CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

Charity name: Chatham Memorial Synagogue

Charity registration number: 800902

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The provision of Jewish worship and education both for the Jewish community of north and mid Kent and for the wider community.
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	The synagogue routinely hosts visits from local schools, colleges and youth groups (e.g. cubs); from members of other faith communities to promote a greater understanding of the Jewish religion and traditions; and Open Days for the general public.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Additional information (optional)
You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Volunteers are integral to the running of the Synagogue; they undertake the following roles: • Leading all religious services • Maintaining the building and the grounds. • Welcoming visitors to the synagogue. • Running of the Education Programme.

		• Security Management. • Guides for Open Days at the Synagogue. • Community engagement. • Ambassadorial undertakings. • Press relations. • Catering for Synagogue services and events. • Management Team. • Board of Trustees.
Other		Chatham Memorial Synagogue is committed to improving its environmental footprint wherever possible.

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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	**Extended access to services** The synagogue has held services regularly on the Jewish Sabbath and major festivals, both in the synagogue and simultaneously on Zoom. The continuation of this hybrid service format has enabled people who are unable to attend in person, for example because of health concerns or disabilities, to be part of the services. It has also enabled many individuals from overseas to attend, and the Synagogue has routinely had online visitors from Israel, United States, France, New Zealand and South Africa. Non-Jewish visitors, who are interested in learning about the synagogue and the Jewish religion, were also welcomed in person and on Zoom to services and other events. Specific services were held with many external attendees; these were undertaken in an open and inclusive manner, designed to help visitors understand what was happening, and why. **Heritage Open Day** The Synagogue was again able to hold our annual Heritage Open Day. This attracted an encouraging number of visitors. Visitors were able to look around the building and cemetery, learn about the history of the building, the site and of the Jewish community in Medway, together with a little about Judaism. This was coupled with the opportunity to taste some traditional Jewish food while chatting to

		members of the Jewish Community and others. Visitors' favourite areas from the tours were the history, the beautiful building, learning about Judaism, and the personal stories, especially linking these into the Holocaust. Many of the attendees had never visited the Synagogue before, although many commented that they had walked past it on multiple occasions. Most visitors wanted to attend out of general curiosity, an interest in heritage and/or culture, or a desire to learn a bit about the Jewish community and its customs. The vast majority felt the building was beautiful, with additional comments such as "It's a hidden gem!". There were, however, expected comments about the dilapidation of the building and burial ground with a desire to see these areas restored. **Education Programme** Visits by local schools, youth groups and religious groups to the synagogue have continued at better than pre-pandemic levels, again with very positive feedback received from teachers about the level of detail provided, and its appropriateness for the children the majority of whose ages ranged from 5 to 11.The synagogue hosted approximately 1,000 children and their teachers during the year. The Synagogue also has an outreach programme, taking the engagement and education sessions into schools when those schools are unable to attend the Synagogue for whatever reason. A new aspect for next year will be attendance as part of a multi-faith panel at sixth form discussion sessions. The first of these was held in March 2025 at Bennett Memorial School in Tunbridge Wells. One consistent aspect of the education programme is highlighting similarities and differences between major World Religions, particularly the Abrahamic faiths. This is important to demonstrate that we have more in common than that which divides us. An additional key area of the course, depending on the age of the children concerned, is the Holocaust. In this we are clear to use personal stories from family

		members, and hope to demonstrate how easy it is to demonise one people because of an arbitrary characteristic. The aim with this is to encourage children, teachers and the helpers to think for themselves, to be kind and fair, and to try to prevent a recurrence of such an event. Feedback from teachers and pupils is overwhelmingly positive, whether the visit has been in the Synagogue or at the school. The depth of learning is considerably greater than is usually achievable for a school given the generalist RE education levels of most teachers, and the teachers themselves (plus parent helpers at the sessions) tell us that they find the sessions fascinating. The Synagogue has hopes to increase the scale of the education programme over coming years. **Inter Faith activities** The Synagogue continues to be a core member of Medway Inter Faith Action. In July 2025, the synagogue hosted a multi-faith Service for Peace, as part of the Medway Walk for Peace. As part of Inter Faith Week, in November 2025, the synagogue hosted an online Havdalah service for the end of the Jewish Sabbath. This event was well attended by members of different faiths. **Holocaust Memorial Day** The Synagogue continues to be one of the core joint organisers of the annual Medway Holocaust Memorial Day event. This year the event was held at Cliffe Woods Primary School. The Head Teacher, a synagogue member, chairs the event organising committee. The event included participation from local schools and the Medway Youth Council, as well as other faith groups and Kent Police. **Communities and Faith Forum** The synagogue continues to play a leading role in the Communities and Faith Forum (CFF). CFF was formed by the Synagogue for Medway's wider communities during the Pandemic, bringing together 50 organisations and communities across different faiths, races, ethnicities and localities to help thousands of individuals

		across Medway from March 2020 in terms of food, prescriptions, getting to medical appointments and many other tasks. CFF continues beyond Covid, with regular WhatsApp interaction between the different communities on an almost daily basis.

