CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report: 1st January to 31st December 2025

Charity name: Dorchester Community Church: Registration Number : 1163128

Objectives & Activities	SORP	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The Objects of the Church are charitable & for the public benefit. They are: 1. to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Charity Trustees from time to time may think fit. 2. to relieve sickness & financial hardship; to promote & preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provision of pastoral care & support in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Charity Trustees from time to time think fit. 3. to advance education in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Charity Trustees from time to time think fit.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	**Church meetings** In 2025 our Theme was "*Called to Go*" and our verse for the year: Acts Chapter 1 Verse 8 *'But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.'* In response to this, we provided two different services: one weekly, one monthly as well as our weekly prayer meeting, running an Alpha Course and Christianity Explored. We continue to live stream our Sunday morning services enabling those unable to join us in person, whether due to their health, or for any other reason, to connect with our worship. Our meetings take the following format: • **Saturday morning Café Church:** An informal, relaxed time of worship, teaching, prayer and discussion held in our café area. Led by Charlane, one of our Deacons, this is an enjoyable and accessible service, focussing on the word of God, with the aim to equip and inspire those who attend. Participation and discussion are encouraged and cake and refreshments included. • **Sunday Morning Contemporary Celebration**: Our main weekly service, which is also live streamed, enabling us to reach out to the community. We additionally relay the service to our café area, so that it is accessible to as many people as possible. We include Communion, generally on the first Sunday of each month. Some Sunday mornings were styled as "Family Services" and particularly child friendly. • **Sunday evening Prayer Meeting**. We continued our weekly Prayer meeting, alongside encouragement from the leadership to commit to prayer and fasting.

Reaching the next generation:

Throughout 2025, Community Kids met weekly during our Sunday morning service and we continued to run our lively Friday Night Youth: for 12-18 year-olds. Our Toddler group continues to thrive and reach young families in our community. They meet on Tuesday mornings; all babies and tots are welcome, accompanied by their parents and carers.

Over Easter, we held a reflective Good Friday service, Café Church, and the Children enjoyed Messy Church. On Easter Day we celebrated with a Family service including our Puppet Ministry.

We held a "Light Party" on the 31st of October and over 50 children and young people enjoyed games, facepainting, sweets, fun and games on the theme of "Light being found in Darkness".

Messy Church took place again in December along with a Christingle; both occasions enabled the children attending to enjoy a Church service including singing, craft activities and the true meaning of the Christmas Christian message.

We ran a Christianity Explored Course, which was well attended by both those wishing to explore the Christian faith and those already Christians, wanting to learn more.

The "Talking Jesus Course was also run by each of our regular Life Groups and we saw a new group start in Frampton.

Other events and activities included a Women's breakfast; where our ladies were invited to join together for a healthy meal to start the day, with companionship and conversation. A Men's breakfast: This was extremely popular and included a "Full English" Cooked and a Life Story. We also twinned each of our toilets via Tear Fund, enabling toilets to be built in developing countries

We continue to develop our Website and Facebook page, using social media to help advertise events and activities.

Life Groups:
It is important that we come together as a Church family to meet and pray; the number of our small groups continues to grow in number and variety of venue. These included two daytime groups meeting at the Church, a Woman's Life group and additional groups meeting in members' homes. The Groups are held at a variety of places and on different days and at various times to enable more people to attend.

Pastoral Staff:
Glynn Barrow continued his role as our part time Pastor, overseeing the Church Leadership and running one of our Life Groups.
Jack Curtis, our Associate Pastor, continued his responsibility for Pastoral Care and expanded the Pastoral Support Team and editing the monthly newsletter.
After our Associate Pastor left the team, Glynn became full time and additionally took on those duties previously carried out by Jack and the Trustees started the process of recruiting a new Senior Pastor.

