

Annual Report

BIGGLESWADE CONGREGATION OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2011

Reference and Administrative Details

Registered Charity Number 1066658

The registered address of the congregation is The Kingdom Hall, 5 Shortmead Street, Biggleswade, SG18 0AT

On the date this report was approved, the congregation was administered by the following trustees:

Chairman: Martin Harker Secretary: George Worth
Other trustees: Stuart Blackman, Daniel Hyett, Jim Linnell, Paul Mallett, Graham Pinckney, Philip Stevenson, Anthony Stribling, John Storton.

John Linnell also served as a trustee up till July 2010 when he moved to serve in Letchworth Grange Congregation. Paul Storton also served as a trustee up till January 2011 when he moved from the area. Robin Walker and Richard Hyett are no longer Trustees.

The Kingdom Hall in Shortmead Street, Biggleswade is held in trust for the congregation by the Kingdom Hall Trust

Structure, Governance and Management

The congregation is an unincorporated association constituted by Memorandum of Constitution dated 29th May 1997 ('the Constitution'). The congregation is affiliated with Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Britain ('the Society').

New trustees are selected by the existing trustees from among congregation members, and are duly appointed pursuant to the Constitution.

The affairs of the congregation are managed by the trustees who as members of the charity work closely together and meetings are called whenever required, but at least three times a year. All major decisions are made by formal resolutions at meetings of Congregation members as provided for in the Constitution.

The trustees and other persons engaged in the activities of the congregation have done so on a voluntary unpaid basis.

Objectives, Activities and Public Benefit

The Constitution restricts the operation of the congregation and the use of its assets to religious purposes. It defines the objects of the congregation as 'the practice and advancement of Christianity founded on the Holy Bible, including the preaching of the good news of God's Kingdom by Jesus Christ within the Congregation Area and the holding of meetings for public Christian worship'. For this purpose the congregation undertakes the following activities: Holding and arranging meetings for public religious worship; Teaching of the Bible and the gospel of Christ at these public meetings; Teaching and preaching

the gospel to the public within the congregation area; Distribution of Bible and other religious literature to the public in the congregation area.

These meetings are provided, and ministry engaged in, without charge to adherents or the general public. Both provide opportunities for fellowship along with the praise and worship of God. They serve to advance religious education among both Christians and the wider public by providing training in reading, teaching, and applying the Bible. Further, through the teaching of principles of Christian living, which include respect for secular authority, persons, and property, and the maintenance of personal morality and family values, individuals are aided to change their lives in harmony with such principles. This affords those who follow the teachings of Jesus an approved moral climate, better marital, employer-employee, and social relationships, and greater happiness and contentment.

The trustees confirm that they have taken into consideration Charity Commission guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers or duties.

Achievements, performance and financial review

The congregation is primarily funded by voluntary donations made by congregation members and others, supplemented by banking interest. Throughout the year such funds have been used to provide facilities for the holding of regular weekly meetings for worship and Bible study. Donations have been made by congregation members towards the cost of circuit assemblies and other conventions held in the year. Funds have also been donated to the Society to assist them in carrying out their related religious purposes.

Noteworthy expenses were the donation to the Luton Hospital Liaison Committee of £240.00 and donations to the Circuit Assembly fund of £296.00.

The charity has a consistent income base, through donations from congregation members, some of which is by tax effective means. Based on this income, we can plan confidently with relatively small reserves. The policy on reserves is to ensure that we have free reserves on hand, not designated for specific purposes or otherwise committed, equivalent to not less than 3 months working expenditure. At the year-end, the free reserves were roughly equal to 20 months working expenditure.

These funds are held to finance the future activities of the congregation. There is a separate Kingdom hall building fund, the balance of which at 31 March 2011 was £92500.00. The build is expected to commence in the early part of 2012.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 6th June 2011 and signed on its behalf

