

Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

Financial Accounts

31 December 2020

Charity Number 1058193

Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

Financial accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Contents	Page
Legal and Administrative Information	1
Trustees Report	2 - 4
Independent Examiners Report	5
Statement of Financial Activities	6
Balance Sheet	7
Notes to the accounts	8 - 10

Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

Legal and Administrative Information

Status

The synagogue was registered with the Charity Commission on 23rd September 1996 and is governed by a constitution and rules adopted on 28th June 1978.

Trustees and Council Members

Mrs P Dorrance	Honorary Chair
Mrs Lou Tribus	Hon Vice chair
Mrs S Friedman	Honorary Treasurer
Miss I Dorrance	Honorary Secretary
Mr M Pruskin	Honorary Warden
Mr R Assenheim	
Mrs C Assenheim	
Mr J Douglass-Bull	

Charity Number

1058193

Principal Address

1 Hainault Avenue
Giffard Park
Milton Keynes
MK14 5PQ

Independent examiner

Nigel Boyce FCCA
Hickeson Boyce
Chartered Accountants
68a High Street
Stony Stratford
Milton Keynes
MK11 1AQ

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
PO Box 170
Milton Keynes
MK6 1AL

Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

Trustees Report for the year ended 31st December 2020

The Trustees present their report along with the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 8 and comply with the applicable law and the requirements of SORP (FRS 102), Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

Constitution and objects

The Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue, known in Hebrew as Bet Echud, is constituted under a deed of trust established in 1979 and is a registered charity No 1058193.

The principal objects of the Synagogue are the promoting of Judaism in the spheres of public worship, religious, educational, social, cultural and charitable activities.

Structure, governance and management

The Synagogue's governing document is its constitution, which is reviewed periodically. The Trustees of the Synagogue are its Council Members, including the Honorary Officers, who are elected by the membership in open meeting. There is also provision for up to three members to be co-opted to serve on Council until the subsequent Annual General Meeting.

The Trustees normally meet eleven times a year and there are Sub-committees and Groups that report to the council, which then approves their activities. The main Sub-committees and Groups are:

Ritual: this committee deals with all aspects of the provision of Synagogue services including festivals;

Cheder education: this committee deals with the provision of religion schooling for children of members, through to bar/batmitzvah age and beyond;

The Council, who take appropriate external advice where necessary, makes all significant operational decisions except the appointment of a rabbi. The constitution requires that decision to be approved by the membership in open meeting.

External affiliations

The constitution provides that the Synagogue shall be a member of the Movement for Reform Judaism, for which benefit, affiliation fees are payable at a percentage of the previous year's subscription income. One of the benefits of membership of a synagogue is the availability of a burial plan, and a proportion of members' subscriptions are specifically levied in this respect: this is paid by the Synagogue to the Jewish Joint Burial Society.

Achievement of objectives and review of activities

A full review of Synagogue activities is contained in the Synagogue's latest Annual Review that is circulated to all members prior to the Annual General Meeting. The key achievements during the year referred to in the Annual Review were:

Ritual: The sharing of the service leadership between visiting student Rabbi and our own lay readers. However due to the Covid-19 Pandemic services this year have mostly been via the internet using a program called Zoom.

Cheder and Education: Cheder classes have also continued via the internet. A programme of adult education classes provides monthly talks on a variety of subjects. These too have been held via the internet.

Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

Trustees Report for the year ended 31st December 2020

(continued)

Social and Welfare: The Welfare Group is running with the aim of keeping the synagogue in touch with all members. Various events have been held via Zoom, including regular "Tea and Chat" sessions, Quiz Evenings, Reading Group meetings and Sewing Group meetings.

The Synagogue magazine - 'Listen', is produced quarterly and as well as being available on the website. A paper copy is now sent out to all members who request one.

Grants: This year the High Holy Day Appeal beneficiaries included two Medical Charities, MacMillan Cancer Care and Magen Dovid Adom in Israel. Charity vouchers were also given to organisations providing food boxes for people affected by the pandemic lockdown months.

Financial review

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 31 December 2020 is set out on page 6 of the accounts and shows a net operating surplus of £11,475 for the year. This compares with last year's surplus of £7,510. Because of this surplus, the Synagogue's reserves have increased and now total £189,019.

Plans for the future

Within each of our main categories the following are the short / medium term goals:

Rabbinic Support: Student Rabbis from Leo Baeck College regularly spend a given time with an established synagogue and we are working with several of them.

