



RAMSEY CLOSE,
NORWICH,
NR4 7BQ

Pastor: Stuart Bailey
01603 465309
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"Sharing the love of Christ in a broken world"



Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Review

*1 April 2019
to
31 March 2020*

Trustees Annual Report for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020

Registered Charity Number

1170592

Charitable Objectives

The Object of the CIO, is for the public benefit, the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Faith in such ways as the Charity Trustees may from time to time decide.

Charity's Principal Address

The Open Door Christian Fellowship
Ramsey Close
Norwich
NR4 7BQ

www.eaton.church

Names of the Trustees who managed the Charity during this reporting period

Mr Stuart John Bailey*	Trustee, Chair, Pastor
Mr Simon Nobbs	Trustee
Mr Gaius Marc Phillingham	Trustee

**As the Pastor of the Church, Stuart Bailey is given permission to reside in the Manse. He therefore absents himself from decisions concerning the Manse Property and will do so from any future decisions regarding a salary or other remuneration.*

Trustee Selection

Trustees are selected and appointed by the current body of Trustees.

Description of the Charity's Trusts

Type of Governing Document:	Constitution, 2 December 2016
How the Charity is constituted:	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee Selection Method:	Appointed by existing Trustees

Governance Structure

The Constitution states that:

“The spiritual government and leadership of the Church Fellowship for the purposes of which the CIO has been established shall remain with the Spiritual Leadership and to the extent to which the Charity Trustees are not synonymous with the Spiritual Leadership their powers shall be confined to the proper management and administration of the CIO in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution and in furtherance of the Objects and in so doing they shall have full and proper regard to the Spiritual Leadership provided always that they shall not act outside their powers as conferred by this Constitution and by general law.”

Spiritual leadership in the Fellowship resides with the Pastor and Elder(s). Stuart Bailey, as well as being a Trustee is also the Pastor: he has been the only member of the Spiritual Leadership Team throughout the period covered by this report.

The Trustees met to discuss the management and administration of the Charity, including (but not limited to) major decisions on spending and the proper maintenance of Properties held by the Charity.

Minutes of the Trustees meetings are available.

Bankers

The Co-operative Bank PLC
PO Box 250
Delf House
Southway
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Legal advice and assistance with Charity formation provided by:

Stewardship,
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

and

Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP
134 Edmund Street
Birmingham
B3 2ES

Summary of activities and achievements in this reporting period

Overview

The Open Door Christian Fellowship has continued to meet for worship and provide spiritual teaching to the congregation throughout this year. The congregation is small (less than 15 people) and is split roughly evenly between people from the local Housing Estate and those from further afield (some traveling up to 25 miles to meet with us).

Many of the congregation are new to Evangelical Christianity having come from Catholic, Anglican and Jehovah's Witness backgrounds. It has been encouraging to see them grow significantly in their Bible knowledge, Spirituality and practical faith. In August, four of the congregation chose to be Baptized as a sign of their new-found faith and changed lives.

Another highlight of the year was our first wedding. Two of our members chose to be married in our Church Building – it was a mark of how close they felt to the Church Family, that everyone was invited and all played a part in making the day very special.

As well as meeting on Sundays, we hold a Bible Study on Wednesday evenings in the Church Manse. This has regularly been attended by over 60% of the Fellowship and is remarkable for the constant eagerness to learn and deep Biblical questions that are brought week after week.

When the Church was formed in 2016 we had two stated aims:

1. To create a family feel in which everyone feels welcome and able to contribute
2. To share the Christian Gospel with the local estate.

At the start of this year we reflected on these aims and concluded that we had met the first admirably, but were falling short on the second. After much discussion and prayer we were considering ways in which we could engage more with the local community when the Covid-19 Pandemic stopped up in our tracks. Details of our Pandemic response are included later in this Report, but we look forward to pursuing some of the ideas later this year.

Children's and Youth Work

This has been a very quiet year for our Children's and Youth Work. During the School Summer Holidays we ran a week-long Holiday Club for 5 to 11 year-olds. Many of the Fellowship helped with the planning and running of the Club, including some young helpers from our Youth Work. Unfortunately, only one child came for the Club.

Coddles, our work for children aged 5 to 11, ran in the early part of the year, but gradually faded as we approached Autumn. The club remains available on a request basis (it is advertised and if any parents ask for the club, it will run for their children), but has not met for nearly six months.