.....
Chairman

.....
Secretary

The Biggleswade Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

Inland Revenue Tax Reference No. XN/39485 Registered Charity No. 1066658

Annual Receipts and Payments Accounts Report: Year to March 31, 2011

| | | Previous Year |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| RECEIPTS | | |
| Voluntary Sources | | |
| Congregation Contributions | £ 9911.81 | £ 7113.22 |
| Donations from _____ | £ 0.00 | £ 0.00 |
| Tax Claim | £ 1261.92 | £ 0.00 |
| Congregation Gift Aid | £ 4394.50 | £ 4416.00 |
| Legacies | £ 0.00 | £ 0.00 |
| | £15568.23 | £11529.22 |
| Income from Assets | | |
| Interest from Investments | £ 0.22 | £ 37.19 |
| Rents from Property | £ 0.00 | £ 0.00 |
| | £ 0.22 | £ 37.19 |
| Misc. Receipts | | |
| Proceeds sale of assets | £ 0.00 | £ 0.00 |
| Loans received | £ 0.00 | £ 0.00 |
| other (_____) | £ 0.00 | £ 0.00 |
| | £ 0.00 | £ 0.00 |
| Total Receipts | £15568.45 | £11566.41 |
| PAYMENTS | | |
| Direct Charitable Expenditure | | |
| Donation to IBSA/Watch Tower Society (Associated Registered Charities) | £ 240.00 | £ 240.00 |
| Donation to Circuit/District/Congregations of Jehovah's Witnesses | £ 296.00 | £ 178.88 |
| | £ 536.00 | £ 418.58 |
| Other Expenditure | | |
| Kingdom Hall Operation and Maintenance | £ 2107.31 | £ 5675.94 |
| Circuit Minister Expenses | £ 624.20 | £ 655.00 |
| | £ 2731.51 | £ 6330.94 |
| Payments for investment and other assets | | |
| Assets retained for investment purposes | £ 0.00 | £ 0.00 |
| Equipment purchase for Charity property | £ 0.00 | £ 842.52 |
| Purchase of Land/Buildings in connections with place of worship | £ 0.00 | £ 0.00 |
| | £ 0.00 | £ 842.52 |
| Misc. payments | | |
| Loan repayment to the Society re KH building | £ 0.00 | £ 0.00 |
| other (_____) | £ 0.00 | £ 0.00 |
| | £ 0.00 | £ 0.00 |
| Total Payments | £ 3267.51 | £ 7592.04 |
| Net receipt (payment) for the year | | |
| | £12300.94 | £ 3974.37 |
| Bank and cash balances at April 1, 2010 | | |
| | £86027.86 | £82053.49 |
| Bank and cash balances at March 31, 2011 | | |
| | £98328.80 | £86027.86 |

Signed _____ Date 6th June 2011

Secretary for the Trustees of the Biggleswade Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

The Biggleswade Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES: AS AT MARCH 31, 2011

| | <u>Current Year</u> | <u>Previous Year</u> |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>CASH ASSETS:</u> | | |
| Bank and cash balances: | | |
| Bank current account | £ 5646.19 | £ 8215.18 |
| Bank deposit account | £ 182.61 | £ 2812.68 |
| Cash not banked | £ _____ | £ _____ |
| Total: Agrees with March 31 balance on annual account | <u>£ 5828.80</u> | <u>£ 11027.86</u> |
| Loans to other congregations and Watch Tower Society | £ 92500.00 | £ 75000.00 |
| Other (_____) | £ _____ | £ _____ |
| <u>LIABILITIES:</u> | | |
| Due for immediate payment | £ _____ | £ _____ |
| Loans (Repayment within one year on request) | £ _____ | £ _____ |
| Future and contingent liabilities: | | |
| Loan re construction/renovation of place of worship (Footnote A) | £ _____ | £ _____ |
| <u>OTHER ASSETS:</u> | | |
| Long-term investments (tied up for a year or more) | £ _____ | £ _____ |
| Other property (Footnote D) | £ _____ | £ _____ |
| Retained for the Charity's own use: | | |
| Place of worship (Footnote B) | £ 33050.00 | £ 33050.00 |
| Furniture and other contents of place of worship (Footnote C) | £ 5350.23 | £ 5350.23 |

Footnotes

A Loan: N/A

B Registered Place of Worship: Kingdom Hall, 5 Shortmead Street, Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, SG18 0AT. At historic cost. Date of Acquisition 3/76. Extension shown at historic cost 4/84

C Contents:

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Chairs | £2691.65 |
| Filing Cabinet | £ 105.74 |
| Sound Equipment | £1400.00 |
| Medical Cabinet | £ 79.95 |
| Ladder | £ 39.99 |
| Safe | £ 50.00 |
| Rostrum & Table | £ 502.90 |
| Loo-Elev | £ 330.00 |
| Ancillaries | <u>£ 150.00</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>£5350.23</u> |