Churches Together in Milton Keynes Trust
(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

TRUSTEES REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 2025 – DECEMBER 2025

Charity No: 1200092

Churches Together in Milton Keynes Trust

FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 2025 – DECEMBER 2025

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Churches Together in Milton Keynes Trust

Trustees Report and Financial Statements for the period 1st January 2025 – 31st December 2025

Trustees:

Revd George Mwaura (Chair)
Revd Timothy Norwood
Revd Nathan Marlam
Mrs Pauline Gray
Revd Edson Dube
Mrs Carol Wheatle

Office address:
Church of Christ the Cornerstone.
300 Saxon Gate West
Central Milton Keynes
MK9 2ES

Principal Bankers:
CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Ave,
Kings Hill,
West Malling
ME19 4JQ

The Trustees present their report together with the financial statements of the charity for the period from 1st January 2025 – 31st December 2025. The trustees are listed above. The Churches Together in Milton Keynes Trust (CTMK) was registered as a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) in August 2022. The financial processes for the new charity started with effect from January 1st 2023

Purposes and Public Benefit

Following the establishment of the CIO, the purposes of the charity and its associated public benefit are now as articulated below:

To advance the Christian faith by drawing together Christian communities from Milton Keynes and surrounding areas to further the 'five marks of mission' (which have been adopted by the forum of Churches Together in England and which are set out in the schedule attached to the constitution) to the benefit of all those living within the borough of Milton Keynes and, through outreach programmes, beyond the borough.

The “Five Marks of Mission” are expressed as:

1. To proclaim the good news of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To seek to transform unjust structures of society
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and to sustain the life of the earth.

These objectives generate public benefit through:

Initial Vision
The initial vision for the charity emerged from a listening exercise following the dissolution of the Milton Keynes Mission Partnership (MKMP) in early 2022. There was a desire to build on the successes of the former organisation, but also an awareness that any new organisation would need to be very different. There were four key principles which emerged from this:

- **Focus on Mission:** Mission should be the focus, rather than structures.
- **Broader and More Diverse:** There should not be a focus on the established denominations, but a breadth of involvement from the start.
- **More Sustainable:** The charity should not be dependent on external funding and should only spend what it can raise.
- **Locally led:** The ownership of vision, strategy and policy should sit very firmly with local people, although the advice and encouragement of denominations would be appreciated.

The vision was summarised with the following statement:
We are building a new organisation which will draw together Christian communities from Milton Keynes and surrounding areas to:
Show God’s love to the Borough and City of Milton Keynes,
Support each other as followers of Christ.

Additionally, as an ecumenical body, the charity is intrinsically concerned with the public benefits of reconciliation and the broad advancement of the Christian faith.

Organisation

The charity is a Foundation model CIO so has no members other than the trustees. Churches join in membership of the organisation but are not voting members of the charity.

An initial body of three trustees was created by the governing document. Three further trustees were added shortly after registration.

All trustees have been alerted to advice on the Charity Commission website regarding their roles. Recruitment procedures are in line with Charity Commission recommendations.

Review of the activities and future developments

Ann MacKinnon (formerly Ann Harris) continues to be the sole employee of the charity. Ann's job title is Development & Support Officer. She continues to be the point of contact for churches and other Christian bodies in Milton Keynes who wish to advertise special services and events, and to be the contact point for organisations in the city who wish to connect with the Christian community. Ann coordinates the activities arranged by CTMK and fulfils the role of County Ecumenical Officer.

Events:

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - January 2025. An ecumenical service at the city church and a concert raising money for two local charities.

Prayer vigil for World Environment Day at the MK Rose in Campbell Park – June 2025

Annual Civic Prayer Breakfast – June 2025. A meeting involving clergy along with representatives of Civic and Voluntary sectors supported by a grant from MK Community Foundation.

Mission Priorities:

- Poverty - The Cost of Living Crisis
- Climate - Climate Crisis and Climate Justice
- Mental Health
- Racial Justice
- Refugees

We encourage conversations and projects that have a positive impact in these areas. By playing a convening role, CTMK helps to bring together people and organisations with an interest in these areas and help

build alliances and networks.

RESTORE:MK (formerly Connect church leaders group)

CTMK have continued to work with the leader of the RESTORE:MK church leaders group in Milton Keynes during 2025. This group brings together church leaders from a wide number of denominations. They meet regularly during the year and an all-day Prayer Event will take place in March 2026.

County Ecumenical Officer role

CTMK act as the Intermediate Body for Milton Keynes, connecting the churches and Local Ecumenical Partnerships with Churches Together in England and the National Ecumenical Officers. This is particularly important for the LEPs due to the multi denomination and multi site nature of the Partnerships in MK. CTMK brings together leaders of the LEPs to foster support and encouragement, and also the local Denominational Leaders (Ecumenical Officers Group). The Development and Support Officer acts as County Ecumenical Officer for the Intermediate Body and attends events and training organised by CTE to assist with this role.

Membership

Our membership continues to grow and churches from a wide number of denominations are exploring membership with us, not just those described as mainstream. The trustees agreed to make the process of membership relational - which means building genuine relationships and commitment, rather than a simple sign up to join. The expectation was that the organisation would be self funding by the end of 2025 but the work of increasing membership continues to prove more time consuming and slower than expected. The trustees agreed to continue to pursue grant applications from the historical denominations for a further 3 years.

Future work

In 2026 we aim to hold similar events to 2025, noting situations that arise where we can add value, such as 2024's Hustings event organised at short notice. We will continue to increase our membership. We will explore grant funding to enable the Development and Support Officer to connect with the Pentecostal churches in MK. We will continue to connect with those of other faiths in our city, recognising the importance of working alongside those of other faiths and none.