		Church Lunches: Held regularly, these lunches are a wonderful opportunity to get to know each other better over a meal. **Wednesday Welcome:** Every Wednesday afternoon everyone is welcome in Community Café for tea, coffee, cake and a friendly chat. Additionally, board games were available for those who wish to join in with free Wi-Fi available. **Friendship Group**: Known as "Discover and Connect" this group meets twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Friday afternoons. This group remained popular and a wide variety of activities were enjoyed including craft, talks, speakers and refreshments. **Ministry of Puppets:** On Easter Sunday, our service included a performance by our Puppet Team helping young and old alike to connect with the Easter Story. **Samaritans Purse Shoebox Initiative** We continued to be a local collection "hub" for Samaritans Purse UK and over 230 shoeboxes containing toys, stationary, healthcare and wellbeing items were collected. These were distributed to children in countries affected by conflict and poverty in time for Christmas, where they brought a message of hope to the children and young people receiving them. **Food Share:** Our "Food Share" Food Bank received a high level of referrals from Citizen's Advice, Social Workers, Health care professionals, school liaison officers and charities working with families, vulnerable adults and refugees. We assisted families and individuals finding it difficult to afford food, delivering between 80 and 125 parcels each week in the DT1 and DT2 postcode area. Recipients also have the option to collect their weekly parcel from our Community Café. In the week leading up to Christmas, each household received a fruit hamper; we also partnered with the Dorset Arts Society, enabling every child and teenager to receive a bag of art supplies at the beginning of the school Christmas break. We can deliver a weekly food parcel consisting mostly of fresh fruit, vegetables, bakery and eggs for up to 12 weeks; have links with local community allotments, who donate freshly grown produce and do all we can to add to the nutritional value of our parcels. Deliveries take place 3 days each week and our parcels are packed and delivered by a team of around 35 volunteers. Often, we are able to identify a family's specific need and signpost or refer to other agencies that can assist.
Have Trustees had regard to Charity Commission guidance on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees have had due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Achievements & Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	**Church meetings, Life Groups, Prayer Meetings, Youth & Community Kids** enable Christians and any other members of the local community who wish to join in, to come together in worship, to support one another and grow in the Christian Faith. **Pastoral Staff.** Our Pastor, Associate Pastor and Elders continue to support the spiritual and pastoral needs of Church members, Young people and Visitors. **Wednesday Welcome Food Share:** Our Food Bank continues to be busy with referrals and we pay particular attention to the nutritional value of our food parcels, which consist mostly of fresh fruit and vegetables, bakery eggs and hard cheese. Feedback confirms the parcels are well received and make a real difference to those finding it difficult to afford food, especially fresh produce. Additionally, we are often able to build trust over our 12-week delivery period which leads to opportunities to refer and sign-post families to other local services, grants and practical help. **Wednesday Welcome Café, Toddlers Group and Friendship Group** These are open to everyone. They facilitate friendship and companionship, which is especially important for anyone feeling cut off or isolated in our community. They provide a free, warm and safe place to meet in a welcoming environment, where everyone is invited to enjoy the activities and light refreshments. **Samaritans Purse Shoebox Initiative.** Our support of this charity provided a "drop off point" for shoe boxes from individuals and groups in our local area. These boxes, along with those the Church have filled bring hope and joy to children in countries where conflict or poverty make the receipt of a shoe box very special. **Other Activities:** We provided a variety of additional opportunities for members, friends and visitors to meet and interact, including our Church lunches, Men's & Women's Breakfasts, a Live Comedy Performance by Tom Elliot, Messy Church events and joint meetings with other local Churches. We hosted a Dorchester Family Church event where Gram Seed told something of his inspirational life journey and a further event for Soul and Seed, who provide practical help to the most needy communities in Kenya. These occasions give opportunities as listed in the 5 key biblical principles below, as well as enabling those not connected with a Church to explore the Christian faith. **Reflections on 2025 and what is next for DCC:** What are we about? We have a Mission Statement: 'To Celebrate and Share the Love of God.' We seek to do that through focusing on 5 key biblical principles:- • Belonging • Worshipping • Serving • Growing • Sharing

		Belonging: every new Testament believer, with the exception of the dying thief, was 'attached to' a specific group of believers, Rome, Corinth etc. We call this Membership. Our belonging is cemented through 'Believer's Baptism', which we do by total immersion and encouraging members to meet and spend time together. **Worshipping:** Corporately we are able to do this when we meet together and this should be a priority. We should also seek to worship God through the way we live. **Serving:** What gifts has God given us to use? We should seek to serve the Church in some capacity; using our gifts, and following Jesus' example of serving. **Growing** – We should not stand still spiritually, but look to grow in our knowledge and understanding of Him. We grow from hearing and putting into practise God's Word. This can be on our own or in a small group or when we meet together. **Sharing:** We have the best news in the world and ought to share that in both word and deed. Ministries like Food Share and "Discover & Connect" are practical expressions of us 'sharing' our faith. Members are encouraged to maintain links and relationships with each other and those we come into contact with.

Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Our Income was comparative to our expenditure, enabling us to show sound financial management. Most income comes from Members regular giving and is not generated by fundraising activities.
Investment performance against objectives	We have modest funds in a CAF Bank and Kingdom Bank interest bearing deposit account, but no other investments.

Financial Review:		
Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Please see the notes at the foot of the Church Financial Accounts submitted to the Charity Commission with this report.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The Contingency Reserve is held for financial prudence to enable sufficient funds to be available to pay staffing costs during any time when expenditure exceeds income. This reserve is maintained at a sum not less than half the annual expenditure on Staff Salaries. The Missionary Reserve is representative of those funds set aside as a tithe from our income for the financial support of other Christian workers and Christian Charitable organisations, but not yet distributed.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Contingency Reserve: £40,000: Missionary Reserve: £7,500:
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund in material deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Structure, Governance and Management		
Description of charity's trusts:		None
Type of governing document	Para 1.25	Constitution Dated 13th August 2015
How is the charity constituted?	Para 1.25	The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with a voting membership in addition to the Trustees
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions	Para 1.25	New Trustees are selected and elected to office at the Church's Members meeting in March and AGM in October of each year. Clause 17.4 of our Constitution requires one third of elected trustees to retire at the AGM, starting with the longest serving.

