# River Church

## Report and Accounts
## Year ended 31 December 2025

Stewardship
*Active generosity*

1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB
www.stewardship.org.uk

**RIVER CHURCH**

**CHARITY INFORMATION**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Trustees** | Ashvinder Vickers (appointed 8 January 2026)<br>Michael John Holt (resigned 30 June 2026)<br>Graham Leslie Burgess<br>Caroline Grace Read (resigned 1 April 2026)<br>Mary Kathleen Porter<br>Alistair John Handford<br>Ruth Abigail Parry<br>Andrea Boultwood (appointed 23 March 2026)<br>Robin Vickers (appointed 1 July 2026)<br>David Tolson (appointed 1 July 2026) |
| **Treasurer** | Nigel Rivers |
| **Church Leaders** | Adam Chisnall — River Maidenhead<br>Paul Wratten & Anthea Wratten — River Marlow<br>Julie Ioakeim — River Slough<br>Rachael Pymm, Catherine France — The Journey (Englefield Green)<br>Luke Saunders (stepped down July 2025) |
| **Governing Document** | Constitution dated 15 December 2022 |
| **Charity Registration Number** | 1146525 |
| **Principal Address & Registered Office** | 1 Meadlake Place<br>Egham<br>Surrey<br>TW20 8HE |
| **Independent Examiner** | Sarah Crispin ACA<br>Stewardship<br>1 Lamb's Passage<br>London<br>EC1Y 8AB |
| **Bankers** | CAF Bank Ltd<br>25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill,<br>West Malling<br>ME19 4JQ<br><br>Metro Bank<br>1 Southampton Row<br>London<br>WC1B 5HQ |

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# RIVER CHURCH REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
# for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025. 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).

## OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

### Objectives and aims

The charitable aims of River Church are to:

- Advance the Christian faith in the Thames Valley, the United Kingdom and the wider world;
- Bring relief to persons who are in need, financial hardship or suffering from illness or deprivation;
- Further Christian or secular education in the Thames Valley, the United Kingdom and wider world as appropriate;
- Benefit the lives of people in the communities where River churches reside; by improving or providing local facilities and activities.

The vision of River Church is to serve our communities and to see transformation through the love and power of God.

River Church employed 9 staff on either a full-time or part-time basis as at 31 December 2025 (2024: 10), including the church leaders and other administration staff and youth workers.

In addition to the employed staff there are many teams of volunteers and helpers across our four churches who together seek to be "salt and light" within our communities to achieve the charity's aims.

**Public benefit**

In planning the activities of River Church, the trustees have given regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance (Reg 40 (2) (c) (ii)) and particularly the guidance for charities whose objects include the advancement of religion.

River Church provides public benefit in numerous ways across our four churches as follows:

## River Church 2025 Achievements

1. To advance the Christian faith in accordance with our statement of beliefs

- In 2025 in Maidenhead, we ran three Alpha bible teaching courses. We developed a new approach to developing discipleship in small groups.
- We baptised four people in 2025 in Maidenhead and four people in Slough.
- We created new partnerships with local churches in Maidenhead to launch youth projects
- Maidenhead took the church family on a weekend away to equip them in evangelism
- We have grown our community outreach and have seen the church fellowship blossom in size
- In Slough, the number in the Church has increased to around 40, not including children, if all attend at the same time. We frequently see new faces, with comments like, they felt Holy Spirit in the Church and intend to return
- Slough held Easter and Christmas outreaches in the community with one held on Slough High Street at Easter. This also brought in new people to the church
- Slough have had a number of miraculous healings, including the mother of a member who had a brain bleed and was told she would be a vegetable, unable to walk, speak, see or feed herself. She walked out of the hospital
- Since May 2025 to March 2026 our online sermons in Slough have been viewed over 4000 times
- We attended the Englefield Green Village Fair in June 2025 to promote the work of the Journey Church at the Hub, including giving people prayer verses and encouragement, free refreshments, information about activities and volunteering opportunities at the Hub, and a free plant giveaway
- At The Journey Church in Englefield Green, we held a Christmas Carol service attended by 40 people, many not usual attendees of the church. Featuring dance performance by children of The Hub's dance club and a musical play telling the Christmas Story

- Our Marlow Church worked through a careful, thoughtful, theological discerning process as a church resulting in adopting affirming theology regarding the full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ people