Financial review

In order to be sustainable, it was important to ensure a continuing income stream which would match the costs of running the charity.

CTMKT received monies from the MKMP on its dissolution. The trustees were also assured that the larger LEPs would continue to pay to CTMKT as they had to MKMP. CTMK provide the functions of an Intermediate Body - which is essential for LEPs to operate. This initial funding ensured that the charity could operate for at least six months. Four of the large LEPS along with an Anglican/Baptist LEP supported CTMK in 2024. One of the LEPs withdrew support in 2024 but we are hopeful that they will rejoin in the future.

Three denominations were approached for “transitional funding” which would enable the charity to build a sustainable funding model within three years. The Church of England Diocese of Oxford, the URC East Midlands Synod and the MK Methodist Circuit each agreed to contribute £2,000 per year for three years.

This would be enough to cover expenses during the period of initial growth and development. The trustees are very grateful for this support.

The trustees aimed for the charity to be entirely supported by local funding by the end of 2025. This should be possible if 37 churches contribute an average of £200 per year. Given the number of congregations in the area, this is realistic - but will require work by the trustees. It is expected that giving by individuals will also help balance any shortfall.. Our feeling that this would prove too optimistic was correct and we concluded we would need to apply for denominational funding for 2026. In addition, we have been granted funding from the Baptist Home Mission for 2026.

We vacated the office space at the Church of Christ the Cornerstone during 2025 but maintain the links necessary for it to remain the address of the organisation. This reduced our expenditure by £2,000 per year. The Development and Support Officer is now home based.

Salary policy

The trustees have decided that CTMKT will be a Living Wage Employer. This means that the organisation will need to pay at least the Real Living Wage as determined by the Living Wage Foundation. It is felt that this is important to do as commitment to social justice and the alleviation of poverty. We view this as an important action which helps raise the profile of the Real Living Wage.

Investment powers

The trustees have the power to make any investment they see fit in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as the trustees of a trust are permitted to do by the Trustee Act 2000.

Related parties

There were no related parties in the period covered by this report

Reserves policy and risk management

The charity maintains reserves of at least two months

regular expenditure.

Statement of Trustees responsibilities

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

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to: select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently; following the methods and principles in the Charities SOFA, make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements and prepare the financial statements on the 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 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, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website.

Signed





21st September 2026

Revd George Mwaura – Chair of Trustees Dr Adrian Prisk – Treasurer Date

Churches Together in Milton Keynes Trust - (CIO 1200092)					
Statement of Financial Affairs (SOFA) December 2025					
		Unrestricted Funds	**Restricted Funds**	**Total Funds 2025**	**Total Funds 2024**
		£	£	£	£
Income					
Donations					
Donations and legacies	1	8,716		8,716	4,826
Grants	1,2,3	2,000	1,000	3,000	6,000
Total Donations		**10,716**		**10,716**	**10,826**
Income from Charitable Activities					
Fund Raising Events			550	550	
Income from investments (incl Bank Interest)		16		16	15
Total income		**10,732**	**1,550**	**12,282**	**12,181**
Expenditure					
Cost of fundraising			1,385	1,385	1,122
Running Costs	4,5	12,269		12,269	12,902
Total expenditure		**12,269**	**1,385**	**13,655**	**14,024**
Net income/expenditure and net movements in funds f		**(1,538)**	**165**	**(1,373)**	**(1,843)**
Reconciliation of Funds					
Transfers and corrections					
Fund balance brought forward at 1st Jan		7,104	650	7,754	9,597
Fund balance Carried forward at 31st Dec		5,566	815	6,381	7,754

Signed





21st September 2026

Revd George Mwaura – Chair of Trustees Dr Adrian Prisk – Treasurer Date

Churches Together in Milton Keynes Trust (CIO - 1200092)
Balance Sheet Dec 2025

	31/12/2025	31/12/2024
Debtors	696	-
Bank Current Accounts	5,984	8,409
Cash	40	40
Total Assets	**6,720**	**8,449**
Creditors	(339)	(695)
Total Liabilities	**(339)**	**(695)**
Adjustments		
Total	**6,381**	**7,754**

Funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment		
General Fund	5,566			5,566	7,104
Events		519		519	354
Leipzig Link		296		296	296
Total	**5,566**	**815**		**£6,381**	**£7,754**

Notes

1) The Methodist Circuit contribution was included under grants in 2024 but changed to a membership of the circuit churches in 2025. Church membership with financial commitment increased significantly in 2025.

2) A grant of £1,000 was received from MK Community Foundation towards the cost of the prayer breakfast but there were less donations from participants. The balance was added to the 'Events' fund.

3) The URC grant only is included here as the Anglican grant not received in 2025 (New Anglican Bishop in post) Grants from Anglican. URC and from Central. Baptist Association will be received in 2026.

4) The Development and Support Officer Salary was increased to £15/hr to reflect the enhanced role. Her previous salary had been based on the 'Real Living Wage'.

5) The trustees decided that the rental charge from Christ the Cornerstone could not be justified as the Development and Support Officer worked largely from home, so the agreement was ended after Q1.

Signed





21st September 2026

Revd George Mwaura – Chair of Trustees Dr Adrian Prisk – Treasurer Date

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name CHURCHES TOGETHER IN MILTON KEYNES		
On accounts for the 14-month period ended	31st December 2025	**Charity no (if any)**	1200092
Set out on pages	(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the 14-month period ended 31 / 12 / 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 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

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:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; 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 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.

Signed:		**Date:**	17 September 2026
Name:	Adrian Yardley		
Relevant professional qualification or body:	FCA (ICAEW member 7294244)		
Address:	25-27 Mill Street Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire MK16 8ER		