

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN ENGLAND (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

COMPANY NUMBER 05354231 CHARITY NUMBER 1110782

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

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CHURCHES TOGETHER IN ENGLAND

COMPANY INFORMATION

Company number 05354231

Charity number 1110782

Trustees/Directors Rt Revd Christopher Foster (Convenor)

Revd Ruth Bottoms (Deputy Convenor)

Mr Peter Hammond (Treasurer) Archbishop Doyé Agama HG Bishop Angaelos

Rt Revd Robert Byrne (Convenor from March 2016)

Revd Stephen Fowler Mr William Gabb Revd David Lavender Revd Dr Roger Paul Revd Dr Andrew Prasad

Janet Scott Penny Thatcher

Company Secretary Revd David Lavender

Chief Executive Officer/General

Secretary

Revd Dr David Cornick

Registered Office 27 Tavistock Square

London WC1H 9HH

Bankers CAF Bank Limited

25 Kings Hill Avenue

Kings Hill West Malling

Kent ME19 4JQ

CCLA Investment Management Ltd

COIF Charity Funds 80 Cheapside

London EC2V 6DZ

Epworth Investment Management

9 Bonhill Street

London EC2A 4PE

Independent Examiners Knox Cropper

8/9 Well Court

London EC4M 9DN

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their annual report with the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2015. The accounts comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, Financial Reporting Standard 102 and follow the recommendations in Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

ABOUT CHURCHES TOGETHER IN ENGLAND

Churches Together in England (CTE) is the national body set up by the churches in 1990, and has partner bodies in Scotland, Wales and Ireland. Churches Together in Britain and Ireland is the successor body to the British Council of Churches, and acts in part as a Forum in which the concerns of the four National Ecumenical Instruments can be shared.

The Member Churches of CTE are: Churches and Denominations with a national presence; Unions of Churches; and Associations or Councils of Churches with a national presence. Member Churches are expected and entitled to make an active contribution to the life of Churches Together in England, to develop its fellowship, to guide its policy and to contribute financially. Local churches and congregations are encouraged to join their local 'churches together' grouping, or – if appropriate – their county/intermediate body.

At a national level CTE has 43 Member Churches or Councils of Churches and a similar number of Bodies in Association. The numbers continue to grow. Churches are also continuing to develop ecumenical commitment locally and at intermediate (county) level.

CTE is a visible sign of the churches' commitment as they seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another, and proclaim the Gospel together by common witness and service. Its strength comes from people from different ecclesial traditions and cultures finding new ways to work and worship together.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

CTE is a company limited by guarantee (company number 05354231) and a registered charity (charity number 1110782). The governing instrument of the charitable company is the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

There are six Presidents of CTE: The Archbishop of Canterbury, The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, The Free Churches Moderator, a representative of the Orthodox Churches, a representative of the Pentecostal Churches and a President nominated by the New Churches, the Religious Society of Friends and the Lutheran and German speaking Churches. The Presidents meet regularly to discuss matters of concern to the churches in England. Their meetings are facilitated by the General Secretary of CTE. In June 2002 the then Presidents signed a Personal Covenant to seek a common understanding of Christ's message of salvation in the Gospel; and to work towards the visible unity of the Church of Jesus Christ in the one faith in the presence of HM The Queen, at Windsor. This has subsequently been signed by the new Presidents.

The Forum is a triennial meeting of CTE that provides an opportunity for people representing churches at local, intermediate and national levels to meet. It serves as a place where the current work of CTE is celebrated and affirmed and general fresh directions are discerned. The functions of the Forum are: to engage in worship and discussion; to recommend to the Member

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Churches such matters as it believes should be addressed jointly; to support and encourage Intermediate Bodies in their role as the servants of their participating churches; and to share its reflections on the activities and future programmes of CTE. The Forum does not have other roles in the governance of CTE.

