

**GREATER MANCHESTER CHURCHES TOGETHER**

**REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**



**GREATER MANCHESTER CHURCHES TOGETHER**

**CONTENTS OF THE REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	<i>Page</i>
<b>Charity Information</b>	<i>1</i>
<b>Trustees' Annual Report</b>	<i>2</i>
<b>Independent Examiner's Report</b>	<i>4</i>
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	<i>5</i>
<b>Statement of Financial Activities</b>	<i>6</i>
<b>Notes to the Reports and Accounts</b>	<i>7</i>

**CHARITY INFORMATION  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**TRUSTEES:** Bishop Mark Davies  
Rev'd Dr Andrew J Lunn  
Bishop John Arnold  
Monsignor Paul Smith  
Rev'd Glayne Worgan  
Rev'd Joanna Farnworth  
Mrs Janet Warr BA

**TREASURER:** Mrs Janet Warr BA

**REGISTERED OFFICE ADDRESS:** Unit 8, The Wesley Centre  
Royce Road/Old York Street  
Hulme  
Manchester  
M15 5BP

**CORRESPONDENT ADDRESS:** 10 Fairfield Square  
Droylsden  
Manchester  
M43 6AD

**REGISTERED NUMBER:** 503258 (England and Wales)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:** Dr Brian J Woodhall  
11 Rydal Place  
Macclesfield  
Cheshire  
SK11 7XU

**BANKERS:** Unity Trust Bank Plc  
Nine Brindleyplace  
Birmingham  
B1 2HB

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

The trustees present their report with the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020.

**Accounts**

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with 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 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The accounts have been prepared under the accrual basis of accounting.

**Objects and activities**

The objectives and aims of Greater Manchester Churches Together (the Charity) are the advancement of the Christian religion, the relief of poverty and advancement of education within the principal area of activity of the Greater Manchester Metropolitan County.

The Charity continues to sustain and support ecumenical developments at local, parish, borough and regional levels through ongoing involvement in local ecumenical partnerships, including Churches Together Groups and meetings with Church Leaders. The Charity actively promotes the coming together of Christian religious organisations within Greater Manchester and by improved understanding and greater cooperation the aim is to help those organisations and their members in their day to day activities and longer term development.

Through the above objectives and activities the Trustees consider that they have complied with their duty under S17 of the Charities Act 2011 and they confirm that they have also complied with the requirements of S4 of that Act to have regard to public benefit as published by the Charity Commission.

**Achievements and performance**

2020 required significant flexibility in ways of working as a result of the global pandemic. Prior to the national lockdown that took place in March, the Facilitator visited Lees and District for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Height Churches Together and a class of year 8 pupils at St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School (Ashton-in-Makerfield) to speak about unity and ecumenical work as part of their Religious Studies curriculum. In addition, it was wonderful to be able to gather together ministers and representatives of Local Ecumenical Partnerships with denominational ecumenical officers for a lunchtime discussion of the Flexible Framework for Local Unity in Mission. Jenny Bond of Churches Together in England gave a presentation and there was a fruitful time for sharing with one another.

Our plans for a large gathering in St Ann's Square in central Manchester as part of Thy Kingdom Come were changed but we had a very successful online celebration of this 11 days of prayer in the period up to Pentecost. We hosted an online prayer sign up for people to cover every hour of the full 11 days of Thy Kingdom Come in prayer and more people signed up than hours in each of those days which meant that we coordinated 330 hours of prayer across Greater Manchester. There was a great sense of unity and a broad range of denominations took part in this focused period of prayer.

Our Annual Assembly, held in October 2020 was hosted online by Zoom with a large number of people joining together for an evening based around the theme "Hope, Calling and Unity, Churches Working Together in Response to Covid-19". A time of worship was led by King's Church which was followed by the Annual General Meeting which included a video greeting from Timothy Daniels representing the Upper Room Ministers Forum. It is hoped that there may be further engagement between this unity movement and GMCT in the future. The Keynote presentation was given by Roger Sutton, the Director of Movement Day UK and leader of Gather. Roger spoke of the huge challenges facing our communities as a result of the pandemic and the great need for

*continued...*

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

**Achievements and performance - continued**

unity among the churches in responding to this crisis. He outlined a proposal for a "Movement for Recovery" (M4R) which would coordinate church work across the 10 boroughs of Greater Manchester. There have been ongoing discussions as a result of this presentation and it is hoped that there may be fruit from this in the year to come.

The Presidents Group, Trustees and Denominational Ecumenical Officers continued their work together through online meetings and although it is hoped that we may be able to gather together physically again soon, the online format has proved to be very successful.

**Financial review**

The results for the year under review are set out in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 6.

The Trustees prepared a budget in 2019 for the ensuing year to 31 December 2020 and with the exception of some unforeseen exceptions and some timing differences the results are broadly inline therewith. Subscriptions from member denominations of £23,520 for 2020 were collected during 2020 (2019 £24,070). The Charity's reserves as at 31 December 2020 were £28,258 (2019 £31,049) and these are considered sufficient to ensure the Charity's continuing activities.

The Charity's detailed financial position as at 31 December 2020 is set out in the Balance Sheet on page 5.