2. To relieve persons who are in conditions of need (financial, sickness, the aged) and to relieve the distress caused.

- Across all our churches we continued to support those in financial need within and outside our church via our hardship fund established by the trustees
- In Maidenhead, our CAP Debt Centre has yet again been at the heart of supporting those in financial need within the community. We are currently creating a new partnership model with other churches in Maidenhead for launch in 2026. This will facilitate the growth of our Centre while simultaneously bringing our focus tighter into the town of Maidenhead where we can be more effective with our support and ministry
- In Slough, our Giving Hope Furniture Project (GHF) continues to run and impact the community. SEGRO continue to give us temporary buildings with the promise of a permanent one. GHF continues to bless people, we are praying and supporting more people than ever. Four families that came to us through GHF who lived in temporary accommodation, have been rehoused to permanent housing, this normally takes 5 years, it has taken around 1 – 2 years since joining us and despite moving out of the area, still consider River Church Slough as their home. Many we support through GHF have no transport, but Priory School lend us a minibus to give lifts to those who we have met through GHF without transport
- Four community lunches were hosted at The Journey in Englefield Green, serving a total of 220 hot meals. Each lunch is free to attend to help those in financial need. We see a large number of elderly attendees from the home next door to our Community Hub. In addition, the Christmas community lunch also included a free raffle, quiz and Christmas presents given to all attendees.

3. To further Christian or secular education in Thames Valley, UK and the world as appropriate.

- In Maidenhead, we have been putting time, energy and resources into our young people this last year, creating spaces for them to flourish and grow and recognise where their identity lies and to look at the calling on their lives. This has been achieved through creating a partnership youth project in Maidenhead, working closely with Pioneer and

their resources and by taking them to youth camp where they can receive deeper teaching and discipleship

- We are currently in discussions to rent a room to run an Alpha course in Slough Centre
- We run an online weekly Bible study and weekly online Prayer Group in Slough and also have weekly/fortnightly midweek groups
- Our Marlow church established contacts with a project in Malawi - Seeds of Hope via Links International - and sent a team of 6 to deliver training and development work
- Marlow continue to support our 2 long-term legacy missionaries in Asia
- Marlow delivered regular Bible based teaching overseen by a theologian
- We expanded our leadership team in Marlow as part of a strategy to develop younger leaders

4. To provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.

- Our community lunches in Maidenhead have been flourishing, providing a safe space, a hot meal and a listening ear to those across the town but in particular on the Larchfield Estate
- In Slough, our Toddler Group continues to run and reach the community
- In Englefield Green, we run an after-school children's club hosted every Thursday during school term, attended by 40 children ages 7-11 years. Each child received an Easter egg and Christmas present. We also run a weekly dance club in partnership with Royal Holloway Dance Society
- Our Community Gardening Club in Englefield Green was awarded the Outstanding Award by the RHS Wisley for the third year in a row. The club brings people together to care for gardens, learn new skills and enjoy the benefits of working outdoors. We held family gardening days during each school holidays, providing opportunities for fun and learning about growing food all ages
- Also in Englefield Green we hosted a weekly Thursday Community Cafe, providing a communal space for those in the local vicinity with coffee, tea and entertainment including quizzes, bingo and other games
- We ran an Energy Efficiency Cookery Course where seven participants learned how to prepare healthy dishes using an air fryer. Each participant received an air fryer to take home, helping them save energy and money while cooking

- The Journey Church run free and well-attended Summer Fair, Carol Singing and Easter events for residents at Aldwyn Place, the elderly rented housing centre with extra care situated adjacent to our centre. This included cake tasting, a singalong, games and a free raffle
- Catherine Foster, a member of the leadership team at The Journey Church was awarded the Inspirational Volunteer Award at the Runnymede and Spelthorne Volunteer Awards 2025. She was also nominated for the Volunteer of the Year Award at the Runnymede Civic Awards 2025
- Richard Emmett, a member of The Journey Church, won the Volunteer of the Year Award in the Environmentalist and Climate Change Category at the Runnymede Civic Awards 2025
- We installed a new public access defibrillator outside our Community Hub in Englefield Green
- In Marlow, we continued to run a successful lunch group for older people in local housing association accommodation, and we continued to run our long-standing parents, carers, babies, toddlers and older folks' community group

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

### Financial review

**General Funds**

During the year total incoming resources to General Funds were £328,113 (2024: £391,334) and total resources used from General Funds were £375,358 (2024: £359,188), resulting in a General Fund deficit for the year of £47,245 (2024: surplus of £32,146). Good general regularity of giving continues across the four churches, combined with the continued budgetary spending controls.

**Designated Funds**

Donations to Designated Funds totalled £1,700 (2024: £47,333) with designated expenditure totalling £2,034 (2024: £6,870).The deficit of £334 (2024: surplus of £40,463) was taken from the surpluses brought forward, after some agreed specific transfers between funds.

**Restricted Funds**

Restricted Funds income totalled £168,734 (2024: £101,067) for the year with restricted expenditure totalling £79,563 (2024: £93,972). The surplus of £89,171 (2024: £7,095 was added to Restricted Funds surpluses brought forward with some agreed transfers from other funds.