The Members of the charity comprise the Enabling Group. To enable the widest possible participation in the shaping of the life and work of CTE the Enabling Group draws together representatives of denominations, bodies in association and regional representatives of the Intermediate Bodies. Every member of the charity undertakes to contribute up to £10 to the charity's assets in the event of the dissolution of the charity.

The Enabling Group has the legal responsibilities in the governance of the charity for electing the Trustees and electing the chair of the Trustees. Its responsibilities also include: the admission and classification of members of the charity; agreeing procedures at general meetings and meetings of the Trustees; receiving the annual report and accounts of the Trustees; and appointing auditors.

The Enabling Group is a reference point for Member Churches and other representatives for making decisions together which are proper to them (where necessary referring matters back to the Member Churches) and for responding to initiatives from the Forum, Member Churches and Intermediate Bodies and enabling those initiatives to be carried out by the churches in consultation with one another. The Enabling Group may make recommendations to the Trustees and comment upon their operation, but may not limit or otherwise affect the Trustees' legal powers and obligations. The Enabling Group meets twice a year.

Being a company limited by guarantee, there is a board of Directors who also act as the Trustees of the registered charity. The members of the charity elect the Trustees. The Trustees manage the business of the charity and are responsible for: ensuring that the charity is solvent, well-run, and delivering the charitable outcomes for which it has been set up; ensuring that the charity complies with charity law, and with the requirements of the Charity Commission, that the charity does not breach any of the requirements in its governing document and that it remains true to the charitable purpose and objects set out there; acting with integrity, and avoiding any personal conflicts of interest or misuse of the charity's funds or assets; and regulating the financial affairs of the charity. The Trustees may enter into contracts, appoint and employ staff, determine staff pay and conditions of service. The Trustees may appoint an honorary treasurer. The Trustees endeavour to consult the Enabling Group and to inform it of their decisions. They arrange the agenda of the Enabling Group, which the Enabling Group is free to amend.

The Trustees meet at least three times a year. They are mostly elected because they already have the necessary experience of being a Trustee and /or director within their denomination. Time is given within Trustees' meetings to focus on the role and changes in legislation. Those new to the work of the company meet with the General Secretary. Where required, formal training or advice from consultants is given. The Trustees (who are also Directors) who served during the year were:

Rt Revd Christopher Foster (Chair/Convenor)
Revd Ruth Bottoms (Deputy Convenor)
Mr Peter Hammond (Treasurer)
Archbishop Doyé Agama
HG Bishop Angaelos
Rt Revd Robert Byrne
Revd Stephen Fowler

Mr William Gabb Revd David Lavender Revd Dr Roger Paul Revd Dr Andrew Prasad Janet Scott Penny Thatcher

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

The day-to-day management of the company is delegated to the General Secretary, Revd Dr David Cornick, who reports to the Trustees and is managed by the Convenor. There are five full and one part-time staff members.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

In compiling this report, the Trustees have given due regard to the public benefit guidance as issued by the Charity Commission.

As a charity, CTE is committed to the advancement of the Christian religion, the promotion of religious harmony, and promoting co-operation, joint working, and greater efficiency amongst its members. We believe that the Christian faith is of benefit to individuals and society because it has at its heart God's intent to reconcile all people and the whole of creation to himself under Christ as head. That is a vision which encompasses peace and cohesion, mutual respect and self-giving love.

We work out our public benefit in a number of ways. It is primarily done through the service which we offer to our members (as detailed below). However, we also contribute to the creation of social capital and community cohesion by bringing together Christians of differing ethnicities and theological persuasions, and by providing resources which assist them to create relationships with neighbours of other faiths and beliefs.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The charity's objectives ("the Objects") are defined as the advancement of the Christian Religion in accordance with the statement of faith given below, the relief of poverty and the advancement of education and any other purposes which are charitable according to the law of England and Wales.

