

CAMBRIDGE GRANTA CONGREGATION OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

ANNUAL REPORT - Year Ending 31 March 2012

References and Administrative Details

Registered Charity Commission Number 1067179, registered 06 January 1998

The registered address of the charity is Kingdom Hall, Stanley Rd, Cambridge, CB5 8LF

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

Chairman: John Wratten
Secretary: N René Shortland

Other trustees:

Michael Alderson, David Bridgeman, Mark Digby, Stephen Hill, Simon Fontanillas, Anthony Watts, Marcus Wratten

During the year, Jason Wratten was deleted as a trustee

The Kingdom Hall in Stanley Road, Cambridge is held in trust for the three Cambridge congregations (Cambridge Central, Calmbridge Granta and Cambridge Chesterton) by the Cambridge Central congregation who own the property

Structure, Governance and Management

The congregation is an unincorporated association now constituted by Memorandum of Constitution dated 27 May 1997 (The Constitution). The congregation is affiliated with the Watchtower 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 all other persons engaged in the activities of the Congregation have done so on an entirely voluntary unpaid basis

Objectives, Activities and Public Benefit

The Constitution restricts the operation of the Congregation to religious purposes and limits the use of its assets to such purposes. It defines the objectives of the congregation as the “practise 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 Bibles and other religious literature to the public in the congregation area

These meetings are provided, and the ministry engaged in without charge to adherents and 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 includes 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 improved 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 exercising their power or duties

Achievements, Performance and Financial Review

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

Of particular significance in the financial affairs of the congregation were the following noteworthy expenses:

- Coach for assemblies - £1398.00 (takes into account loss of £388.00)
- Kingdom Hall Operating Committee (Maintenance) - £1800
- Worldwide Work Donations (via resolution) - £2400.00
- Donation to Circuit and District Conventions - £800.00
- Donations to KH2 Project - £6460.00

The charity has a consistent income base, through donations from the congregation's members, some of which is by tax-effective means. Based on 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 purpose or otherwise committed, equivalent to not less than three months working expenditure. At the year end, the free reserves set aside in a separate account were £5325.43, and in the current account, £2857.86

These funds are held to finance future activities of the congregation. There are no funds held subject to restrictions on their use, or set aside for a particular purpose. (There is a separate Kingdom Hall Building Fund which is held by Cambridge Central Congregation.)

Approved by the Trustees of the Charity on 7th June 2012 and signed on its behalf by:

Signed: _____

Chairman – John Wratten

Secretary – N René Shortland