At the end of the year, 31st December 2025, the Charity held surpluses totalling £843,521 (2024: £909,492) in General Funds, £4,813 (2024: £48,091) surplus in Designated Funds and £334,364 (2024: £183,522) in Restricted Funds.

General Funds continue to exceed the trustees' minimum reserve policy of £75,000 (2024: £75,000) by a good margin.

**Bank Balances**

River Church bank balances at 31st December 2025 stood at £860,662 (2024: £970,245) which the trustees consider sufficient to meet all foreseeable and future risks now that the 2026 General Fund income and expenditure budget has been approved.

**Investment policy and objectives**

The trustees of River Church acknowledge they have a key responsibility for good stewardship of church funds. In decision-making in these areas, the following investment principles and guidelines are considered.

River Church will:

- Invest funds in a manner that is consistent with the teachings of Jesus Christ and in line with its charitable objectives;
- Handle all funds with integrity, transparency and with good governance;
- Invest funds in a way that is both compliant with prevailing charitable law and that balance both the medium- and longer-term needs foreseen;
- Invest funds in a manner that seeks to maximise the return or to achieve other agreed aims in line with its charitable objectives;
- Formally review the investment policy annually as to its adequacy.

**Reserves policy**

The trustees have established a policy of maintaining reserves at a level they feel would enable them to continue the current activities of the church in the event of a short-term significant drop in income.

The largest regular operating costs of the charity are staff salaries and church building leases and meeting hall hire. Consequently, the trustees' policy is to maintain sufficient reserves to cover three months of such expenditure (£75K). Unrestricted funds exceeded this level throughout the year.

The governing body review the level of reserves annually to confirm their adequacy and the potential risk. At the 31st of December 2025 this General Fund "risk reserve" stood at £75,000 (2024: £75,000).

The current total level of reserves remains relatively high mainly due to substantial giving to River Maidenhead's 'Miracle Building Project', CAP debt management designated funds and Englefield Green Community Hub.

## FUTURE PLANS

The key strategies for the charity during 2026 are both to build and to expand on the local community focus work and initiatives where the individual churches reside, ie., to continue to build churches that develop strong healthy followers of Jesus who bless and serve the community within which they operate.

Our goals for 2026 are to;
- invest in and train up a new generation of leaders;
- continue to encourage the four churches to remain financially independent so that the central cost overhead is reduced and shared among them;
- to support the development of the four independent churches within a common set of shared values;
- to assist Marlow to become its own CIO and transition out of the current CIO due to its theological position not aligning with the Pioneer Network, River Church's apostolic oversight.
- continue the search for a suitable property for the Maidenhead Miracle Building project and to find a suitable location for the continuation of our Giving Hope Furniture project in Slough.
- There is a plan to split CAP off as a separate charity (in partnership with other churches in the town) with a subsequent transfer of assets and employee to a new CAP CIO.
- further develop our online church capability and community: reaching, connecting and sharing in the digital space

## STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

### Governing document

In December 2022 River Church converted to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with a new written constitution duly received and accepted by the Charities Commission on 15th December 2022.

This constitution replaced the 2012 Memorandum and Articles. The limited company therefore closed in December 2022.

### Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The powers of appointment and removal of trustees rests with the 'members' of River Church. Trustees are selected from committed attendees of the churches that make up River Church. This aims to ensure that the trustee body as a whole is involved practically in working out the

church's mission and the trustees have also subscribed to a statement of faith. No trustees are remunerated for their services to River Church.

During 2025 the trustees of River Church met on four occasions. Each meeting of the trustees during the year was led by the Chair of trustees, who was not a member of the spiritual leadership of River Church. The Chair is elected annually by the other non-leadership trustees. Each trustee meeting had a full and balanced agenda covering the spiritual, strategic, performance, financial, legal and risk issues facing the church.

## STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

### Organisational structure

**Local Management**

Directions relating to the charity for 2025 were made by the trustees, in consultation with the church leaders, who were responsible for governing the activities and teaching of the church. Day-to-day decisions on the use of resources remained the responsibility of the staff and volunteers in charge of the different departments within the churches.

Expenditure is controlled by budgets set and expense approval monitored by the trustees. The establishment of a new Restricted or Designated Fund is at the joint discretion of the trustees in consultation with the leader of each Church.

**Network Structure**

River Church is a member of the Evangelical Alliance and has a long-standing relationship with Pioneer; a Christian organisation that pursues similar objectives in the United Kingdom and overseas. The church works with Pioneer in assisting other churches and receives help itself where needed.

