

BRIDPORT CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

REPORT & ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London EC1Y 8AB

BRIDPORT CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	4-5 Kings Square East Street Bridport Dorset DT6 3QE
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Declaration of Trust dated 2 April 1991 Registered charity No 1002844
TRUSTEES	John Davidson (to July 2017) Jackie Webb Ray Dobson Derek Finch Secretary Penny Thomsom (to January 2017) Grant Butcher Treasurer Carrie Swaddling from April 2017
BANKERS	Lloyds TSB Bank plc Bridport
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Fiona Green ACA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage London EC1Y 8AB

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BRIDPORT CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year as follows.

Objects of the charity

The charitable objects of the Fellowship are the proclamation of the Christian Gospel as contained in the Holy Bible recognising Jesus as our Saviour and Lord, and bringing people to know Jesus by both public and personal witness.

The charitable objects are realised through activities designed to build up the church. These include: Regular worship services; Prayer meetings; Clubs for young people and children which are open to church and non-church attendees; Bible-study groups as a basis for mutual care and support; Outreach activities in Bridport town square throughout the year, and especially at Christian festivals as a public witness.

Outward Giving

We recognise a responsibility to support other Christian and charitable works world-wide, and therefore it is a policy of the Trust to provide financial support to causes that are judged as deserving by an appointed Giving Committee, the work of which is overseen by the Trustees. We aim to give away about twenty per cent of our total income received from offerings and tax reclaimed on those offerings. Approximately fifty per cent of our outward giving is applied to overseas beneficiaries, the balance is applied within the UK.

Government

Responsibility for policy setting and the operating decisions of the Charity rest with the Trustees who meet regularly to direct and monitor the activities of the Trust.

Responsibility for the spiritual direction of the church rests with the Eldership Team.

New Trustees are appointed by the Elders of the church and approved by the existing Trustees.

At the commencement of the year the Trustees were Messrs Ray Dobson, John Davidson, Derek Finch, and Ms Jackie Webb. In the course of the year additional Trustees were appointed, Mr Grant Butcher and Mrs Penny Thompson. Later in the year Mrs Thompson moved from the area and resigned from her positions of Trustee and Treasurer. Mr Grant Butcher kindly agreed to resume the role of Treasurer.

At the commencement of the year the Eldership Team comprised of: Ray & Carole Dobson as "Founding Elders", assisted by Leading Elders David & Janice Collins, and Elders David and Joan Allen and Theresa Gordon. During the year Mr Allen has been appointed 'Safeguarding Coordinator'

CHURCH LIFE

House-groups continue to be a key part of church life, each church member being assigned to membership of one of the groups. Leaders of these groups have first responsibility for the pastoral care of those in their groups. However, from time to time needs arise for the provision of deeper care in ways that are beyond the scope of house-groups and their leaders. A pastoral care team led by Mr. David Allen exists to meet those needs.

Bible Study is another key element of church life. Mr John Davidson continues to lead a group that meets on church premises on Wednesday mornings studying a wide range of Scriptures. In the course of the year a new group has been started, led by Derek Finch, which meets on church premises on Tuesday mornings to study the Jewish roots of the Christian faith.

Social activities are also seen as an important means of building fellowship. Barbecues take place in the church garden during summer months and there has been a Barn Dance.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2016-17

The core activities of the Trust – meeting for worship and prayer, and outreach activities and acts of public witness appropriate to the season, have continued throughout the year and indeed are still on-going. These include:-

Worship services in church on Sunday mornings.

Prayer meetings in church on Sunday evenings.

Mums and Toddlers ("Precious Ones") meet in church on Wednesday lunchtimes.

Celebration meetings in church with guest speakers on occasional Saturday evenings.
An Art Group meets on church premises on Fridays and is counted among our outreach activities.
House-groups meet in church and in members' homes mid-week.
Sale of donated goods in town square to support Christian work overseas.
Outdoor services in the town square at Easter and Christmas.
Sale of Third World products in town square to support the "Make a Difference" charity.
Music and entertainment in town square as a means of evangelism.
Delivery of a free monthly Christian newspaper to Bridport households.
At Christmas we sang carols in several local retirement homes, and as a result we are now continuing to visit Harbour House, West Bay, to bring a more-frequent Christian message to the residents. We also participated in Bridport's Late Night shopping event, "Christmas Cheer".

We continue to enjoy an income from hiring the premises to other local groups e.g. the Bridport Chamber Orchestra, and Allington Strings, and we receive a regular income from the residential letting of the "Headmaster's Flat".

Our work among children and young people continues under the leadership of the Elders. We have not yet had any success in appointing a new Youth Worker.

The whole church came together to organise an event-filled Family Fun Day which took place in the church garden on a Saturday in May. On a Sunday in June we again provided a service of worship at the annual West Bay Steam Fair.

The final re-payment of our mortgage was made this year. As a result of the consequent improvement to our cash flow Trustees agreed to increase our outward giving from 15% of income to 20% of income. Consideration is currently being given to possible improvements to our property.

We continue in membership of Churches Together in Bridport (CTiB) through which we work with other Bridport churches to provide a Christmas Lunch for needy or lonely people. We made a substantial donation to the Roof Appeal of one of our sister churches in Bridport. We also worked with our sister churches to present an open-air Nativity in the town square in December.