On the other hand, ODDI had continued to provide a safe drop-in space for teenagers and young adults from the local area right up until Social-Distancing rules meant that we had to suspend the group.

Our Hot-Chocolate outreach to the local Skate-Park similarly ran through most of the year and provided a great opportunity for us to meet and engage with young people.

Grand Open Day

On the Saturday following Holiday Club, we held a Grand Open Day. The aim was to provide a free day of entertainment, exhibits, refreshments and fun for all ages.

Local groups such as an embroidery class had stalls to demonstrate their crafts and a local Private

Ambulance Company (for whom

Stuart Bailey works part time) allowed children to visit the ambulance and gave first aid lessons. The Christian Motorcyclist's Association attended with a great display of bikes and a willingness to share the message of how Jesus has changed their lives.



Local police gave out information on crime prevention as well as marking bicycles as part of an anti-theft campaign. There was a rally-car from the Christian Motorsports Team and several local Christian Charities (Foodbank and Aid Africa) had stalls to highlight their work.

No charge was made for anything on the day although collection boxes were available for anyone who wished to contribute: receipts almost exactly matched our outgoings making the well-attended event cost-neutral.

Regular Activities

All of our Sunday Services and mid-week Bible Studies are advertised on-line and listed on the publicly accessible notice-board at The Building. Audio recordings of the sermon are turned into video format and made available through our own You-Tube Chanel.

Once a month we hold a Bring-and-Share lunch following the Sunday Service. This attracts several people who are not regular members of the Fellowship and we always ensure that there is more than enough food for visitors.

Other Agencies

It has been our privilege to host the local branch Christian Motorcyclist's Association (CMA). This group who seek to share the Gospel with, and provide welfare for, very vulnerable people in Motorcycle Communities, meet in our Building for mutual support, prayer and to plan their activities on a monthly basis. CMA contributed to our Grand Open Day and shared social evenings with the Fellowship.

We act as a collection point for the Trussell Trust's Foodbank. Most of the contributions come from our own members, but we are also open weekly to allow public contributions. Thankfully, we have been able to continue collecting during the pandemic by opening the building on request for individuals to deliver food to our collection point.

Our work has been recognised by local authorities and we have developed excellent links with the police and local councillors. We were able to host meetings of the police's "Safer Neighbourhood Partnership Scheme" (SNAP).

Covid-19 Pandemic

The Effect



Following the publication of Government guidelines on Social Distancing and Public Gatherings, the Fellowship stopped holding meetings in the Manse from 11 March 2020.

Our last Sunday meeting together was on 22 March when we set the Building up to allow social distancing and a safe environment. The following day Government guidelines changed and no

further meetings took place.

From that point we have used Facebook as the primary means of on-going pastoral support and spiritual teaching for approximately half of our congregation. We have been producing a daily devotional blog reflecting on a Biblical passage and holding “virtual prayer meetings” where anyone is able to submit comments or request prayers. Each Sunday we have live-streamed a service involving the Pastor and his wife from the Manse which has been available for people to view afterwards on the Facebook Page and through the regular web-site.

For those unable to access Facebook, we have kept in contact through regular phone calls and the occasional conversation from the ends of their drive. We have also contacted their families and asked if they could assist to help our members view the Facebook broadcast in some way.

Community Assistance

On 18 March, we began delivering the first of over 1,000 leaflets to houses on the Estate offering help with shopping, collecting prescriptions, lifts to appointments or phone calls. As many of our congregation are either self-isolating or live some distance away, help has been almost exclusively provided by our pastor (Stuart) and his wife (Mandy). Stuart's Private Ambulance employer donated PPE to allow for safe working and offered the use of the company's facilities to deep-clean his car to ambulance standards. This has enabled us to offer a safer response and assistance service than most local helpers.

Requests for help started coming in from Day 1 and by the end of the reporting period we had already provided 15 acts of assistance for the community.

Within a few days we were liaising with local Councillors and Norwich Foodbank to provide a united response on this estate. We were also contacted by the City Council who requested our help to put them in touch with vulnerable local people. The council included us on their database of organisations and have referred a number of people to us for help.

The work continues.

Pastor and Trustee Remuneration

The Trustees have received no remuneration for their work as Trustees throughout this reporting period.