### Responsibilities of trustees under charity law

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

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

1. select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;

2. observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
3. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
4. state whether the applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
5. prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that 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 Charities Act 2011 and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. 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.

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

Ash Vickers
Ash Vickers (Aug 24, 2026 10:19:31 GMT+1) ..... Date: Aug 24, 2026 .....

Ashvinder Vickers

(appointed Trustee 8 January 2026 &

Chair of Trustees from 4 March 2026)

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

## TO THE TRUSTEES OF

## RIVER CHURCH
## ('the Charity')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2025 on pages 12 to 23 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 15 to 16.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

### Independent examiner's statement

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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 of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and 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.

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.

Sarah Crispin
Sarah Crispin (Aug 24, 2026 10:31:03 GMT+1)

Sarah Crispin ACA
Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Aug 24, 2026

**RIVER CHURCH**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

| | Note | Unrestricted Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Total Funds 2025 £ | Total Funds 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:** | | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 3 | 305,937 | 154,993 | 460,929 | 508,809 |
| Charitable activities | 4 | 9,952 | 3,769 | 13,721 | 5,477 |
| Investments | 5 | 13,925 | 9,973 | 23,897 | 25,449 |
| **Total income and endowments** | | 329,813 | 168,734 | 498,547 | 539,734 |
| **EXPENDITURE ON:** | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 6 | 377,392 | 79,563 | 456,955 | 460,030 |
| **Total expenditure** | | 377,392 | 79,563 | 456,955 | 460,030 |
| **Net income/(expenditure)** | | (47,579) | 89,171 | 41,592 | 79,704 |
| **Transfers between funds** | 14 | (61,671) | 61,671 | - | - |
| **Net movement in funds** | | (109,250) | 150,842 | 41,592 | 79,704 |
| **Reconciliation of funds:** | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 957,584 | 183,522 | 1,141,105 | 1,061,401 |
| **Total funds carried forward** | 14 | 848,334 | 334,364 | 1,182,698 | 1,141,105 |

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The notes on page 15 - 22 form part of these accounts.

**RIVER CHURCH**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025**

| | Note | Unrestricted Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Total Funds 2025 £ | Total Funds 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **FIXED ASSETS** | | | | | |
| Tangible assets | 8 | 17,624 | - | 17,624 | 25,190 |
| | | 17,624 | - | 17,624 | 25,190 |
| **CURRENT ASSETS** | | | | | |
| Debtors | 9 | 10,208 | 650 | 10,858 | 15,480 |
| Investments | 10 | 311,856 | - | 311,856 | 151,883 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 11 | 524,991 | 335,671 | 860,662 | 970,245 |
| | | 847,055 | 336,321 | 1,183,376 | 1,137,608 |
| **CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year** | 12 | (16,345) | (1,957) | (18,302) | (21,694) |
| **Net current assets / (liabilities)** | | 830,710 | 334,364 | 1,165,074 | 1,115,915 |
| **Total assets less current liabilities** | | 848,334 | 334,364 | 1,182,698 | 1,141,105 |
| **TOTAL NET ASSETS** | | 848,334 | 334,364 | 1,182,698 | 1,141,105 |
| **FUND BALANCES** | 14 | | | | |
| Unrestricted Funds | | | | | |
| General funds | | 843,521 | - | 843,521 | 909,492 |
| Designated funds | | 4,813 | - | 4,813 | 48,091 |
| | | 848,334 | - | 848,334 | 957,583 |
| Restricted Funds | | - | 334,364 | 334,364 | 183,522 |
| | | 848,334 | 334,364 | 1,182,698 | 1,141,105 |

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and were signed on its behalf by:

Ash Vickers
Ash Vickers (Aug 24, 2026 10:19:31 GMT+1)

Ashvinder Vickers

Date: Aug 24, 2026

Charity number: 1146525

The notes on page 15 - 22 form part of these accounts.

**RIVER CHURCH**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**

| | Note | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Cash flows from operating activities:** | | | |
| ***Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities*** | a | 26,492 | 263,504 |
| **Cash flows from investing activities:** | | | |
| Dividends, interest and rents from investments | | 23,897 | 25,449 |
| Purchase of property, plant and equipment | | - | (29,698) |
| Purchase of investments | | (159,973) | (151,883) |
| ***Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities*** | | (136,075) | (156,133) |
| ***Change in cash and equivalents in the reporting period*** | | (109,583) | 107,371 |
| **Cash and equivalents at the beginning of the year** | b | 970,245 | 862,874 |
| ***Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year*** | b | 860,662 | 970,245 |

**Analysis of changes in net debt:**

| | At start of year £ | Cash-flows £ | At end of year £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cash | 970,245 | (109,583) | 860,662 |
| Total net funds / (debt) | 970,245 | (109,583) | 860,662 |

