



Annual Report and Accounts
1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020

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Annual Report

Accounts

Annual Report for the period April 2020 to December 2020

We are a church based in the east of Ipswich. The Church also supports charitable purposes in the United Kingdom and other parts of the world.

Other names the charity is known by:	RCF
Registered Charity Number	1165779
Bank Account	Cooperative Bank, 9-11 Queen St, Ipswich IP1 1SW

Church Employees

James Edgell	Church pastor	
Jayne Green	CAP worker	(until October 2020)

Elders

Stephen French
Stephen Carr
James Edgell

Trustees

David Yaroslaw
Richard Jolley
Colin Rushbrook
Peter Durston

Treasurer

Stephen Carr

Structure, Governance and Management

The church is governed by the church constitution, last amended in December 2017. During most of 2020 the frequency of meetings was seriously affected. However, many church activities could still take place online.

Membership

Members are admitted in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution by vote of the church meeting on the basis of their profession of Christian faith and recommendation by the Eldership.

Trustees

The trustees usually meet during the year to review operations, consider financial performance and discuss developments to ensure church objectives are being fulfilled.

Church Meeting

Regular meetings of church members are held bi-monthly. One of these meetings incorporates the annual church member's meeting to receive annual accounts, and to ask questions about them. This was simply not possible during 2020, although information was circulated from the Eldership to members in a variety of online forms.

The church meeting has responsibility for overall policy of the church, in accordance with the constitution. Relevant matters may be submitted to the church meeting or raised by members in church meetings for further consideration by the Elders.

Objectives and Activities

The principal purpose of the church is the advancement of the Christian faith, to include the advancement of education and such other charitable purposes within Suffolk, in the UK and other parts of the world.

When planning the activities for the year, we have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit. We were still able to offer support to people on the Rushmere estate and beyond during Covid lockdown. In particular we try to enable people to find and live out their faith as part of our church community through:

Worship and prayer

Learning about the Gospel

Developing knowledge of and trust in Jesus

Provision of pastoral care

Missionary and outreach work.

Achievements and Performance

This part of the report covers the charity's activities during the period January 2020 – December 2020.

During this period Covid concerns affected most aspects of the church's life. As with so many other things our ability to function as we would normally was curtailed. We were unable to meet at all for much of this time, support to others was limited, and any contacts were socially distanced. Where possible we maintained links with Whatsapp groups and Zoom meetings to offer support to church members. Obviously this has been a challenging time, and one which has required careful handling.

James Edgell continued in his role as Church Pastor, which he took on from March 2019. The Covid period presented unprecedented challenges for James to manage this role. However, the church continued to offer services online where possible, either via Zoom meetings or the provision of teaching online,

After several years of enabling us to be a CAP church, Jayne Green stood down from her role as our CAP coordinator. We are grateful to Jayne for her work. Not only did this challenge us as a church in our support of people dealing with financial concerns and debt; it also gave us the opportunity to work alongside and support the many clients we had contact with. Responsibilities for being a CAP centre have passed to Peter Watson from Hope Church, with support from other local churches.

We are grateful for the continued efforts of our church workers during this exceptional period.

James Edginton continues to work for OM, although during this period James has taken on a number of other roles within the organisation because of the Covid situation. During some of this period James was on furlough.

The Sizewell Hall Weekend in June was unable to go ahead in person, although an online version of teaching was available. This was led by Doug Waller, Pastor at Woodbridge Quay Church. He spoke on the theme of being 21st century disciples.

We continue to operate as and are known locally as Rushmere Community Church, having relocated to Rushmere Hall Primary School, Lanark Road. The new logo, Mission Statement, Vision Statement and Core Values have been

used extensively. Trustees have not yet been able to make a permanent name change with the Charity Commission. In practice "RCC" is what the church uses in any communication

Church membership in April 2020 was 49, although for most of the year we were simply unable to meet.

Groups

Many church activities provided by groups on Sundays were unable to continue after March. Prior to this, the Welcome Team greeted and providing tea, coffee and light snacks. The Support Team ensured services run smoothly, dealing with technical and equipment needs. Coffee Mornings were unable to continue during the lockdown period. Most Sunday activities simply ceased in this format during the lockdown period.

Some support for people locally was provided via the Good Neighbour Scheme during the lockdown period. Along with the role of charities such as Family First this has meant that there are strong links with the local community. Family Fun at 4 was unable to continue for the lockdown period, obviously.

Toys and Noise for parents and toddlers came to an end during the year, sadly. There had been issues related to numbers of children and of volunteers prior to Covid, but during this period the group ended.

The Youth Team provided support through regular Zoom meetings for the teenagers in the church.

Home groups continued to meet most weeks, online. Most contacts with members continued without actually meeting in some manner, via Zoom or by telephone contact.

The World Mission team were still able to administer financial gifts to the charities we support (listed below) and the church were updated via church bulletins

The Safeguarding document remains available on the RCC website and members are encouraged to read and act upon this.

Mission Giving

The 5 main charities which we continue to support regularly are:

A Little Bit of Hope

Uganda

Chateau Blanc	France
CYM	Ipswich UK
IM Cares	India
OM	Worldwide

Information about these charities is offered on the church website.

Other charities which have received funds or have provided news of their operations are:

Open Doors, Tear Fund, Family First.

Members continue to serve the community and support it through Town Pastors, Family First and other charities.

Declaration

The Trustees declare that they have approved the report above. Signed on behalf of the Trustees.

Signature

Full Names	David Andrew Yaroslaw	Colin Rushbrook
Position	Chairman of Trustees	Trustee
Date	17.10.21	17.10.21

RCC INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT YEAR END 31ST DEC 2020

1ST Jan 2020- 31ST DEC 2020

INCOME / EXPENSE ANALYSIS

INCOME

GENERAL FUND	47082.15
CAP	1930
SIZEWELL	1270
GIFT AID	13747.23
OTHER MISSIONS / MISC	488
TOTAL INCOME	64517.38 ✓

COMBINED BANK ACCOUNT

CLOSING BALANCE	53179.43 ✓
OPENING BALANCE	45235.69 ✓
CHANGE	7943.74 ✓

EXPENSES

SALARIES	35314.85
RENTS (1)	3771
MISSIONS	4950
OTHER MISSION (2)	389.01
CAP FEES	4400
CAP OTHER	1236.05
SIZEWELL	1850
OTHER (3)	3302.39
MEMBERSHIPS (4)	1360.34
TOTAL EXPENSES	56573.64 ✓

SURPLUS

7943.74 ✓

NOTES

- 1 SCHOOL, HALLS, PASTOR OFFICE
- 2 LOCAL OUTREACH, OTHER
- 3 INSURANCE, ARK, YOUTH, PRINTING, PUBLICITY, PASTORAL, ETC
- 4 CCLI, DBS CHECKS ETC

PREPARED BY STEPHEN CARR ON 19TH MARCH 2021

Accounts checked.

J. France

5th October 2021