It is the desire of the other two Trustees that Stuart Bailey should receive a wage for serving as full-time Pastor for the Fellowship. However, the financial reality of the Charity mean that this has not proven possible.

The Trustees have been able to make it possible for Stuart and his family to reside in the Manse free of charge and to pay the Council Tax and Buildings Insurance for this property. Repairs and improvements to the Manse are discussed on a case-by-case basis by the Trustees.

Stuart remains responsible for all other utility bills at the Manse.

Fulfilment of Charity Objectives

The Constitution states that:

“The Object of the CIO, is for the public benefit, the advancement of the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Faith in such ways as the Charity Trustees may from time to time decide.”

The Trustees are satisfied that by providing free-to-use groups for children and young people, publicly accessible services of Christian Worship, community events and outreach, the Charity is fulfilling its obligations to be for the public benefit and to advance the Christian Gospel.

The Trustees are further satisfied that the two properties owned by the Charity are being used for the benefit of the Charity and its objectives.

Financial Review

Overview

The outgoings for this Reporting Period came to just over £7,600 including all bills and maintenance of a large Building, Council Tax on the Manse and £1,300 for a replacement Gas Heater in the Church Building.

The majority of our income is from the Fellowship's own contributions – and includes a £1,000 donation towards a one-off project in the next reporting period.

The Trustees continually seek to gain best value for money in all our outgoings as well as considering various possibilities to increase income.

Reserves Policy

The Charity does not currently have a policy on Reserves, but is reviewing all aspects of Financial Policy. The Trustees have further agreed that following the current review, the Financial Policy will be further reviewed on an Annual basis.

Statement of Account for the Period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020

Income and Expenditure

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2020

General Fund		Note	2020	2019
INCOME				
	Giving		£9,621	£4,990
	Sundry		£99	£4,724
	Total Income		£9,720	£9,714
EXPENDITURE				
	Mission		£370	£0
	Membership and Works of Service		£228	£188
	Ministry Costs		£228	£188
	Practical and Admin		£6,820	£7,408
	Building		£2,646	£3,398
	Manse		£1,758	£1,694
	Admin Costs		£2,416	£2,316
	Sundry Others		£197	£0
	Total Expenditure		£7,615	£7,596
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	General Fund		£2,105	£2,118

Notes:

1. The "Giving" aspect of the Charity's income comes mainly from donations from the congregation. This is split fairly evenly between Standing Order Mandates and cash contributions placed into a collection box. A small number of contributions towards our work have been received from outside the Congregation, including two very generous legacies.
2. The Sundry Income was received from a collection box at our Grand Open Day which enabled people to contribute towards the costs of the event.

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2019

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2020

	Note	2020	2020	2019	2019
Fixed Assets			£0		£0
Add Current Assets					
Debtors & Prepayments					
Current Account Balance		£8,236		£6,131	
Cash in Hand					
			<u>£8,236</u>		<u>£6,131</u>
Less Current Liabilities					
Creditors & Accruals				£0	
Net Current Assets			<u>£8,236</u>		<u>£6,131</u>
Net Assets			<u><u>£8,236</u></u>		<u><u>£6,131</u></u>
Financed By					
General Funds		£8,236		£6,131	
			<u><u>£8,236</u></u>		<u><u>£6,131</u></u>

Fixed Assets

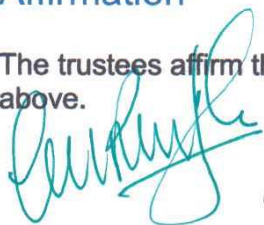
The Open Door Christian Fellowship owns two properties:

- The property known as “The Building” on Ramsey Close, Norwich, NR4 7BQ.
Estimated value (for insurance), £1,027,013
- The Property known as “The Manse”, 90 Buckingham Road, Norwich, NR4 7DG.
Estimated Value £260,000 (based on recent local sales)

The Open Door Christian Fellowship also owns the contents of “The Building” including all furniture and kitchen fittings, a digital piano (valued at £600), a large screen tv (£500) and a digital projector (£400).

Affirmation

The trustees affirm that they approve the Annual Trustee's Report and Financial Statement above.



Gaius Phillingham

Trustee

Date 28/08/20



Simon Nobbs

Trustee

Date 22/08/2020



Stuart Bailey

Chair of Trustees

Date 20 Aug 20