**Note a: Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities**

| | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|
| ***Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)*** | 41,592 | 79,704 |
| **Adjustments for:** | | |
| Depreciation charges and provisions for impairment | 7,566 | 4,508 |
| Dividends, interest and rents from investments | (23,897) | (25,449) |
| (Increase)/decrease in debtors | 4,622 | 201,247 |
| Increase/(decrease) in creditors | (3,391) | 3,494 |
| ***Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities*** | 26,492 | 263,504 |

**Note b: Analysis of cash and cash equivalents**

| | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Cash at bank with immediate access | 703,556 | 817,796 |
| Notice deposits | 157,106 | 152,449 |
| **Total cash and cash equivalents** | 860,662 | 970,245 |

**RIVER CHURCH**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

## 1 Statutory Information

The charity is a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission in England & Wales. The charity's registered number and principal address can be found on the Charity Information page.

## 2 Accounting Policies

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the "Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) ("the Charities SORP"), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102") and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (the '2008 Regulations') requires charities to prepare their accounts in accordance with 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005' but this accounting standard has since been withdrawn and has been replaced by the Charities SORP mentioned in the preceding paragraph. The charity has prepared these financial statements in accordance with the new Charities SORP; this departure from the 2008 Regulations is believed to be necessary for these financial statements to give a 'true and fair view'.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

a) Going concern

The trustees (who are the charitable company's directors for the purposes of company law) have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the trustees have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and / or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The trustees have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

b) Income

Income including investment income is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part, income is generally recognised when it is received. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income from donations and legacies includes:

i) Recoverable gift aid. This is recognised when the related donation is received. Gift aid that has not been recovered by the balance sheet date is included as a debtor.

ii) Legacies. Income from legacies is recognised when a distribution is received from the estate or, if earlier, when the charity has been notified that a distribution will be made and the amount receivable can be measured reliably.

The charity relies on volunteers to carry out many of its activities. However, in accordance with the SORP, the value of these services has not been included in these financial statements as they cannot be reliably measured.

Income from charitable activities represents income receivable from goods, services and facilities supplied in furtherance of the charity's charitable objects. It includes income from facilities hire which represents contributions to services from other community groups using the Forest Estate Community Hub.

Investment income represents income generated by the charity's assets and includes income from bank interest.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

The charity makes grants to other institutions and individuals to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.

**2 Accounting Policies (cont.)**

The cost of raising funds is not significant and has not been separately disclosed.

Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.

d) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects. Endowment funds are donations that are retained as capital in accordance with the donor's wishes. The nature of the restriction determines whether the endowments represent permanent endowments or expendable endowments.

e) Tangible fixed assets

Items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £10,000 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life. To achieve this objective the following rates of depreciation are charged:

| | |
|---|---|
| Computers & Sound Equipment | Over 3 years |
| Vehicles | Over 5 years |

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment in periods when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

f) Pension scheme arrangements

The charity operates defined contribution pension schemes for its employees. Obligations for contributions to these schemes are recognised as an expense when the liability arises. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

g) Taxation

The charity has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's income.

h) Financial instruments

The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities all qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Except for loans, creditors and debtors are measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive). The charity recognises liabilities for the principal of those loans that remains outstanding at the year end (i.e. the liabilities exclude any interest chargeable on the loans in future years).

i) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

The trustees do not consider that there are any material sources of estimation or uncertainty at the balance sheet date that could result in a material adjustment to the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the next reporting period.

**3 Donations and legacies**

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ |
| Donations of cash and similar | 383,166 | 339,505 |
| Donations in kind (note 3a) | - | 3,750 |
| Other grants receivable | 18,852 | 45,200 |
| Legacies receivable | - | 59,220 |
| Income tax recoverable | 58,911 | 61,134 |
| | 460,929 | 508,809 |

**a** Donations in kind comprise:

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ |
| Donated services | - | 3,750 |
| | - | 3,750 |

£nil donated services during the current year. Prior year donated services comprised pro bono services of a fundraising specialist for CAP Debt Centre.