The charity seeks (within its general objectives) to be a visible sign of the churches' commitment to one another, in obedience to our Lord's Prayer "that they may all be one. As you, Father are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me". (John 17:21) (NRSV)

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

Our main focus in 2015 has been implementing the strategic priorities as agreed in 2014 and our report reflects that. It is, for the first time, organised into the strategic priorities of relationships, action for mission, and theological reflection. Those priorities help define the nature of Christian co-operation and the journey towards the unity for which Christ prayed on the evening before his death.

Relationships

Relationships are at the heart of our work. We bring Christians together so that they can both find their own identity in dialogue with others, and also experience something of the richness of Christ through their encounters with fellow believers. That means sustaining diverse networks of relationships at intermediate and national levels. Part of that is achieved by personal contact, face to face meeting, conferences and consultations, but during 2015 we have also been reaping the benefit of the investment we made in 2014 to update and improve both our own website and the Black Churches Directory, which is still the most significant online resource about that sector of English Christianity. We also circulate an ecumenical news digest 'CTe-news' monthly to well over a thousand subscribers. We continue to invest

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

considerable staff time in both the website and the maintenance of databases because these are essential tools for the building of relationships.

Local relationships are the heartbeat of English ecumenism. The changing shape of English Christianity over the past twenty years (we have grown from 16 to 43 members since 1990) means that the pattern of local engagement is no longer just 'the historic churches' working together, but an exciting tapestry of initiatives of considerable variety. A critical piece of work for us in 2015 has therefore been the re-positioning of inherited patterns of engagement (particularly Local Ecumenical Partnerships (LEPs)) within a new, looser and more permissive framework. A consultation document has been produced, and churches have responded to it, and we hope that during 2016 we and our member churches will be able to take serious steps towards the adoption of a new framework for local unity. Whilst launching that exciting new venture, we have done more work on the on-line register of LEPs to make registration and updating of details smoother, and we continue to host and curate a range of helpful documents for LEPs, including the Model Governing Document.

Local relationships are nurtured and sustained by a network of County and Denominational Ecumenical Officers whose work is of critical importance. During 2015 we supported that network in three main ways, focused through the work of our Training. Resources and Events Officer, Jenny Bond. Firstly, there is the maintenance of relationships, providing support for Intermediate Bodies during County Ecumenical Officer vacancies, helping with recruitment and professional appointment procedures and with the induction of newly-appointed Officers, offering them a personalised induction session at CTE's London offices. Second, working with the National Ecumenical Officers, we redesigned the annual training course so that it changed from a 48-hour residential course to a process which involves a denominational induction session, a visit to a local ecumenical situation organised with the help of County Officers and a 24-hour residential course. We organise and administer this course on behalf of the churches. Third, working with a team of County Officers we planned and delivered the annual in-service Consultation. Our focus was on the response of ecumenical bodies to the changing needs of society. The Bishop of Rochester was the main speaker and Jim Currin, CTE's Officer for Evangelisation, Mission and Media led a session on ecumenical mission opportunities. One of CTE's Presidents attended and preached at the main act of worship and the Consultation also engaged with the on-going work of developing a new framework for local ecumenism.

Our Governance processes also rely on relationships. That is expressed primarily through the twice yearly 24 hour Enabling Group (the meeting of members). Attendance at these meeting is excellent, and they have become opportunities for learning about the diversity of English Christianity as individual member churches take responsibility for explaining their ethos and life as well as leading worship. During 2015 Pioneer and the Elim Pentecostal Church were the members highlighted. Issues addressed in 2015 included Christian Ethnicity in England, new unity movements as a challenge and opportunity for CTE, the 2016 English Church Census proposal and, in the context of bible study, environmental issues and human ecology. The balance of learning, reflection and business makes the Enabling Group a key tool for coordination between churches at a national level.

