

2019 Trustees' Annual Report

1. Luton West Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses
2. Annual report for the year ending 31st March 2019

Reference and Administrative Details

3. Registered Charity No. 1065626
4. The registered address of the congregation is 212a Beechwood Road, Luton, Beds, LU4 9SA.
5. On the date this report was approved, the congregation was administered by the following trustees:

Chairman: Garry Jennings

Secretary: Michael Gregory

Other trustees: Richard Amoah, Benjamin Ansah, Norman Brownie, Nahshon Burrell, Vince Carbon, Peter Fernandes, Erol Gilman, Andrew Harding, Alexander Jeevadas, Nuku Keh, Stephen Mpomponsuo, Michael Palmer, Roy Prevost, Michael Richardson, Kevin Smith.

6. The Kingdom Hall at 212a Beechwood Road, Luton, is held in trust for the congregation by The Kingdom Hall Trust.

Structure, Governance And Management

7. The congregation is an unincorporated association constituted by Memorandum of Constitution dated 29 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

8. 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 Bibles 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 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 in exercising their powers of duties .

Achievements, Performance and Financial Review

9. The congregation is primarily funded by voluntary donations made by congregation members and others, supplemented by bank 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.

10. Of particular significance in the financial affairs of the congregation and in harmony with the new arrangement for supporting Kingdom Halls and Assembly Hall Constructions Worldwide, the sum of £4,500.00 was donated to Watchtower Bible & Tract Society.

The total amount, which the congregation has given by donations during the year ended 31st March 2019, was as follows:

- Worldwide work - £3, 609.79
- Additional amount for the 2019 service year to the worldwide work (Global Assistance Arrangement) - £336.00
- East 6 Circuit - £1000.00

11. 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 6 months working expenditure.

12. These funds are held to finance the future activities of the congregation. There are no funds held subject to restrictions on their use, or set aside for a particular purpose.

13. Approved by the trustees of the charity on 25th June 2019 and signed on its behalf by:

Chairman:

Secretary:

The Luton Leagrave/Luton West Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

Annual Receipts and Payments Account

For the Year Ended March 31, 2019

Registered Charity Number: 1065626

HMRC Tax Reference: XN/62022

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
	2019	2018
	£	£
Receipts		
Voluntary sources		
Donations for local congregation expenses	25,734	12,114
Gift Aid reclaimed from HMRC	1,739	2,730
Investment income		
Interest		
Other receipts	5,607	8,419
	<u>33,080</u>	<u>23,262</u>
Receipts resulting from movements on assets and investments		
Loan received from Watch Tower		
Total Receipts	<u><u>33,080</u></u>	<u><u>23,262</u></u>
Payments		
Costs of charitable activities		
Donations to Watch Tower for Worldwide Work	780	3,360
Donations to Watch Tower for KHAA	4,500	7,200
Donations to Watch Tower for TOAA/GAA	336	500
Donations to Beds No 1 Circuit	1,000	1,200
Donations to Regional Convention	-	1,000
Donations to W/t Branch Office	-	
Kingdom Hall operation and maintenance	8,916	8,558
Hire of coach for assemblies and convention	3,670	3,720
Circuit overseer expenses	384	353
Other expenses		758
	<u>19,586</u>	<u>26,650</u>
Payments resulting from movements on assets and investments		
Land purchased		
Loan repayments to Watch Tower	15,320	
Total Payments	<u><u>34,906</u></u>	<u><u>26,650</u></u>
Net Receipt/(Payment) for the year	- 1,826	- 3,387
Total cash assets brought forward	14,193	17,580
Total cash assets carried forward	<u><u>12,366</u></u>	<u><u>14,193</u></u>

Signed

Date:.....

Secretary for the Trustees of the Luton Leagrave/Luton West Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of 'The Luton Legrave/Luton West Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses' Trust

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Luton Legrave/Luton West Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses Trust for the year ended 31 March 2019.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

SJGriffiths

Seymour Griffiths FCCA CTA
43 Cartmel Drive, DUNSTABLE, LU6 3PT
7 January 2020