

# LYMINGTON CONGREGATION OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2011

### Legal and Administrative Information

1. The Congregation is an unincorporated association now constituted by Memorandum of Constitution dated 16<sup>th</sup> May 1997 ("the Constitution")
2. Registered Charity No. 1065391
3. The Congregation has during the year been administered by the following Trustees, being elders of the Congregation duly appointed pursuant to the Constitution :

Chairman	:	Brother Daniel Fossard
Secretary	:	Brother Jeff Dodd
Other Trustees	:	Brother Wayne Wheeler, Brother Anthony Donoghue Brother Mike Brice, Brother Matthew Furneaux, Brother Keith Burden (appointed Dec 2010)
4. The registered address of the Congregation is The Way Ahead, Kingdom Hall, Marsh Lane, Lymington.
5. The Congregation's Bank is Barclays Bank Plc, High Street, Lymington
6. At the end of the year there were 89 congregation members
7. The Congregation is within the Dorset Number 1 Circuit of Jehovah's Witnesses

### Objects and Activities

8. The Constitution restricts the operation of the Congregation to religious purposes and limits the use of its assets to such purposes. It defines the objects of the congregation as "the practice and advancement of Christianity founded on the Holy Bible." For this purpose the Congregation is organised on the basis of scriptural precedent and as otherwise recommended by the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society of Britain ("The Society") with which the Congregation is affiliated.

During the year the Congregation has achieved its objectives and continued to pursue its purposes by holding regular twice weekly meetings for the public worship of God and Bible study. Further, most Congregation members have assisted by sharing regularly in preaching the good news of God's Kingdom by Jesus Christ at every appropriate opportunity and throughout the Congregation area.

### Governance

9. 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 3 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.

### Review of Year and Financial Developments

10. The Congregation is funded by voluntary donations made by congregation members and others, supplemented by income from property and investments. Further it is confirmed that the congregation's accounts comply with the Constitution and with the relevant statutory requirements.

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 cost of circuit assemblies and other conventions during the year. Funds have also been donated to the Society (and to other duly constituted congregations) to assist them in carrying out their related religious purposes.

The Annual Assets and Liabilities Statement at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 confirms the cash assets of the Congregation were as follows :

Funds	Cash on deposit	£	11.35
	Cash in current accounts	£	8,238.76
	Money loaned to associated charities	£	-Nil-

11. These funds are held for the purposes of financing the future activities of the Congregation including the maintenance and improvement of accommodation for the holding of meetings for worship and Bible study.
12. Property – The Kingdom Hall (formerly known as “The Way Ahead”), Marsh Lane, Lymington, Hants held in trust by Daniel Fossard, Jeff Dodd, Anthony Donoghue and Wayne Wheeler in their capacity as Trustees for the Congregation.
13. Of particular significance (e.g. in excess of £100 and/or requiring a resolution) in the financial affairs of the Congregation during the year were the following items :
  - a. £ 261.00 to the Kingdom Hall Assistance Fund.
  - b. £ 276.00 to the Travelling Overseers Assistance Fund
  - c. £ 876.00 towards the operation of circuit assemblies and special assembly days
  - d. £1,000.00 for repayment of Loan No.3
  - e. £ 220.00 for HVAC servicing.

In all respects the Congregation continues to co-operate closely with the other duly constituted congregations within the Circuit and with the Society for the common purpose of advancing Christianity by preaching the good news of God’s Kingdom by Jesus Christ.

#### **Internal Controls :**

14. Proper controls and procedures are adhered to, so that the monthly financial reports accurately represent all transactions, are in balance and provide reasonable assurances that finances are being used for their intended purpose. A competent person independently examines the accounts on a quarterly basis, using guidelines prepared by the Society. The result is posted on the Congregation notice board.

#### **Investment Policy:**

15. The Trustees have the power to invest in any way they see fit; but subject to the provisions of the Constitution. They will have regard to the soundness of the financial institution, and invest in harmony with Christian principles. Any funds that may be needed in the short term will be invested on that basis.

#### **Reserves Policy :**

16. 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 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. Our average monthly expenditure during the year (excluding personal loan repayments) was £944, so, at the year-end the free reserves are equivalent to **3.44** months working expenditure (excluding an anticipated loan repayment).

Our current reserves allow for the repayment of loans extended by members of the Congregation and we plan to repay the final £5,000 within the next few months.