## 4 Income from charitable activities

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ |
| Forest Hub - Facilities Hire | 3,769 | 5,477 |
| Weekend away | 9,952 | - |
| | 13,721 | 5,477 |

## 5 Investment income

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ |
| Bank interest | 23,897 | 25,449 |
| | 23,897 | 25,449 |

## 6 Charitable expenditure

| | | Church Activities | CAP Debt Centre | Forest Hub | Total Charitable Expenditure 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| a | Incurred directly on activities | | | | |
| | Salaries, travel & training | 176,058 | 22,416 | 21,984 | 220,459 |
| | Church ministry costs | 13,598 | - | 239 | 13,837 |
| | Outreach & events | 33,885 | - | 5,997 | 39,882 |
| | CAP Debt centre running costs | - | 659 | - | 659 |
| | Equipment | 8,984 | - | 1,572 | 10,556 |
| | Premises expenses including venue hire | 50,870 | - | 5,652 | 56,523 |
| | Building costs | - | - | 14,090 | 14,090 |
| | Communications | 4,198 | - | 590 | 4,788 |
| | Legacy costs | 117 | - | - | 117 |
| | Grants payable (note 6c) | 44,364 | 2,947 | - | 47,310 |
| b | Support costs | | | | |
| | Professional fees | 17,890 | 660 | 4,860 | 23,410 |
| | Office costs & insurance | 12,201 | 275 | 483 | 12,959 |
| | Depreciation of tangible fixed assets | 7,566 | - | - | 7,566 |
| | Governance | 4,322 | 271 | 207 | 4,800 |
| | | 374,052 | 27,228 | 55,675 | 456,955 |

| | Church Activities | CAP Debt Centre | Forest Hub | Total Charitable Expenditure 2024 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Incurred directly on activities | | | | |
| Salaries, travel & training | 178,209 | 36,601 | 22,942 | 237,752 |
| Church ministry costs | 15,162 | - | 474 | 15,636 |
| Outreach & events | 18,258 | 6 | 5,996 | 24,260 |
| CAP Debt centre running costs | - | 1,708 | - | 1,708 |
| Equipment | 10,365 | - | 270 | 10,635 |
| Premises expenses including venue hire | 44,050 | - | 3,622 | 47,672 |
| Building costs | 4,193 | - | 4,751 | 8,944 |
| Communications | 4,094 | - | 654 | 4,748 |
| Legacy costs | 645 | - | - | 645 |
| Grants payable (note 6c) | 60,367 | 7,200 | - | 67,567 |
| Support costs | | | | |
| Professional fees | 14,253 | 3,750 | 500 | 18,503 |
| Office costs & insurance | 12,203 | 249 | 202 | 12,653 |
| Depreciation of tangible fixed assets | 4,508 | - | - | 4,508 |
| Governance | 4,048 | 419 | 334 | 4,800 |
| | 370,355 | 49,932 | 39,743 | 460,030 |

**6 Charitable expenditure (cont.)**

As the charity's income is over £500,000 in the current year, expenditure is disclosed by charitable activity.

Governance costs are allocated to the CAP Debt Centre and the Forest Hub based on the proportion of total income restricted to these projects.

The fee payable to the independent examiner for preparing and examining the accounts was £4,800 (2024: £800); in addition the charity paid £370 (2024: £350) to Stewardship for consultancy services.

**c Grants payable**

| | Institutions | Individuals | 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Grants for UK and overseas mission | 21,380 | 18,050 | 39,430 |
| Grants for the relief of poverty | 4,947 | 2,934 | 7,880 |
| | 26,327 | 20,984 | 47,310 |

The comparatives for the previous year are as follows:

| | Institutions | Individuals | 2024 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Grants for UK and overseas mission | 41,448 | 16,750 | 58,198 |
| Grants for the relief of poverty | 7,674 | 1,695 | 9,369 |
| | 49,122 | 18,445 | 67,567 |

The charity's principal grants to institutions comprised:

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ |
| Pioneer | 7,062 | 7,748 |
| Frontiers | 4,500 | 8,700 |
| Light International | 9,818 | 10,000 |
| Englefield Green Community Hub | - | 15,000 |
| Christians Against Poverty | 4,947 | 7,674 |
| | 26,327 | 49,122 |

**7 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and trustee remuneration**

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ |
| Gross wages and salaries | 191,273 | 207,717 |
| Social security | 10,111 | 12,059 |
| Pension costs | 5,181 | 5,766 |
| | 206,565 | 225,542 |

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 9 (2024: 10). Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

The charity's key management comprise the trustees and the church leaders on the Charity Information page. During the year key management received employment benefits totalling £106,624 (2024: £89,801).

No trustees received employment benefits in either the current or preceding year.