Ritual: To continue providing a variety of service styles with possibly more Kabbalat Shabbats. The current wardens will take on a specialist role in relation to Pastoral, burial and B'nei Mitzvah issues. The initiative to train new wardens continues. This is dependent on Government Guidelines in force because of the pandemic.

Cheder and Education: We plan to continue further integration and merging between Cheder and the remainder of the community, with improvement in regular attendance and communication with parents. We hope to encourage local families with small children to join the community. We plan to continue to hold monthly adult education sessions, on topics of interest to members.

Programme Development: Continue to evaluate methods of encouraging involvement by a broader range of members by offering more choices of activities.

Welfare will continue to deliver support to the membership, particularly the elderly and recently bereaved. To allow the Synagogue to be part of the wider community we encourage the use of the hall by suitable outside groups.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the Synagogue to maintain our unrestricted funds, which are the free reserves of the Synagogue, at a level that is adequate to keep the Synagogue solvent. In conjunction with the subscriptions and other incoming resources, this provides sufficient funds to cover the administrative and support costs of the Synagogue.

The restricted funds are funds donated to the Synagogue for expenditure of a specific purpose or nature and are held in an appropriate form to enable the funds to be applied for the purpose for which they were established.

Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

Trustees Report for the year ended 31st December 2020

(continued)

Grant making policy

The Synagogue pursues its charitable giving mainly through the High Holy Day Appeal. Our policy is to make grants out of donations received and only to registered charities, whether in the UK or overseas.

Risk Management

The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the Synagogue faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to mitigate risks as appropriate.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the accounts

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the board of trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the period end and of its incoming resources and resources expended during that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any 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 which 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 requirements of applicable law and regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in the Charities SORP (FRS 102) from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement because it is a small charity.

This report was approved by the trustees on 01/06/2021 and signed on its behalf by



Priscilla Dorrance
Chair of Council

Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

For the year ended 31 December 2020

I report on the accounts for the trust for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 6 to 10.

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 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 material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving 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 this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



N Boyce FCCA
Hickeson Boyce
Chartered Certified Accountants
68a High street
Stony Stratford
Milton Keynes
MK11 1AQ

Date: 6/7/21

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2020	Total funds 2019
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS					
Subscriptions (net)		22,643		22,643	21,956
Income tax recoverable on subscriptions		5,208		5,208	4,426
Donations and legacies		4,250	2,976	7,226	4,563
Income tax recoverable on donations		560		560	444
JJBS			5,650	5,650	9,000
Interest		62		62	113
Income from charitable activities	[2]	453		453	821
Other incoming resources	[3]	1,710		1,710	6,096
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		34,886	8,626	43,512	47,419
EXPENDITURE					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Services and festivals	[4]	641		641	3,207
Education	[5]	1,719		1,719	1,779
JJBS			5,650	5,650	9,000
MRJ affiliation		1,979		1,979	1,896
Synagogue magazine		68		68	153
Charitable donations		671	825	1,496	954
		5,078	6,475	11,553	16,989
Building:					
Running expenses	[6]	10,919	2,151	13,070	10,353
Depreciation	[7]	3,999		3,999	8,762
		14,918	2,151	17,069	19,115
Other resources expended:					
Administration	[8]	1,044		1,044	1,106
General expenses	[9]	2,212		2,212	2,591
Fund raising	[10]	159		159	108
		3,415	0	3,415	3,805
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		23,411	8,626	32,037	39,909
NET INCOMING RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR		11,475	0	11,475	7,510
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		177,544		177,544	170,034
Amounts transferred		0	0	0	0
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		189,019	0	189,019	177,544

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

FIXED ASSETS		£	£	£	£
		Cost brought forward and carried forward	Depn to date	Net book value	31.12.19
Building		159,952	74,978	84,974	88,973
Religious Ritual Items		2,566	2,566	0	0
Furniture & Fittings		44,906	44,906	0	0
Tangible fixed assets (leasehold land)		15,000		15,000	15,000
		<u>222,424</u>	<u>122,450</u>	<u>99,974</u>	<u>103,973</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors and Prepayments	[11]		5,980		6,003
Cash at Bank and in Hand			<u>87,036</u>		<u>70,900</u>
			93,016		76,903
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Amounts falling due within one year	[12]		<u>3,971</u>		<u>3,332</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS				<u>89,045</u>	<u>73,571</u>
				189,019	177,544
TOTAL NET ASSETS				<u>189,019</u>	<u>177,544</u>
FINANCED BY					
Unrestricted: General Fund				189,019	177,544
				<u>189,019</u>	<u>177,544</u>
Approved by the Executive of the trustees (the synagogue council) on 1/6/21 and signed on its behalf by					
<u>RSM Friedman</u>					Trustee and Treasurer
<u>P Durrance</u>					Trustee and Chair
<u></u>					Trustee