However, the highlight of the year was our triennial Forum. Forum is a unique meeting point, not deliberative, yet the largest and broadest ecumenical gathering in England (c.300 people). Under the guidance of Archbishop Doyé Agama and the Revd Ruth Gee (Moderator and Deputy-Moderator respectively) we were boldly innovative. Casting aside the usual pattern of distinguished visiting speakers, and adopting the title *Listening Together*, we opted instead to listen to less frequently heard voices – those of the Orthodox, the Pentecostals, and younger ecumenists. It was a remarkable event. Perhaps for the first time Christian traditions began to express and explain themselves with confidence in an atmosphere marked by respectful and

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

receptive listening (which is of course not the same as agreement!). The younger ecumenists' session marked the beginning of a partnership with the *Chemin Neuf* community, and the participants had clearly benefitted from their *Welcome to Paradise* experience in France for which CTE had provided bursaries. As Cardinal Nichols, one of our Presidents, said, they modelled through their care for each other's spiritualities, the essence of the ecumenical journey. It was at if we had turned a corner into a landscape where the old questions of authority, ministry and Eucharistic sharing did not dominate. There was a new spirit of encounter and openness. For older ecumenists that may well be a frustration, but one ecumenical theologian in his mid-70s wrote excitedly that having been to all CTE's Forums, he considered this the best. We also hope that the investment of staff time in using the website to make Forum paperless will pay dividends in the more efficient organisation of future Forums.

Relationships thread through all our work, as we work with national Co-ordinating Groups in Theology, New Housing and Evangelism, or with the dynamic grouping of churches within the Pentecostal Presidency Group, or with the vibrant meetings with 'the ecumenical voluntary sector' which are our Bodies in Association, or with the National Ecumenical Officers, or organise what has become an annual meeting and dinner between our Presidents and the leaders of our member churches at Lambeth Palace, generously hosted by the Archbishop of Canterbury. We are also able to facilitate one-off meetings – a good example this year was the breakfast meeting with black church leaders and a consequent visit to Brixton we arranged with the American civil rights campaigner, the Revd Al Sharpton.

2015 was a good year for ecumenical relationships in England.

Action for Mission

Our work here falls into discrete categories. We have expertise in Pentecostal and Multicultural Affairs, and our engagement with public affairs and government is focused here. Our staff member in this area, Bishop Dr Joe Aldred, served as a member of the Steering Group of the National Church Leaders Forum which published the first ever Black Church Political Manifesto for Action ahead of the 2015 General Election. He also helped facilitate relationships between the NCLF and the Pentecostal Credit Union and contributed to policy conversations with both the Equalities and Human Rights Commission and the Department of Communities and Local Government, as well as advising other government departments when asked. He also served as a member of the Woolf Institute Commission on Religion and Belief in British Public Life which issued a major report in December 2015.

A major focus in Pentecostal and Multicultural Relations (PMR) during 2015 has been promoting the anti-slavery / human trafficking agenda within that constituency. We have been delighted to have the voluntary help of Elizabeth Joy of the Malankara Syrian Orthodox Church in this work in 2015. We launched a new initiative - Churches Combatting Modern Slavery-Human Trafficking (CCMS-HT) - to raise awareness of the issue amongst Pentecostal Churches - which involved our input in preparing resources for Freedom Sunday 2015, linking with parliamentarians in our joint convening of an Anti-Trafficking Roundtable in the House of Lords with Lady Butler-Sloss, beginning a web information hub, and organising a successful conference on 'Changing perspectives and priorities - affirming and combatting Modern Slavery-Human Trafficking.' That initiative has been complemented by a research project commissioned from the Cambridge Centre for Applied Research in Human Trafficking (CCARHT) to begin a conversation particularly with black churches to explore the nature of human trafficking and violence against women. The project, 'Trafficking recognition and the impact on women for Pentecostal churches in the UK' will be completed in 2016 and it is hoped that it will both raise awareness and stimulate action together with other partner churches and agencies in combatting this terrible reality. The Trustees agreed to fund this

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project from restricted funds given specifically for women's work. Obviously significant in its own right, this project also signals the intent of the Board to move CTE's work more clearly towards the delivery of short-term projects.