Reference and Administrative details	
Charity name	Dorchester Community Church
Other name the charity uses	None
Registered charity number	1163128
Charity's principal address	Dorchester Community Church Liscombe Street Poundbury Dorchester Dorset DT1 3DF

Names of the Charity Trustees who manage the Charity			
Trustee name	**Office (if any)**	**Dates acted (if not whole year)**	**Name of body entitled to appoint trustee**
Glynn Barrow	Trustee, Elder & Pastor		Membership
Jack Samuel Cooke Curtis	Trustee &Elder	Until 22.02.25	Membership
David Herring	Trustee & Elder		Membership
Lisa Knight	Trustee		Membership
Kevin David Meech	Trustee & Treasurer		Membership
Christopher George Webb	Trustee		Membership
Victoria Pauline Barrow	Trustee		Membership
Amie Susannah Warr	Trustee	From 21.10.25	Membership

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved	
Director name	N/A
Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity	
Trustee name	**Dates acted if not for whole year**
N/A	

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

Adviser	Name	Address
Solicitor	Blanchards Bailey LLP	Bunbury House, Stour Park, Blandford, Dorset. DT11 9LQ
Insurer	Congregational	Integra Insurance Solutions Ltd., Currer House, Currer Street, Bradford BD1 5BA
Accountant	Justin Merriott FCCA	ACM Accountants, 205 Littlemoor Road, Weymouth, Dorset, DT3 6AF
Bank	CAF Bank Ltd	25 Kings Hill, Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent. ME19 4JQ
Bank	Kingdom Bank Ltd	Ruddington Fields Business Park, Mere Way, Ruddington, Nottingham NG11 6JS

Names of Senior Staff members
Glynn Barrow: Pastor from 07.06.22 Jack Samuel Cooke Curtis: Associate Pastor from 01.07.22 until 22.02.25

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	
Full name(s)	Kevin David Meech
Position (e.g. Chair, etc)	Treasurer and Trustee
Date	6th October 2026

DORCHESTER COMMUNITY CHURCH

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2025

			2025		2024
BALANCE 1ST JANUARY			**126,101.12**		**149,087.64**
RECEIPTS					
General Fund	Offering	96,885.61		100,973.13	
	Café Donations	2,442.28	99,327.89	1,755.93	102,729.06
Tax Refunded on Gift Aid:	General Fund	23,988.76		31,374.83	
	Building/Sinking Fund	7,500.00			
	Food Share	935.00	32,423.76	1,157.50	32,532.33
Donations: Building Maintenance			20,684.82		13,278.47
Donations: Food Share			31,253.00		25,799.88
Interest:			2,776.33		3,965.35
Building/Sinking Fund Receipts:			2,000.00		0.00
TOTAL INCOME			**188,465.80**		**178,305.09**
PAYMENTS					
Bank Charges			60.00		60.00
Books and Resources			169.45		466.37
Catering			3,344.45		1,718.34
Cleaning & Housekeeping			1,048.59		630.34
Equipment			2,883.47		3,520.15
Fees, Subscriptions and Licenses			2,566.03		3,901.88
Food Share			33,829.38		23,283.76
Ground Rent			4,000.00		4,000.00
Insurance			6,321.38		5,989.51
Missionary Gifts			8,350.99		6,809.00
Mortgage: Monthly Repayments		8,249.64		14,767.14	
	Capital Repayment from Reserves	0.00	8,249.64	32,355.45	47,122.59
Office Supplies, Printing & Postage			2,358.52		1,083.31
Outreach			1,218.43		255.08
Pastoral Gifts			1,174.49		1,607.13
Repairs & Maintenance			18,956.47		9,815.73
Safeguarding related costs			478.46		270.22
Speakers Gifts & Expenses			210.00		70.00
Staff Expenses & Recruitment Costs			2,042.07		362.15
Staff Salaries and Employers NIC			60,559.49		76,890.62
Training and Conferences			301.00		1,309.60
Utility Bills			7,874.49		10,003.57
Youth & Children's Work			869.35		2,122.26
TOTAL EXPENSES			**166,866.15**		**201,291.61**
BALANCE 31ST DECEMBER			**147,700.77**		**126,101.12**

Checked as a true record of the financial position of Dorchester Community Church