In planning the activities the Trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

THANKSGIVING

The work of the Trustees would not be possible without the enthusiastic support and prayer of church members, and the blessings of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to the glory of Whom all our efforts are dedicated.

Financial Review

Receipts for the year to 31 March 2017 were £59,175 (2016: £63,438). Payments for the year were £45,791 (2016: £64,544) of which £7600 was given to charitable causes.

This resulted in a surplus for the year of £13,384 compared with a deficit in the previous year of £1,105.

Cash balances at the end of the year totalled £27,385.

Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.

We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

Approval

This report was approved by the trustees on 27 August 2017 and signed on their behalf by:

Derek Finch

Independent Examiner's Report
To the Trustees of

Bridort Christian Fellowship

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2017 set out on pages 5 to 8 which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies on page 7.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees of the charity are responsible for the preparation of accounts; they consider that the audit requirement under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), does not apply.

It is my responsibility to :

- * examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act.
- * follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners made under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.
- * state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

Based on my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect, accounting records have not been kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act, or that the accounts presented do not accord with those records, or comply with the accounting requirement of the 2011 Act. No matter has come to my attention in connection with my examination to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Fiona Green ACA
For and on behalf of:
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London EC1Y 8AB

18 September 2017

BRIDPORT CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

	Notes	Unrestricted General	Restricted Funds	2017 £	2016 £
Receipts					
<i>Voluntary receipts</i>					
Grants and gifts received		39,798	512	40,310	42,174
Tax refunds under Gift Aid		7,414	-	7,414	10,308
		<u>47,212</u>	<u>512</u>	<u>47,725</u>	<u>52,482</u>
<i>Other receipts</i>					
Rents received		9,212	-	9,212	8,981
Interest received		4	-	4	5
Income from clubs and events		598	484	1,082	899
Other income		1,153	-	1,153	1,072
Total Receipts		<u>58,179</u>	<u>996</u>	<u>59,175</u>	<u>63,439</u>
Payments					
<i>Payments in furtherance of the church's objectives</i>					
Costs of generating funds					
Direct costs	2	37,372	803	38,175	58,362
Grants paid	3	7,015	601	7,616	6,182
Total Payments		<u>44,387</u>	<u>1,403</u>	<u>45,791</u>	<u>64,544</u>
Net Movement in Funds		<u>13,792</u>	<u>(407)</u>	<u>13,384</u>	<u>(1,105)</u>
Balances , 1 April 2016		13,593	407	14,001	15,106
Balances, 31 March 2017		<u>27,385</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,385</u>	<u>14,001</u>

The notes on pages 7 to 8 form part of these accounts.

BRIDPORT CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

1. Fixed Assets

	Insurance Value 2017 £
The value of the assets owned are:	
Freehold Building	625,589
Contents	85,078
	710,667

2. Bank & Cash Balances

	2017 £	2016 £
Lloyds TSB Current account	19,798	6,418
Lloyds TSB Instant Access account	7,587	7,584
	27,385	14,001

3. Other Assets & Liabilities

<i>Assets</i>		
Gift Aid tax and GASDS recoverable	3,508	2,110
Other debtors	91	
<i>Total Assets</i>	3,598	2,110
 <i>Liabilities</i>		
Mortgage	-	15,381
Unbilled fee for Independent Examination	540	540
<i>Total Liabilities</i>	540	15,921

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf on 27 August 2017 by

Derek Finch

The notes on pages 7 to 8 form part of these accounts.

BRIDPORT CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

1. Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis with a statement of assets and liabilities.

2. Direct costs	General Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Property costs (Note 4)	24,004	-	24,004	17,877
Special projects	-	392	392	22,894
Pastor and church expenses	5,260	-	5,260	4,142
Speakers	824	-	824	1,325
Advertisements, leaflets & books	2,052	-	2,052	2,837
Events	1,049	-	1,049	1,472
Work among the young	467	-	467	4,757
General equipment	2,277	-	2,277	1,279
Bank charges	244	-	244	258
Governance costs	540	-	540	486
Other costs	655	411	1,066	1,035
	<u>37,372</u>	<u>803</u>	<u>38,175</u>	<u>58,362</u>

3. Grants Paid

Individuals	1,549	410	1,959	1,000
Institutions	5,466	191	5,657	5,182
	<u>7,015</u>	<u>601</u>	<u>7,616</u>	<u>6,182</u>

There were no grants to institutions amounting to more than £1,000 in the year

BRIDPORT CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

	2017	2016
	£	£
4. Property costs		
Mortgage repayment	15,976	9,942
Service charges and insurance	1,953	1,801
Heat, light and water	4,166	3,876
Maintenance	1,910	2,258
	<u>24,004</u>	<u>17,877</u>

5. Movement of Restricted Funds

	Balance at 1-Apr-16	Receipts		Payments	Transfers	Balance at 31-Mar-17
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Christmas lunch collection	319	484		(803)	-	-
Christmas Cards/Julia's House	88	95		(183)	-	-
Special Collection	-	410		(410)	-	-
MAD International	-	7		(7)	-	-
	<u>407</u>	<u>996</u>		<u>(1,403)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>