#### **Risk Management**

17. The Trustees actively review the major risks the charity faces and believe that by maintaining free reserves at the level stated in the Reserves Policy, combined with the internal audit programme, the charity will have sufficient resources in the advent of adverse conditions. Established systems are in place to mitigate the significant risks.
18. Approved by the Trustees of the charity on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2011 and signed on its behalf by :

Signed :

\_\_\_\_\_

Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_

Secretary

**THE LYMINGTON CONGREGATION OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES**  
**REVENUE AND CUSTOMS TAX REFERENCE XN 63824.**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY No. 1065391**  
**ANNUAL RECEIPTS PAYMENTS ACCOUNT : YEAR TO MARCH 31 2011**

**RECEIPTS**

Voluntary Sources

Congregation contributions	£	6,145.37	
Tax Repayments	£	1,405.87	
<u>Congregation Deeds of Covenant</u>			
Congregation Gift Aid	£	5,140.00	
<u>Legacies</u>	£	-	
Sub-Total			£ 12,691.24

Income from Assets

Interest from Investments	£	-	
Sub-Total			£ -

Miscellaneous Receipts

Proceeds from sale of assets	£	-	
Loans received	£	-	
Other (Coaches and congregation events)	£	-	
Receipts from congregation building funds account	£	-	
Proceeds from insurance claim(s)	£	-	
Sub-Total			£ -

**TOTAL RECEIPTS**

**£ 12,691.24**

**PAYMENTS**

Direct Charitable Expenditure

Donations to IBSA/Watchtower Society and associated registered charities	-£	537.00	
Other donations (e.g. Pioneer school, circuit funds)	-£	876.00	
Sub-Total			-£ 1,413.00

Other Expenditure

Kingdom hall operation and maintenance	-£	2,432.27	
Circuit and visiting minister expenses	-£	189.48	
Sub-Total			-£ 2,621.75

Payments for investments and other assets

Long term investments (tied up for a year or more)	£	-	
Equipment purchased for kingdom hall	£	-	
Investment in property in connection with place of worship	£	-	
Sub-Total			£ -

Miscellaneous payments

Loans Repaid (or payments towards WTB&T Loan Facility)	-£	8,248.00	
Other (coach, pioneer school, insurance, RBC expenses)	-£	45.00	
Solicitors fees	£	-	
Sub-Total			-£ 8,293.00

**TOTAL PAYMENTS**

**-£ 12,327.75**

Net Receipts/-expense for the year	£	363.49
Bank and Cash Balances at 1st April 2010	£	7,886.62
<b>Bank and Cash Balances at 31st March 2011</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>8,250.11</b>

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_

**THE LYMINGTON CONGREGATION OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES  
REVENUE AND CUSTOMS TAX REFERENCE XN 63824.  
REGISTERED CHARITY No. 1065391  
ANNUAL RECEIPTS PAYMENTS ACCOUNT : YEAR TO MARCH 31 2011**

Secretary for the trustees of the Lymington Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

**THE LYMINGTON CONGREGATION OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES**  
**REVENUE AND CUSTOMS TAX REFERENCE XN 63824.**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY No. 1065391**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS LIABILITIES AT MARCH 31 2011**

	<b>CURRENT YEAR</b>	<b>PREVIOUS YEAR</b>	
<b><u>FIXED ASSETS</u></b>			
Kingdom Hall at Marsh Lane, Lymington (inc Contents)	£ 368,873.00	£ 368,873.00	
Long Term Investments (tied up for a year or more)	£ -	£ -	
Sub-Total	£ 368,873.00	£ 368,873.00	
 <b><u>CASH ASSETS</u></b>			
Bank Current Account	£ 8,238.76	£ 7,875.27	
Bank Deposit Account	£ 11.35	£ 11.35	
Cash Not Banked	£ -	£ -	
Sub-Total	£ 8,250.11	£ 7,886.62	
 Loans to other congregations and to Watchtower Society	 £ -	 £ -	
Other	£ -	£ -	
 <b><u>LIABILITIES</u></b>			
Due for immediate payment	£ -	£ -	
Loans repayable within one year on request	£ -	£ -	
Sub-Total	£ -	£ -	
 Loans from individuals to congregation	 -£ 5,000.00	 -£ 6,000.00	
Loan from Watch Tower Bible & Tract Society	-£ 30,027.15	-£ 37,275.15	
Sub-Total	-£ 35,027.15	-£ 43,275.15	
 <b>NET ASSETS</b>	 <b>£ 342,095.96</b>	 <b>£ 333,484.47</b>	

**NOTE : IGNORES FUNDS SET ASIDE IN NON-CONGREGATION BUILDING ACCOUNTS  
EXCEPT WHERE RETURNED TO CONGREGATION FUNDS.**