Charity Commission Trustees' Annual Report for 2025

H O Roe Charity

Charity Registration number 1190706

Address: 61 Church Road, Stotfold, Hitchin SG5 4NE

Trustees:
Revd William Britt
Jennifer Bennett
Patrick Joseph Partington Harris
Elizabeth Jane Hyde
Stephen William Hayes

Structure & Management

The H O Roe Charity was registered as a CIO Foundation on 3 August 2020. Its trustees are the Vicar and two Churchwardens of St Mary the Virgin, the Church of England Parish Church in Stotfold, Bedfordshire, plus two appointed members. The charity manages and runs a community centre called the Roecroft Centre adjunct to the church and maintains a residential rental property at 97 Church Road.

Activities and objectives in 2025

Regular hiring at the Roecroft Centre was healthy and long-term tenants of the residential property continued. Regular hirers of this Community Centre included youth clubs, art club, bridge club, puppy training, exercise classes, mental health support groups, commercial hirers and private individuals for parties.

The Charity continued to advance the Christian religion through grants to St Mary's Church to help fund an Associate Minister/Schools Chaplain. The centre was also used in 2025 to host discussion groups for people inquiring about Christianity, discipleship courses, a monthly church youth group and fellowship meals for the church and community.

During 2025 work was completed on the installation of an Audio Visual System paid for by a Diocese of St Albans £20,000 Mission Initiative Grant made to St Mary's Church, plus an anonymous donation of £757 to the church to make up the shortfall. The system includes a Laser Projector suspended from the ceiling, an electric projector screen, data cabinet, Wi-Fi installation, four wall-mounted speakers, two handheld microphones, one headset microphone and a portable loop system.

The H O Roe Chairty also received a £3,089 grant from the Eleemosynary Charity to purchase 14 folding tables and a trolley.

Financial Review:

Total income from the Roecroft Centre and Church Road for 2024, excluding grants, was £31,757 compared to £26,855 in 2024.

Expenditure on maintenance and running costs of 97 Church Road and the Roecroft Centre was £32,094 compared £31,094 to £23,628 in 2024. Operating income exceeded expenditure by £663.

It ended the year with cash reserves of £73,543, compared to £72,880 in 2024.

Governing document:

CIO - FOUNDATION Registered 03 Aug 2020

What the charity does:
Religious Activities
Recreation
Who the charity helps:
No information available
How the charity helps:
Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
Where the charity operates:
Central Bedfordshire

(1) TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION IN THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, STOTFOLD AND THE SURROUNDING AREA FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC THROUGH THE HOLDING OF PRAYER MEETINGS, LECTURES, PUBLIC CELEBRATION OF RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS, PRODUCING

AND/OR DISTRIBUTING LITERATURE ON CHRISTIANITY TO ENLIGHTEN OTHERS ABOUT THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION. (2) TO FURTHER OR BENEFIT THE RESIDENTS OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PARISH OF ST MARY THE VIRGIN, STOTFOLD AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD, WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, RACE OR OF POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS OR OTHER OPINIONS BY ASSOCIATING TOGETHER THE SAID RESIDENTS AND THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES, VOLUNTARY AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS IN A COMMON EFFORT TO ADVANCE EDUCATION AND TO PROVIDE FACILITIES IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR RECREATION AND LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR THE RESIDENTS. IN FURTHERANCE OF THESE OBJECTS BUT NOT OTHERWISE, THE TRUSTEES SHALL HAVE POWER: TO ESTABLISH OR SECURE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMUNITY CENTRE AND TO MAINTAIN OR MANAGE OR CO-OPERATE WITH ANY STATUTORY AUTHORITY IN THE MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF SUCH A CENTRE FOR ACTIVITIES PROMOTED BY THE CHARITY IN FURTHERANCE OF THE ABOVE OBJECTS.

H O Roe Charity
Registered Charity 1190706
Receipts and Payments for the period 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

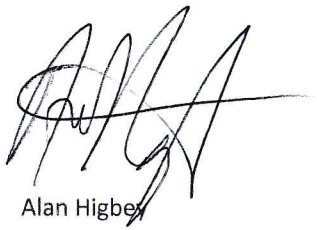
Ø the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or

Ø the financial statements do not accord with the accounting records; or

Ø the financial statements 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.; or

Ø the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I am concerned that the charity has insufficient cash reserves, given the poor condition of 97 Church Road.
This property needs to have significant monies spent on it if the intention is to continue to let it. The Trustees need to formulate a strategy to ensure that the properties it owns are adequately maintained given that the income/expenditure would be in deficit save for the rental income from 97 Church Road and a grant from Eleemosynary Charity. The Trustees should also consider the suspension of payments to St Mary's PCC as these payments just make a poor position worse.



Alan Higbey
B.Sc. (Hons). Dip, FS.
7th April 2026

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Receipts and Payments for the period 1 January2025 to 31 December 2025

Income		Expenditure	
Roecroft Centre Hire income	£16,025.59	Roecroft Centre maintenance & running costs	£24,139.80
97 Church Road Rental Income	£11,360.00	97 Church Road maintenance & running costs	£4,446.44
Eleemosynary Charity Grant	£2,641.35	Bank Charges	£60.00
Bank Interest Current	£11.31	General Expenditure	£2,000.00
Bank Interest Deposit	£1,270.50		
Totals	**£31,308.75**		**£30,646.24**

Opening Balances 01/01/2025		Closing Balances 31/12/2025	
CAFBank Current A/c	£7,294.52	CAFBank Current A/c	£6,286.53
CAFBank Gold Deposit A/c	£65,585.55	CAFBank Gold Deposit A/c	£67,256.05
Total	**£72,880.07**		**£73,542.58**
		Movement	
		Opening Balance	£72,880.07
		Income	£31,756.67
		Expenditure	£31,094.16
		Net Total	£73,542.58
		Difference	£0.00

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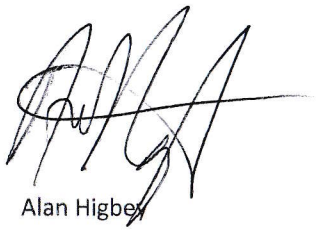
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