The second category of work is networking nationally those who are engaged in mission and evangelism. Our Mission, Evangelism and Media Officer, Jim Currin, collates a regular e-news bulletin for evangelism professionals, *Evangelism UK*, which circulates regularly to 200 subscribers. The website also provides resources in evangelism and mission for local CT groups – for example on how to set up and run Food Banks – and for those working in New Housing Areas. During 2015 this part of the website underwent a major re-writing and is an excellent, well-received resource. Jim Currin also participated as a member of the National Steering Group for 'Engage 2015', which co-ordinated the responses of the churches to the Rugby World Cup.

Important though those services are, the main thrust of our mission resourcing is focused in Co-ordinating Groups. During 2015 the Co-ordinating Group for Evangelism (CGfE) considered the ecumenical use of the *Talking Jesus* research, and produced a guide which is on our website. They were also delighted to identify ten ecumenical guests to participate in 'Proclaim 15', a major Catholic conference on *Evangelii Gaudium*, and then to produce a report on their responses. New Housing Areas remain an important mission concern, and our Co-ordinating Group continued to monitor what was happening across England arranging site visits to three developments to meet with pioneer ministers and church leaders. The Group was also instrumental in the production of Penny Marsh and Ali Bolton's *Pioneer Ministry in New Housing Areas* (Grove Books).

The Churches Rural Group continue to provide a forum for reflection on trends in rural life and rural ministry and evangelism. They ran a major conference, *Germiniate*, in October 2015 attended by over 200. Their work can be followed on our website. During 2015 we also participated in an initiative which will hopefully see the creation of a partner Urban Mission initiative.

Theological reflection

Theological reflection is woven into all that we do. For example, all courses that we run for Ecumenical Officers include theological input and reflection, and Bible Study or a theological reflection is part of each Enabling Group agenda. In a real sense all that we do grows out of theological reflection.

However, that reflection also results in specific pieces of work. During 2015 CTE's Theology and Unity Group continued to analyse pertinent issues and documents, considering the priesthood of all believers, the nature of catholicity, relations with continental European churches, the WCC document 'Who do we say that we are? Christian identity in a multi-faith world', and the ecclesiology of LEPs.'

We brought together representatives of the black churches and Anglican leaders to consider the ecumenical consequences of possible changes in the theology of marriage, and brought the same constituencies together for a discussion of the WCC document 'The Church: towards a common vision', and have helped establish an Anglican/Pentecostal Group for theological engagement. They have considered, and released, three papers — 'The spiritual state of the nation' (Clifford Hill), 'Theological education and training in Pentecostal Churches' (David Muir) and 'The Pentecostal and Charismatic Constituency within the British Church' (Hugh Osgood).

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Within the wider theological community, Joe Aldred gave a paper at Roehampton University on 'The Church: oneness, diversity and unity', and another on the 'Theology of Place' in Birmingham. He continues to be a member of the Steering Group of the Black Theology Forum at The Queen's Foundation, Birmingham.

Jim Currin contributed a paper on 'Theology and praxis of Ecumenism and Evangelism: a perspective in England 2015 at a conference organised at St John's College, Cambridge in July 2015 on *Evangelii Gaudium*. David Cornick spoke to the Ecumenical Marian Pilgrimage at Walsingham on 'The changing ecumenism landscape.'

The General Secretary is part of a small group preparing a resource on 'Receptive Ecumenism' which CTE hopes to publish as a web-resource during 2016.

During 2015 we also worked with the British Trust for Tantur to identify participants for their intensive course at Tantur on reconciliation. We handled the bulk of the publicity and administration and helped ensure that as wide an ecumenical group as possible was able to participate in what is a unique opportunity of theological education and reflection.

