

**Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue**

**Financial Accounts**

**31 December 2021**

**Charity Number 1058193**

# **Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue**

## **Financial accounts**

**For the year ended 31 December 2021**

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## **Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue**

### **Legal and Administrative Information**

#### **Status**

The synagogue was registered with the Charity Commission on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1996 and is governed by a constitution and rules adopted on 28<sup>th</sup> 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	

#### **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 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

The Trustees present their report along with the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021. 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.

## **Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue**

### **Trustees Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

(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, some via Zoom and some in person in the building. These include 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 were World Jewish Relief and Supershoes.

#### **Financial review**

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 31 December 2021 is set out on page 6 of the accounts and shows a net operating surplus of £15531 for the year. This compares with last year's surplus of £11475. Because of this surplus, the Synagogue's reserves have increased and now total £204550.

#### **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:** Shabbat morning services are again held in the building with winter Erev Shabbat services to continue via Zoom. 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.

**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.

**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 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

(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 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 19/06/22 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 2021**

I report on the accounts for the trust for the year ended 31 December 2021, 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  
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Date: 21/6/22

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>					
Subscriptions (net)		20,601		20,601	22,643
Income tax recoverable on subscriptions		4,700		4,700	5,208
Donations and legacies		5,486	840	6,326	7,226
Income tax recoverable on donations		729		729	560
JJBS			7,027	7,027	5,650
Interest		9		9	62
Income from charitable activities	[2]	14		14	453
Other incoming resources	[3]	4,234		4,234	1,710
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>35,773</b>	<b>7,867</b>	<b>43,640</b>	<b>43,512</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Services and festivals	[4]	770		770	641
Education	[5]	1,463		1,463	1,719
JJBS		300	7,027	7,327	5,650
MRJ affiliation		1,283		1,283	1,979
Synagogue magazine		150		150	68
Charitable donations		0	840	840	1,496
		<b>3,966</b>	<b>7,867</b>	<b>11,833</b>	<b>11,553</b>
Building:					
Running expenses	[6]	8,409	0	8,409	13,070
Depreciation	[7]	4,439		4,439	3,999
		<b>12,848</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12,848</b>	<b>17,069</b>
Other resources expended:					
Administration	[8]	1,115		1,115	1,044
General expenses	[9]	2,169	0	2,169	2,212
Fund raising	[10]	144		144	159
		<b>3,428</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,428</b>	<b>3,415</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>20,242</b>	<b>7,867</b>	<b>28,109</b>	<b>32,037</b>
<b>NET INCOMING RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR</b>		<b>15,531</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>15,531</b>	<b>11,475</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		189,019		189,019	177,544
Amounts transferred		0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>204,550</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>204,550</b>	<b>189,019</b>



## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2021

Approved by the Executive of the trustees (the synagogue council) on 19/6/22  
and signed on its behalf by

Trustee

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE  
NOTES TO ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

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.  
Where the trustees consider that there is no impairment in the value of the leasehold at the year end it continues to be reflected in the balance sheet at cost.  
Religious Ritual Items are being depreciated at 25% per annum on cost. (2020:10%)  
Furniture and fittings are being depreciated at 25% per annum on cost. (2020:10%)
- 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 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
2 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES				
Quiz	0		0	260
Social events	0		0	179
Judaica	14		14	14
TOTAL	14	0	14	453
3 OTHER INCOMING RESOURCES				
Hall hire	2,385		2,385	1,566
Rituals festivals	0		0	144
Non cash asset donation	1,849		1,849	0
TOTAL	4,234	0	4,234	1,710
4 SERVICES AND FESTIVALS				
Kiddush and catering	20		20	52
Lay readers, visiting rabbis	750		750	589
TOTAL	770	0	770	641

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE  
NOTES TO ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
5 EDUCATION				
Cheder teachers	1,463		1,463	1,719
TOTAL	1,463	0	1,463	1,719
6 BUILDING				
Electricity	2,076		2,076	1,905
Water	208		208	91
Garden	760		760	930
Cleaning/ hygiene consumables	514		514	93
Repairs and maintenance	3,938	0	3,938	8,846
Security: keyholding	467		467	462
Furniture and fittings <£1000	446		446	743
TOTAL	8,409	0	8,409	13,070
7 DEPRECIATION				
Depreciation on furniture and fittings	440		440	0
Depreciation on ritual assets	0		0	0
Depreciation on building	3,999		3,999	3,999
TOTAL	4,439	0	4,439	3,999
8 ADMINISTRATION				
Postage	99		99	52
Telephone	981		981	957
Data protection	35		35	35
TOTAL	1,115	0	1,115	1,044
9 GENERAL EXPENSES				
Insurance	1,161		1,161	1,111
Professional fees	598		598	563
Council member travel expenses	18		18	24
Non trustee expenses	34		34	0
Welfare	196		196	285
Advertising	0		0	36
Funeral cost	0		0	93
MRJ Conference	0		0	100
Website	162		162	0
	2,169	0	2,169	2,212
Included in Professional fees is £594 relating to the independent examination fee.				
10 FUND RAISING				
Social events	144		144	144
Judaica	0		0	15
TOTAL	144	0	144	159

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE  
NOTES TO ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

11 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Leasehold land and building £	Religious ritual items £	Furniture and fittings £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 January 2021	174,952	2,566	44,906	222,424
Additions			1,760	1,760
Disposals				0
At 31 December 2021	<u>174,952</u>	<u>2,566</u>	<u>46,666</u>	<u>224,184</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2021	74,978	2,566	44,906	122,450
Charge for the year	3,998		440	4,438
On disposals				0
At 31 December 2021	<u>78,976</u>	<u>2,566</u>	<u>45,346</u>	<u>126,888</u>
Net book value				
At 31 December 2021	<u>95,976</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,320</u>	<u>97,296</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>99,974</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>99,974</u>

Included in leasehold land and building is £15000 related to leasehold land which was acquired in 2002 on 125 year lease and on which no rent is payable.

12 INVESTMENTS

During the year the investments were donated and are shown at their market value on the date of donation and at the year end.

13 DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Kol nidre donation	135	0	135	120
Tax refund on gift aid subscriptions	4,700		4,700	5,208
Tax refund on gift aid donations	729		729	560
Insurance (prepayment)	92		92	92
Hall hire	1,301		1,301	0
MRJ levy	17		17	0
Website	323		323	0
TOTAL	<u>7,297</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,297</u>	<u>5,980</u>

14 CREDITORS

Lay reader	0		0	96
Cheder Consultant	504		504	0
Outreach rep	220		220	0
Key deposits	0	70	70	70
Accountancy fee	594		594	558
Building maintenance	588		588	0
JJBS refundable travel	0	1,450	1,450	1,450
Electricity	284		284	237
Subscriptions paid in advance	2,180		2,180	1,560
TOTAL	<u>4,370</u>	<u>1,520</u>	<u>5,890</u>	<u>3,971</u>

15 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions that require disclosure.

16 TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

During the year no trustees received any remuneration. Charitable, education, building, administration and fundraising expenses totalling £3227 were reimbursed to three trustees.

17 STAFF COSTS

During the year there was one member of staff employed by the charity with wages and salaries totalling £458.