.

Grant Making Policy

The Synagogue pursues its charitable giving mainly through the High Holy Day Appeal. Our policy is to make grants out of donations received and only to registered charities, whether in the UK or overseas.

Risk Management

The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the Synagogue faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to mitigate risks as appropriate.

Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Accounts

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the board of trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the period end and of its incoming resources and resources expended during that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the requirements of applicable law and regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in IAS1 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement because it is a small charity.

This report was approved by the trustees on 28 October 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

RSM Fridman
Treasurer

Lou Tribus
Co-Chair of Council

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

I report on the accounts for the trust for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 6 to 11.

Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required for the year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act, to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission, under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities 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 Charities 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 Examiners Statement

In the course of 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 Charities Act, and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met, nor:
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

N Boyce FCCA
Hickeson Boyce
68A High Street
Stony Stratford
Milton Keynes
MK11 1AQ

Date: 29 October 2025

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS					
Subscriptions (Net)		27562		27562	24962
Income tax recoverable on subscriptions		5791		5791	5293
Donations and legacies		5761	915	6676	13043
Grants			15812	15812	-
Income tax recoverable on donations		758		758	2023
JJBS			9371	9371	7272
Interest		1679		1679	1126
Income from charitable activities	[2]	120	-	120	520
Other incoming resources	[3]	6331	-	6331	6534
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		48002	26098	74100	60773
EXPENDITURE					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Services and festivals	[4]	7697		7697	15937
Education	[5]	3668		3668	2719
JJBS		-	9371	9371	7272
MRJ affiliation		-		-	1144
Charitable Donations		100	915	1015	1939
		11465	10286	21751	29011
Building:					
Running expenses	[6]	24378	15812	40190	16248
Depreciation	[7]	7969		7969	4439
		32347	15812	48159	20687
Other resources expended:					
Administration	[8]	1183		1183	1263
General expenses	[9]	5291		5291	3425
Fund raising	[10]	-		-	264
		6474	-	6474	4952
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		50286	26098	76384	54650
Net gains/losses on investments		735		735	(25)
NET INCOMING RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR		(1,549)	-	(1,549)	6098
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
total funds brought forward		216629	-	216629	210531
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		215080	-	215080	216629

**MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

FIXED ASSETS		£	£	£	£
		Cost to date	Depreciation to date	Net book value 2024	Net book value 2023
Building	[11]	159952	90973	68979	72978
Religious Ritual Items	[11]	2566	2566	-	-
Furniture & Fittings	[11]	60787	50196	10591	440
Leasehold Land	[11]	15000		15000	15000
		<u>238305</u>	<u>143735</u>	<u>94570</u>	<u>88418</u>
Investments	[12]			<u>3741</u>	<u>2629</u>
				98311	91047
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors and Prepayments	[13]		7914		9250
Cash at bank and in Hand			<u>117430</u>		<u>120930</u>
			125344		130180
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Amounts falling due within one year	[14]		<u>8575</u>		<u>4619</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS				<u>116769</u>	<u>125561</u>
				215080	216608
TOTAL NET ASSETS				<u>215080</u>	<u>216608</u>
FINANCED BY					
Unrestricted: General Fund	[15]			215080	216608
				<u>215080</u>	<u>216608</u>

Approved by the Executive of the trustees (the synagogue council) on 29 October 2025
and signed on its behalf by

RSM Friedman

Trustee and Treasurer

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE
NOTES TO ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- a) **Accounting convention**
The accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis and under the historic cost convention and are shown in pounds sterling. They are in accordance with the requirements of the Statement Of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities (FRS102) under which advantage has been taken not to include a cash flow statement.
- b) **Subscriptions and other income**
Subscriptions are included on the basis of those due for the current year after making allowance for any amounts that are unlikely to be collected. Other income is recognised in the year to which it relates.
- c) **Income tax recoverable**
Income tax recoverable has been included to the extent that it arises on gift aided donations received during the year.
- d) **Depreciation**
The building is being depreciated at 2.5% per annum on cost.
Where the trustees consider that there is no impairment in the value of the leasehold at the year end it continues to be reflected in the balance sheet at cost.
Religious Ritual Items are being depreciated at 25% per annum on cost. (2023:25%)
Furniture and fittings are being depreciated at 25% per annum on cost. (2023:25%)
- e) **Funds accounting**
General funds are unrestricted funds which are available at the discretion of the Trustees for particular purposes.
Restricted funds are funds which are held for specific purposes.
- f) **Going concern**
The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties relating to going concern and the accounts have therefore been prepared on this basis.
- g) **Grants receivable**
The charity receives grants in respect of security costs, solar panel installation and building works. Income from government and other grants are recognised at fair value when the charity has entitlement after any performance conditions have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. If entitlement is not met then these amounts are deferred.