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE
NOTES TO ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- a) Accounting convention
The accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis and under the historic cost convention and are shown in pounds sterling. They are in accordance with the requirements of the Statement Of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities (FRS102) under which advantage has been taken not to include a cash flow statement.
- b) Subscriptions and other income
Subscriptions are included on the basis of those due for the current year after making allowance for any amounts that are unlikely to be collected.
Other income is recognised in the year to which it relates.
- c) Income tax recoverable
Income tax recoverable has been included to the extent that it arises on gift aided donations received during the year.
- d) Depreciation
The building is being depreciated at 2.5% per annum on cost.
Religious Ritual Items are being depreciated at 10% per annum on cost.
Furniture and fittings are being depreciated at 10% per annum on cost.
- e) Funds accounting
General funds are unrestricted funds which are available at the discretion of the Trustees for particular purposes.
Restricted funds are funds which are held for specific purposes.
- f) Going concern
The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties relating to going concern and the accounts have therefore been prepared on this basis.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2020	Total funds 2019
2 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES				
Quiz	260		260	140
Social events	179		179	631
Judaica	14		14	50
TOTAL	453	0	453	821
3 OTHER INCOMING RESOURCES				
Hall hire	1,566		1,566	5,565
Rituals festivals	144		144	531
TOTAL	1,710	0	1,710	6,096
4 SERVICES AND FESTIVALS				
Kiddush and catering	52		52	476
Lay readers, visiting rabbis	589		589	2,047
Ritual, festivals, choir	0		0	684
TOTAL	641	0	641	3,207

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE
NOTES TO ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2020	Total funds 2019
5 EDUCATION				
Cheder teachers	1,719		1,719	1,779
TOTAL	<u>1,719</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,719</u>	<u>1,779</u>
6 BUILDING				
Electricity	1,905		1,905	2,422
Water	91		91	1,324
Garden	930		930	1,612
Cleaning/ hygiene consumables	93		93	1,527
Repairs and maintenance	6,695	2,151	8,846	2,219
Security: keyholding	462		462	368
Furniture and fittings <£1000	743		743	881
TOTAL	<u>10,919</u>	<u>2,151</u>	<u>13,070</u>	<u>10,353</u>
7 DEPRECIATION				
Depreciation on furniture and fittings	0		0	4,624
Depreciation on ritual assets	0		0	139
Depreciation on building	3,999		3,999	3,999
TOTAL	<u>3,999</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,999</u>	<u>8,762</u>
8 ADMINISTRATION				
Postage	52		52	229
Telephone	957		957	842
Data protection	35		35	35
TOTAL	<u>1,044</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,044</u>	<u>1,106</u>
9 GENERAL EXPENSES				
Insurance	1,111		1,111	1,152
Professional fees	563		563	492
Travel expenses	24		24	185
Welfare	285		285	747
Advertising	36		36	0
Bank charges	0		0	15
Funeral cost	93		93	0
MRJ Conference	100		100	0
	<u>2,212</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,212</u>	<u>2,591</u>

Included in Professional fees is £558 relating to the independent examination fee.

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE
NOTES TO ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2020	Total funds 2019
10 FUND RAISING				
Social events	144		144	18
Judaica	15		15	90
TOTAL	159	0	159	108
11 DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS				
Kol nidre donation	30	90	120	0
Tax refund on gift aid subscriptions	5,208		5,208	4,426
Tax refund on gift aid donations	560		560	444
Insurance (prepayment)	92		92	86
Hall hire	0		0	1,047
TOTAL	5,890	90	5,980	6,003
12 CREDITORS				
Lay reader	96		96	0
Key deposits	70		70	70
Accountancy fee	558		558	480
BT phone	0		0	79
JJBS refundable travel	0	1,450	1,450	1,450
Electricity	237		237	394
Subscriptions paid in advance	1,560		1,560	859
TOTAL	2,521	1,450	3,971	3,332
13 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS				
There were no related party transactions that require disclosure.				
14 TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES				
During the year no trustees received any remuneration. Charitable, education, building, administration and fundraising expenses totalling £1867 were reimbursed to four trustees.				
It was agreed by the Trustees and Council members that the treasurer, Mrs S Friedman, be given a gift of gratitude costing £235. This is included in welfare.				
15 STAFF COSTS				
During the year there was one member of staff employed by the charity with wages and salaries totalling £756.				