

Annual Report - 2011

Ockendon Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

Annual Report for the year ending 31st March 2011

Reference and Administrative Details

Registered Charity No. 1067285

The registered address of the congregation is:

The Kingdom Hall,
Junction of Daiglen Drive and Avontar Road,
South Ockendon,
Essex,
RM15 5AL.

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

Chairman:	Brother Paul Bushell
Secretary:	Brother Stephen Canning
Other Trustees:	Brother Peace Ajiboye
	Brother Ronald Allen
	Brother Douglas Bunker
	Brother John Collins
	Brother John Kwarteng
	Brother Tim O'Sullivan
	Brother Joseph Amoako-Attah
	Brother Lanre Odebode
	Brother Kolawole Sofeso

The Kingdom Hall in Junction of Daiglen Drive and Avontar Road, South Ockendon, Essex, RM15 5AL is held in trust for the congregation by locally appointed trustees.

Structure, Governance and Management

The congregation is an unincorporated association constituted by Memorandum of Constitution dated 16 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 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 or duties.

Achievements, Performance and Financial Review

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.

Notable donations and expenses made during the course of the financial year were as follows:

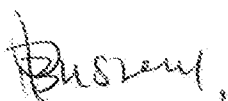
Donation to the Worldwide Work of Jehovah's Witnesses:	£1,800.00
Donations to Assemblies and Conventions:	1,750.00
Hire of coaches for District Convention:	£1,980.00
Visiting Travelling Ministers' Expenses: <i>(includes flat & car contributions)</i>	£724.00
Assets, maintenance & insurance for the Kingdom Hall:	£1,441.50

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 179 months working expenditure.

These funds are held to finance the future activities of the congregation. Currently £180,000 is set to one side for the construction of a new Kingdom Hall to replace the existing structure at some point in the near future. When accurate costs are known, then funds on hand will be amended to cover this expense. In addition, a further sum of £20,500 is set to one side to facilitate the imminent purchase of the freehold title of the Kingdom Hall land which is currently leased from Thurrock Council.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 02 June 2011 and signed on its behalf by:

Signed:

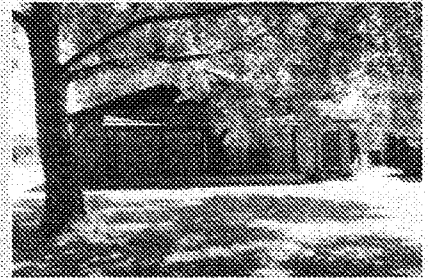


Chairman
Paul Bushell



Secretary
Stephen Canning

Ockendon Congregation of
Jehovah's Witnesses



Registered Charity number: 1067285

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at March, 2011.

	Current Year	Previous Year
<u>Cash Assets</u>		
Cash in Business Tracker Account:	£27,444.82	£29,430.96
Cash in Community Account:	£2,374.02	£4,393.29
Cash on loan with WTBS of Britain:	£350,000.00	£350,000.00
Uncleared items:	(£1,035.38)	
Cash on hand:	(£1.98)	(£198.50)
	£378,781.48	£383,625.75
Gift Aid Repayment (2010-2011):	£884.23	
<u>Other Assets</u>		
Place of Worship (A) (B):	£95,000.00	
Furniture and other contents of Place of Worship (B):	£30,000.00	

Footnotes

- A Registered Place of Worship: Kingdom Hall, Junction of Dsiglen Drive and Avontar Road, South Ockendon, Essex, RM15 5AL.
- B Building and contents based on current footprint for a complete build.

Ockendon Congregation of
Jehovah's Witnesses



ANNUAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Registered Charity number: 1067285

Congregation: Ockendon

Year Ending March 31, 2011

CONGREGATION SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Opening Balance £383,625.75

INCOME

Congregation Contributions	£764.84
Congregation Gift Aid	£3,135.00
Bank Interest	£13.86
Inland Revenue - Tax Repayment	£1,309.41

Received for I.B.S.A. from contribution boxes:

Worldwide Work (I.B.S.A.)	£1,431.31
Kingdom Hall Fund	£447.59

Total Income **£7,102.01**

EXPENDITURE

Audit Fees	£190.00
British Telecom	£653.50
Chubb Fire Protection	£0.00
Circuit Assembly Donation	£500.00
Circuit Flat Costs	£168.00
Circuit Overseer Visit	£170.00
Convention Coach - 2010	£1,980.00
District Convention Donation	£1,250.00
Jah-Jireh Homes Donation	£240.00
Kingdom Hall Asset - Computer	£380.00
Kingdom Hall Assistance	£336.00
Kingdom Hall Supplies and Maintenance	£725.50
Travelling Overseers' Assistance	£336.00
Utilities - Electricity	£1,132.27
Utilities - Sewage	£125.18
Utilities - Water	£30.93
Visiting Speaker Expenses	£50.00

Donations to I.B.S.A.

Worldwide Work (I.B.S.A.)	£3,231.31
Kingdom Hall Fund	£447.59

Total Expenditure **£11,946.28**

Surplus (Deficit) - Difference between Income and Expenditure £4,844.27

Closing Balance **£378,781.48**