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
2 FUND RAISING INCOME				
Quiz	120		120	200
social events				94
Event 1 concert				226
TOTAL	<u>120</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>520</u>
3 OTHER INCOMING RESOURCES				
Event special	-		-	
Hall hire	5081		5081	5856
Judaica	2		2	68
Rituals festivals	871		871	429
Non cash asset donation	377		377	181
TOTAL	<u>6331</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6331</u>	<u>6534</u>
4 SERVICES AND FESTIVALS				
Kiddush and catering	687		687	618
Lay Readers, visiting rabbis	3428		3428	3587
Prayer books	2293		2293	
Ritual, festivals, choir	1289		1289	11732
TOTAL	<u>7697</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7697</u>	<u>15937</u>
5 EDUCATION				
Cheder materials	509		509	176
Cheder teachers	2366		2366	2133
Adult Education	178		178	410
Conference bursaries	615		615	-
TOTAL	<u>3668</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3668</u>	<u>2719</u>

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE
NOTES TO ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023	
6	BUILDING				
	Electricity		3006	3139	
	Water		504	385	
	Garden		1252	690	
	Cleaning/ hygiene consumables		3396	3110	
	Repairs and maintenance	11544	21559	8011	
	Electrical work	1599	1599	-	
	Security: keyholding	1913	7710	255	
	Furniture & fittings <£1,000	1164	1164	658	
	TOTAL	24378	40190	16248	
7	DEPRECIATION				
	Depreciation on Furniture & Fittings	3970	3970	440	
	Depreciation on ritual assets	-	-	-	
	Depreciation on Building	3999	3999	3999	
	TOTAL	7969	7969	4439	
8	ADMINISTRATION				
	Postage	97	97	150	
	Telephone	1051	1051	1078	
	Data Protection	35	35	35	
	TOTAL	1183	1183	1263	
9	GENERAL EXPENSES				
	Insurance	2348	2348	1881	
	Professional fees	670	670	9	
	Council member expenses	445	445	84	
	Non trustee expenses	244	244	730	
	Website	311	311	-	
	Welfare	754	754	721	
	Social events	519	519	-	
	Bank charges	-	-	-	
	Conference bursary	-	-	-	
	TOTAL	5291	5291	3425	
10	FUND RAISING				
	Quiz		-	-	
	Social events		-	144	
	Judaica		-	120	
	TOTAL	-	-	264	
11	Tangible Fixed Assets				
	Leasehold Land and Building	Religious Ritual items	Furniture and Fittings	Total	
	£	£	£	£	
	Cost				
	At 1 January 2024	174952	2566	46666	224184
	Additions			14121	14121
	Disposals				-
	At 31 DECEMBER 2024	174952	2566	60787	238305
	Depreciation				
	At 1 January 2024	86974	2566	46226	135766
	Charge for the year	3999		3970	7969
	On disposals				-
	At 31 DECEMBER 2024	90973	2566	50196	143735
	Net book value				
	AT 31 DECEMBER 2024	83979	-	10591	94570
	AT 31 DECEMBER 2023	87978	-	440	88418

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE
NOTES TO ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Other Investments £			
12 INVESTMENTS				
COST				
At 1 January 2024	2629			
Additions	377			
Disposals	-			
Revaluation	735			
At 31 December 2024	<u>3741</u>			
Amortisation				
At January 2024	-			
Charge for year	-			
On disposals	-			
At 31 December 2024	<u>-</u>			
Net Book Value				
At 31 Dec 2024	<u>3741</u>			
At 31 Dec 2023	<u>2629</u>			
		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
				Total Funds 2023 £
13 DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS				
CST Grant			759	759
Tax Refund on Gift Aid subscriptions	5791			5791
Tax Refund on Gift Aid donations	758			758
Insurance (prepayment)	187			187
Late subs				179
Hall hire	48			48
MRJ levy				-
Website	371			371
TOTAL	<u>7155</u>		<u>759</u>	<u>7914</u>
14 CREDITORS				
Student Rabbi	1105			1105
Cleaner				57
Willen Hospice	200			200
telephone	54			54
Building maintenance	1000			1000
Non council expense	28			28
key deposits			95	95
Audit Fee for 2022 accounts				-
Security	190		759	949
JJBS Refundable travel			1450	1450
Key holder security	149			149
Subs paid in advance	3545			3545
TOTAL	<u>6271</u>		<u>2304</u>	<u>8575</u>

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE
NOTES TO ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

15	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	Designated Funds	Undesignated Funds	Total Unrestricted Funds
		£	£	£
	At 1st January 2023	89,610	127,019	216,629
	Net incoming resources/(resources expended) for the year	-	(1,549)	-1,549
	Appropriations in the year	-	-	-
	At 31st December 2024	<u>89,610</u>	<u>125,470</u>	<u>215,080</u>

DESIGNATED FUNDS	Rabbinic Fund	Building Fund	Kitchen Fund	Total Designated Funds
At 1st January 2024	47,540	31,570	10,500	89,610
Appropriations in the year	-	-	-	-
At 31st December 2024	<u>47,540</u>	<u>31,570</u>	<u>10,500</u>	<u>89,610</u>

The designated funds represent amounts set aside for anticipated expenses relating to the building and for Rabbinic Services.

16 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There was no related party transactions that require disclosure.

17 TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

During the year no trustees received any remuneration. Charitable, education, building, administration and fundraising expenses totalling £445 were reimbursed (2023 - £5055).

18 STAFF COSTS

During the year there were no members of staff employed by the charity.