Additional information (optional)
You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	N/A
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	N/A
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	N/A
Other		N/A

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The charity has continued to cover its running expenses and routine repairs. No grants were received for in 2025 and there were no major repairs during the year.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Reserves are held for future expenses and building repairs.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	The reserves balance at 31 December was £298,050. This is considered by the Trustees to be sufficient but not excessive at this time: as the building and its burial ground comprise a significant heritage site, any unexpected repairs are likely to be substantial requiring significant reserves.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	None
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	No uncertainties

Additional information (optional)
You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Membership subscriptions, donations and grants
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	The purpose of the Synagogue's Investment Policy is to provide a clear framework for the management and oversight of the charity's investments in

		accordance with UK charity law and Charity Commission guidance. This policy ensures that the charity's financial resources are managed to further its charitable purposes and maintain long-term sustainability while complying with all legal duties and responsibilities. This policy applies to all investments made by the charity, including financial investments, social investments, and cash deposits.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The risks associated with maintenance of a grade 2* listed building. During recent years the risk of attack due to antisemitism or antisocial behaviour has risen, and this is a concern to the Charity. We are in long term discussions with various funders, and hope that a full-scale restoration will be possible at some stage. We have already undertaken full surveys of the building, and initial works were carried out as needed. A watching brief is being kept on the structure of the building. Since the Hamas attack in Israel on 7th October 2023 there have been wider community tensions which concern the Board of Trustees and Management Committee. Risks of attack have been partially mitigated by the hiring of a security guard for all services and events. In addition, the Police are made aware of all service dates and times so that they can keep a watching brief, and do a frequent drive-by as appropriate.

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Trust deed
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unincorporated
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Existing trustees maintain a skills register for the Charity. When a skill is identified as being needed, new trustees may be selected by recommendation from the existing trustees, based on their experience or expertise that meet this need. Potential new trustees, once nominated, must be discussed by the Trustee Board and consensus reached before that individual is approached.

		The Synagogue Trust Deed specifies that all Trustees of the Synagogue must be Jewish.

Additional information (optional)
You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	Trustees are encouraged to keep up to date with information and guidance from the Charity Commission. Trustees are provided with updated information relating to legalities routinely, and are directed to keep note of both the Charity Commission and NCVO newsletters.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	The charity is currently run entirely by volunteers. The Trustee Board holds overall responsibility for the running of the Charity, including fundraising and restoration. The Board sets the strategic direction for the Charity including engagement with the wider community, and raising the profile of the Charity. The Management Committee is responsible for the day to day running of the Synagogue including services, social activity, routine maintenance, and the education programme.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	N/A
Other		N/A

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Chatham Memorial Synagogue
Other name the charity uses	N/A
Registered charity number	800902
Charity's principal address	366 High Street Rochester Kent ME1 1DJ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Mr Jonathan Hyam Weiner	Treasurer		
2	Mrs Josephine Lydia Freeman			
3	Dr Dalia Halpern-Matthews	Chair		
4	Ms Cassandra Freeman			
5	Countess Phyllis Sondes			
6	Rabbi Sylvia Rothschild			
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19				
20				

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

Description of the 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

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Stockbroker	Evelyn Partners	45 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7BG
Bankers	Lloyds Bank Plc	25 Gresham Street, London, EC2V 7HN
Accountants	TC Group	Star House, Star Hill, Rochester, Kent, ME1 1UX

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

N/A

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Other optional information

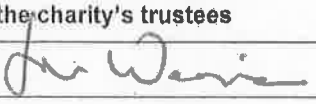
Policies and procedures in force:

- Code of Ethics
- Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy
- Communications Standards Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy
- Conflicts of Interest Policy
- Reserves Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Data Breach Management Procedure
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Investments Policy
- Serious Incident Reporting Policy
- Risk Management Policy

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)	Jonathan Hyam Weiner
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Treasurer
Date	25/09/2026

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)
Chatham Memorial Synagogue	

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 01/01/2025	To	Period end date 31/12/2025

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Contributions	8,852	-	-	8,852	8,237
Board of Deputies	390	-	-	390	300
Donations	2,451	-	-	2,451	2,800
Grants	6,257	-	-	6,257	13,115
Gfift Aid	1,547	-	-	1,547	2,108
School Visits	4,340	-	-	4,340	4,826
Social Events	541	-	-	541	604
Insurance Claims	-	-	-	-	1,000
Sundry Income	21	-	-	21	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	24,399	-	-	24,399	32,998
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
Deposit Interest	161	-	-	161	160
Investment Income	4,728	-	-	4,728	5,487
Sub total	4,889	-	-	4,889	5,647
Total receipts	29,288	-	-	29,288	38,645
A3 Payments					
Utilities	2,981	-	-	2,981	3,804
Telephones	669	-	-	669	779
Alarm	1,759	-	-	1,759	2,023
Insurance	5,415	-	-	5,415	4,516
Security	7,078	-	-	7,078	6,230
Cleaning	90	-	-	90	23
Board of Deputies	300	-	-	300	330
Repairs	15,829	-	-	15,829	1,437
Legal and professional fees	1,494	-	-	1,494	2,052
Catering	865	-	-	865	674
Online donation fees	686	-	-	686	608
Bank charges	51	-	-	51	-
Sundries	2,068	-	-	2,068	735
Sub total	39,285	-	-	39,285	23,211
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Increase/(decrease) in investment portfolio	14,720	-	-	14,720	6,383
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	14,720	-	-	14,720	6,383
Total payments	24,565	-	-	24,565	16,828
Net of receipts/(payments)	4,723	-	-	4,723	21,817
Capitalised expenditure	-	-	-	-	- 6,071
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Funds last year end	293,327	-	-	293,327	277,581
Cash funds this year end	298,050	-	-	298,050	293,327

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank	104,856	-	-
	Investments	193,194	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	298,050	-	-

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Capital expenditure	29,154	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Jonathan Weiner	Jonathan Hyam Weiner	25/09/26

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	Chatham Memorial Synagogue		
On accounts for the year ended	31 December 2025	**Charity no (if any)**	800902
Set out on pages	1-2		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 12 / 2025**.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, 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 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 (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:	SMeah	**Date:**	29-9-26
Name:	Sally Meah		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	FCCA		
Address:	TC Group Star House, Star Hill, Rochester Kent, ME1 1UX		

Section B	Disclosure
	Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).
Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.	