1 JUSTIN MERRETT FCCA

DORCHESTER COMMUNITY CHURCH

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2025

		2025		2024
PROPERTY				
Building at Liscombe Street, Poundbury, Dorchester		963,480.42		963,480.42
BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES				
Cash Account	0.00		0.00	
CAF Current Account	1,892.96		2,683.28	
CAF "Gold" Instant Access	64,000.00		34,000.00	
Kingdom Bank 90 Day Notice	81,807.81	147,700.77	89,417.84	126,101.12
TOTAL ASSETS		**1,111,181.19**		**1,089,581.54**
MORTGAGE OUTSTANDING				
Kingdom Bank Ltd		93,391.68		95,528.54
TOTAL NET ASSETS AS AT 31ST DECEMBER		**1,017,789.51**		**994,053.00**
FUND & RESERVE BALANCES AS AT 31ST DECEMBER				
General Fund		40,936.66		27,195.63
Contingency Reserve		40,000.00		40,000.00
Missionary Reserve		7,500.00		7,500.00
Food Share		25,018.40		26,659.78
Building/Sinking Fund		904,334.45		892,697.59
ACCOUNT BALANCES		**1,017,789.51**		**994,053.00**

APPENDIX 1

MOVEMENT IN BUILDING/SINKING FUND

Balance 1st January	892,697.59	739,892.62
Receipts: Anon Gift	2,000.00	30,000.00
Tax Refunded from Gift Aid	7,500.00	0.00
Gift Days including Gift Aid	0.00	87,644.55
Transfer from General Fund	0.00	12,355.45
Transfer from Missionary Reserve	0.00	20,000.00
Capital Reduction in Mortgage	0.00	-150,000.00
Reduction in outstanding Kingdom Bank Mortgage	2,136.86	152.804.97
BALANCE 31st December	**904,334.45**	**892,697.59**

APPENDIX 2

FOOD SHARE

Balance 1st January	26.659.78	22.986.16
Receipts	31,253.00	25,799.88
Tax Refunded from Gift Aid	935.00	1.157.50
Expenditure	-33,829.38	-23,283.76
BALANCE 31st December	**25,018.40**	**26,659.78**

DORCHESTER COMMUNITY CHURCH

NOTES:

1. **General Fund:** The Accounts show a General Fund surplus of £13,741.03, reflecting changes in our staff costs following the departure of our Associate Pastor in February. This will help fund the expected costs of recruiting a new Pastor in 2026.

2. **Gift Aid:**

   - Gift Aid repayment claim covering 1st October 2024 to the 31st December 2024 amounting to £5,762.26 is included in the 2025 accounts and has been divided between the General Fund (£5,677.26) and Food Share (£85.00).

   - Gift Aid repayment claim covering 1st October 2025 to the 31st December 2025 is for the sum of £5,869.36 This was sent to the Inland Revenue early in 2025 and the resulting payment will be included in the 2026 accounts. It will be divided between the General Fund (£5,534.36), the Building/Sinking Fund (£250.00) and Food Share (£85.00).

3. **Food Share:** Our food bank, known as "Food Share," continues to adapt to meet the changing needs of local families and households experiencing food poverty. With a large proportion of financial support being received in the final quarter of 2025, we held £25,018.40 in reserve for Food Share as at 31st December. We now regularly distribute around 100 food parcels each week and the cost of food is continuing to rise. The funds currently held for "Food Share" give us just under 9 months of financial resilience and will be needed to ensure we are able to continue to operate and finance our food bank during 2026.

4. **Missionary Giving:** Missionary Giving in 2025 amounts to £8,350.99 and includes gifts to Ministers Fellowship Global, Dorchester Family Support, Dorchester Poverty Action, Christians Against Poverty (Weymouth & Portland), Missionaries in Africa, Iain MacGowan and Soul & Seed.

K D Meech

E. J. Meech

KEVIN D. MEECH
JOINT TREASURER

ELIZABETH J. MEECH
JOINT TREASURER

ACM
ACCOUNTANTS

205 Littlemoor Road
Weymouth
Dorset
DT3 6AF
T 01305 832260
M 07816 662345
E justin@acmaccountants.co.uk

29 June 2026

The Trustees
Dorchester Community Church
c/o Mr K D Meech
4 Garfield Avenue
Dorchester
Dorset
DT1 2EX

Dear All

I have now completed my various checks into the transactions included within the accounts for Dorchester Community Church for the year ended 31 December 2025 as prepared by the charity's trustees.

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the income and expenditure accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all of 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.

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- The accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; or
- The accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- The accounts did 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 requirements that the accounts give a "true and fair" view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination. I have come across no other matters in connection with examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I therefore have pleasure in enclosing a certified copy of the accounts. Should you wish to receive further copies please do not hesitate to contact me.

Finally, I enclose a note of my account for fees.

Yours sincerely

Justin Merritt FCCA