## 8 Tangible fixed assets

| | Vehicles | Computers & Sound Equipment | Total 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | £ | £ |
| Cost | | | |
| At 1 January 2025 | 17,500 | 37,854 | 55,354 |
| At 31 December 2025 | 17,500 | 37,854 | 55,354 |
| Accumulated depreciation | | | |
| At 1 January 2025 | 1,458 | 28,706 | 30,164 |
| Charge for the year | 3,500 | 4,066 | 7,566 |
| At 31 December 2025 | 4,958 | 32,772 | 37,730 |
| Net book value | | | |
| At 31 December 2025 | 12,542 | 5,083 | 17,624 |
| At 31 December 2024 | 16,042 | 9,149 | 25,190 |

## 9 Debtors: falling due within one year

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ |
| **Falling due within one year:** | | |
| Tax recoverable | 4,725 | 6,599 |
| Other debtors | 849 | 118 |
| Prepayments and accrued income | 5,284 | 8,763 |
| | 10,858 | 15,480 |

## 10 Current asset investments

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ |
| Cash equivalent deposits | 311,856 | 151,883 |
| | 311,856 | 151,883 |

## 11 Cash at Bank and in Hand

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ |
| Cash at bank with immediate access | 703,556 | 817,796 |
| Notice deposits | 157,106 | 152,449 |
| | 860,662 | 970,245 |

## 12 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year

| | 2025 | 2024 |
|---|---|---|
| | £ | £ |
| Trade creditors | 9,571 | 6,229 |
| Taxation and social security | 3,931 | 3,744 |
| Other creditors | - | 80 |
| Accruals | 4,800 | 9,360 |
| Deferred income | - | 2,281 |
| | 18,302 | 21,694 |

## 13 Pension commitments

During the year employer's pension contributions totalling £5,181 (2024: £5,766) were payable to defined contribution personal pension schemes. Pension contributions of £2,436 were owing at the balance sheet date (2024: £nil).

## 14 Funds

During the year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

| | Opening balance 2025 £ | Incoming resources 2025 £ | Outgoing resources 2025 £ | Transfers in the year 2025 £ | Gains and losses 2025 £ | Closing balance 2025 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Designated Funds* | | | | | | |
| Community Support Funds | 5,147 | 1,700 | (2,034) | - | - | 4,813 |
| Miracle Building Fund | 42,945 | - | - | (42,945) | - | - |
| | 48,091 | 1,700 | (2,034) | (42,945) | - | 4,813 |
| *General Unrestricted Funds* | 909,492 | 328,113 | (375,358) | (18,726) | - | 843,521 |
| Total Unrestricted Funds | 957,583 | 329,813 | (377,392) | (61,671) | - | 848,334 |
| *Restricted Funds* | | | | | | |
| International Support Funds | 5,126 | 1,900 | (1,025) | (1,864) a) | - | 4,137 |
| CAP Debt Centre | 597 | 28,159 | (27,228) | (50) | - | 1,478 |
| Miracle Building | 160,052 | 115,761 | 613 | 42,945 b) | - | 319,370 |
| Forest Hub | 17,484 | 21,452 | (50,815) | 20,050 c) | - | 8,171 |
| Other Community Support Funds | 262 | 1,463 | (1,108) | 590 | - | 1,206 |
| | 183,522 | 168,734 | (79,563) | 61,671 | - | 334,364 |
| Aggregate of funds | 1,141,105 | 498,547 | (456,955) | - | - | 1,182,698 |

The transfers referred to above were made for the following reasons:

a) The remaining restricted fund balance of £1,704 held for the support of the Pignons family was transferred to general unrestricted funds to cover their annual travel insurance paid by Journey Church from unrestricted funds.

b) The designated Miracle Building Fund was transferred to restricted Miracle Building Fund to better represent its restricted nature.

c) The Journey transferred £20,050 of their unrestricted legacy income to cover the shortfall on the Forest Hub during 2025.

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

| | Unrestricted Funds | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | General funds £ | Designated funds £ | Restricted funds £ | 2025 £ |
| Tangible fixed assets | 17,624 | - | - | 17,624 |
| Debtors | 10,208 | - | 650 | 10,858 |
| Investments held as current assets | 311,856 | - | - | 311,856 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 520,178 | 4,813 | 335,671 | 860,662 |
| Creditors falling due within one year | (16,345) | - | (1,957) | (18,302) |
| | 843,521 | 4,813 | 334,364 | 1,182,698 |