**Structure, governance and management**

The Charity was governed by an original constitution adopted on 28 September 1973. This was replaced by a further constitution (the 2012 Constitution) which was adopted by the Charity's Annual Assembly (AGM) on 30 October 2012. The 2012 Constitution was further amended on 15 January 2013 and a copy is available to interested parties on request or online.

The Charity is governed by members at each Annual Assembly and between times by the Trustees as listed on page 1.

**Approved by the Trustees and signed by:**

Signed: Mark Davies Bishop Mark Davies - Chair and Trustee

Signed: Janet Warr Mrs Janet Warr BA - Treasurer

Date 01 March 2021

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 5 to 8. My work has been undertaken so that I might carry out an Independent Examination of the accounts in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act). The trustees consider that an audit is not required for the year ended 31 December 2020 under section 144(2) of the Act and that an Independent Examination is appropriate.

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**

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

- (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 order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: Brian J. Woodhall

Dr Brian J Woodhall  
11 Rydal Place  
Macclesfield  
Cheshire  
SK11 7XU

Date 17-02-21

**BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020**

		31/12/20	31/12/19
	Note	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets	1	177	265
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Investments		9,003	9,003
Prepayments		674	629
Cash at bank		23,027	25,727
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>32,704</u>	<u>35,359</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
NEST pension contributions		253	253
Other creditors	5*	-	4,275
Accruals		95	47
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>348</u>	<u>4,575</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)</b>		32,356	30,784
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		£ <u>32,533</u>	£ <u>31,049</u>
<b>FINANCED BY:</b>			
<b>Unrestricted fund:</b>			
General		32,533	31,049
		£ <u>32,533</u>	£ <u>31,049</u>

Approved by the Trustees and signed by:

Signed: +Mark Davies Bishop Mark Davies - Chair and Trustee

Signed: Janet Warr Mrs Janet Warr BA - Treasurer

Date 01 March 2021

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

		<u>31/12/20</u>	<u>31/12/19</u>
		£	£
	<b>Note</b>		
<b>Incoming resources:</b>			
Income from charitable activities	2	24,070	23,560
Other income	3	1,895	1,299
Investment income	4	44	104
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>26,009</u>	<u>24,963</u>
<b>Resources used:</b>			
Charitable activities	5	24,456	25,571
Governance costs	6	69	73
Other resources expended	7	-	2
<b>Total resources used</b>		<u>24,525</u>	<u>25,646</u>
<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources</b>		1,484	(683)
<b>Fund balances brought forward</b>		31,049	31,732
<b>Fund balances carried forward</b>		<u>32,533</u>	<u>31,049</u>

**NOTES TO THE REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	<u>31/12/20</u>	<u>31/12/19</u>
	£	£
<b>Note</b>		
<b>1 Tangible fixed assets</b>		
<b>Cost</b>		
As at 01 January 2020	3,238	2,885
Additions	-	353
As at 31 December 2020	<u>3,238</u>	<u>3,238</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
As at 01 January 2020	2,973	2,885
Charge for year	88	88
As at 31 December 2020	<u>3,061</u>	<u>2,973</u>
<b>Net book values</b>		
As at 31 December 2020	<u>177</u>	<u>265</u>
<p>Tangible fixed assets primarily consists of office and computer equipment. Depreciation on tangible fixed assets is provided at 25% on a straight line basis in order to write off each asset over its estimated economic useful life.</p>		
<b>2 Income from charitable activities</b>		
Contributions from member denominations	23,520	23,560
Donations received	550	-
	<u>24,070</u>	<u>23,560</u>
<p>Contributions from member denominations are recognised in the accounts when due, all other income is included on a receivable basis insofar as the amounts are quantifiable and the likelihood of receipt is sufficiently reliable.</p>		
<b>3 Other income</b>		
Employment allowance	1,895	1,299
	<u>1,895</u>	<u>1,299</u>
<b>4 Investment income</b>		
Bank interest	20	40
Income from investments	24	64
	<u>44</u>	<u>104</u>
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<u>£ 26,009</u>	<u>£ 24,963</u>

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**NOTES TO THE REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS - continued**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

	<u>31/12/20</u>	<u>31/12/19</u>
	£	£
<b>Note</b>		
<b>5 Charitable activities</b>		
Employment costs	* 22,234	21,559
Office expenses	8	105
Dues and subscriptions	840	782
Insurance	650	120
Annual assembly costs	-	1,782
Other meeting costs	112	247
Travel and subsistence	268	590
Advertising and promotions	50	125
Website and internet expenses	134	44
Equipment rental/operating leases	-	57
Bank charges	72	72
Depreciation charge for the year	88	88
	<u>24,456</u>	<u>25,571</u>
<p>* Employment costs in 2020 have been reduced by the write back of a pension provision from earlier years (previously shown under Other creditors) that is considered not now required as follows:</p>		
Employment costs for the year	26,509	21,559
Staff pension contribution provision written back	<u>(4,275)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>22,234</u>	<u>21,559</u>
<p>Charitable activities expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries.</p>		
<b>6 Governance costs</b>		
Professional fees	69	73
	<u>69</u>	<u>73</u>
<p>Governance costs include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including strategic management any trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.</p>		
<b>7 Other resources expended</b>		
Sundry expenses	-	2
	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>
<b>Total resources used</b>	£ <u>24,525</u>	£ <u>25,646</u>

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.