**14 Funds (cont.)**

In the previous year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

| | Opening balance 2024 £ | Incoming resources 2024 £ | Outgoing resources 2024 £ | Transfers in the year 2024 £ | Gains and losses 2024 £ | Closing balance 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Designated Funds* | | | | | | |
| Congregational Funds | 111 | - | - | (111) | - | - |
| Community Support Funds | 6,691 | 625 | (2,169) | - | - | 5,147 |
| Miracle Building Fund | - | 46,708 | (4,701) | 938 | - | 42,945 |
| | 6,802 | 47,333 | (6,870) | 826 | - | 48,091 |
| *General Unrestricted Funds* | 879,714 | 391,334 | (359,188) | (2,368) | - | 909,492 |
| Total Unrestricted Funds | 886,517 | 438,667 | (366,058) | (1,542) | - | 957,583 |
| *Restricted Funds* | | | | | | |
| International Support Funds | 3,626 | 3,225 | (1,725) | - | - | 5,126 |
| CAP Debt Centre | 3,463 | 47,066 | (49,932) | - | - | 597 |
| Miracle Building | 148,219 | 11,833 | - | - | - | 160,052 |
| Forest Hub | 19,692 | 37,536 | (39,743) | - | - | 17,484 |
| Other Community Support Funds | (129) | 698 | (956) | 650 | - | 262 |
| Other Congregational Support | 14 | 710 | (1,615) | 892 | - | - |
| | 174,885 | 101,067 | (93,972) | 1,542 | - | 183,522 |
| Aggregate of funds | 1,061,402 | 539,734 | (460,030) | - | - | 1,141,105 |

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

In the previous year, the assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

| | Unrestricted Funds | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | General funds £ | Designated funds £ | Restricted funds £ | 2024 £ |
| Tangible fixed assets | 25,190 | - | - | 25,190 |
| Debtors | 15,480 | - | - | 15,480 |
| Investments held as current assets | 151,883 | - | - | 151,883 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 738,632 | 48,091 | 183,522 | 970,245 |
| Creditors falling due within one year | (21,694) | - | - | (21,694) |
| | 909,492 | 48,091 | 183,522 | 1,141,105 |

*Designated funds*
Community Support Funds represent funds set aside for local charitable giving.
Miracle Building Fund represent funds set aside for the purchase of a new building.

*Restricted funds*
International Support Funds relate to money received for various international ministries and the support of church missionaries abroad.
CAP Debt centre funds are restricted to this project.
Miracle Building fund relates to money donated for the purchase of a building.
Forest Hub funds are restricted to activities at the Forest Hub.
Other Congregational Support funds are restricted to support the individual congregations.
Other Community Support Funds represent funds set aside for local charitable giving.

## 15 Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity:

a) received donations totalling £41,209 (2024: £35,448) from related parties (which includes trustees, any other members of key management and anyone closely connected to them).

b) No expenses (2024: £nil) were paid to, or for, the trustees.

During the year the charity also made the following payments to, or for, related parties:

a) Bethani Chisnall, who is closely related to Adam Chisnall, who is a member of key management, received employment benefits totalling £23,055 (2024: £22,385) for her work as Head of Childrens & Families work.

b) Former employee, Alex loakeim, who is closely related to Julie loakeim, who is a member of key management, received employment benefits totalling £nil (2024: £19,693) as site manager for the Giving Hope Furniture project.

## 16 Members

Each member of the charity commits to contribute if the charity is wound up an amount of £10.

**RIVER CHURCH**

**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**

| | Note | Unrestricted funds General 2025 £ | Designated 2025 £ | Restricted 2025 £ | Total 2025 £ | Unrestricted funds General 2024 £ | Designated 2024 £ | Restricted 2024 £ | Total 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:** | | | | | | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 3 | 304,237 | 1,700 | 154,993 | 460,929 | 377,452 | 37,100 | 94,257 | 508,809 |
| Charitable activities | 4 | 9,952 | - | 3,769 | 13,721 | 135 | - | 5,343 | 5,477 |
| Investments | 5 | 13,925 | - | 9,973 | 23,897 | 13,748 | 10,233 | 1,468 | 25,449 |
| **Total income and endowments** | | 328,113 | 1,700 | 168,734 | 498,547 | 391,334 | 47,333 | 101,067 | 539,734 |
| **EXPENDITURE ON:** | | | | | | | | | |
| Charitable activities: | 6 | 375,358 | 2,034 | 79,563 | 456,955 | 359,188 | 6,870 | 93,972 | 460,030 |
| **Total Expenditure** | | 375,358 | 2,034 | 79,563 | 456,955 | 359,188 | 6,870 | 93,972 | 460,030 |
| **Net income/(expenditure)** | | (47,245) | (334) | 89,171 | 41,592 | 32,146 | 40,463 | 7,095 | 79,704 |
| **Transfers between funds** | 14 | (18,726) | (42,945) | 61,671 | - | (2,368) | 826 | 1,542 | - |
| **Net movement in funds** | | (65,971) | (43,278) | 150,842 | 41,592 | 29,778 | 41,289 | 8,637 | 79,704 |
| **Reconciliation of funds:** | | | | | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 909,492 | 48,091 | 183,522 | 1,141,105 | 879,714 | 6,802 | 174,885 | 1,061,401 |
| **Total funds carried forward** | 14 | 843,521 | 4,813 | 334,364 | 1,182,698 | 909,492 | 48,091 | 183,522 | 1,141,105 |