Governance issues and general remarks

We have spent considerable energy in 2015 in trying to widen the financial support of the organisation amongst our membership, and we report some quietly encouraging success – we have increased our funding from the non-historic members, but as a Board we are conscious that we are still too heavily reliant on the generous funding of the seven 'historic funders', all of which have pressing claims on their diminishing resources. We will continue to address this problem along with our members so that we can arrive at a more equitable solution.

We are delighted to report that we have created a Finance Committee during 2015 and we hope that its work will result in a strengthening of the Board's performance in this critical areas

Key Performance Indicators for an umbrella body must include the number and influence of those who wish to join it, or remain in its embrace. It is a pleasure to report that we are dealing with a number of applications from churches who wish to join, and that during 2015 we welcomed as Bodies in Association Premier Christian Radio, the Society of St John Chysostom, the Ecumenical Marian Pilgrimage Trust and the Petra Institute for Children's Ministry UK.

Another Key Performance Indicator is those who are willing to lend their support to us, or work in partnership with us. The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster, HE Archbishop Gregorios of Thyateira and Great Britain, Bishop Eric Brown, the Revd Dr Hugh Osgood and Billy Kennedy continue to serve us as Presidents. A wide range of church leaders of all denominations participate in our work in many other ways.

We continue to work in partnership with the Centre for Catholic Studies at the University of Durham, the Inter-Faith Network of the United Kingdom, the British Trust for Tantur, the We Gather network of the Evangelical Alliance, Together for the Common Good, Hope Together, the National Church Leaders' Forum, and the Chemin Neuf community (amongst others) as well as the other National Instruments and Churches Together in Britain and Ireland. We continue to rent office space from the Free Churches Group.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

CTE is committed to developing working arrangements with Churches Together in Britain and Ireland and the National Instruments in Scotland, Wales and Ireland, and also with the Free Churches Group who generously allow their Education Officer's expertise to be available to us. We will also be negotiating an on-going agreement with the Free Churches Group about the provision of office space.

Our structure and ways of working have enabled us to respond to the changing landscape of English Christianity over the past decade. As that landscape continues to evolve, we will keep our structures under review to ensure that we can accurately reflect the nature of English Christianity in our working and enable the fullest participation from the diverse churches and bodies which make up our membership.

During 2016 we will continue to give considerable attention to the ways in which we are funded, in consultation with all our members, and that work and those conversations will doubtless continue into 2017.

We will continue to address the problem of an equitable basis for funding between our members, and (as reported last year) we will continue develop a project based management element of our work to deliver some of goals. As part of that, we will seek to continue the work begun at Forum in the ecumenical formation of young adults.

We hope that our reading of the landscape and our attempt to ensure a fairer distribution of the costs of running CTE between our members will allow us to build on our strategic priorities of building relationships across denominational and confessional boundaries, resourcing churches for active participation in their communities in service and mission, and reflecting theologically on ecumenical activity.

We will continue to seek all avenues for using our expertise in mission, education, theology and multicultural issues to the benefit of our members.

RISK REVIEW

The directors undertake each year a wide ranging appraisal in order to identify the major risks to which the charity is exposed. Steps are taken with a view to mitigating these risks as far as is reasonably possible. Staff training and consciousness-raising is regarded seriously.

The directors are aware that the continued financial stability of the charity relies on contributions from member churches and intermediate body subscriptions and to some extent on donation income. They believe that the time-frames for which such income is reasonably assured is satisfactory, and that expenditure linked to grant income is also managed along similar time-frames, so as to mitigate these risks so far as possible. They are planning a consultation with members during 2016 and 2017 to mitigate the risks posed by too heavy a reliance on too few funders. They hope this will enable the next phase of CTE's work from 2018 onwards.

Professional Indemnity insurance is purchased at a cost to the charity to protect the charity and its Trustees.

CTE places a great importance on health and safety matters and undertakes to conduct its operations in such a way as to safeguard the health and safety of all its employees, visitors and the general public. To this end CTE has endeavoured to create and develop a working

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

environment in which there is an awareness to the vital importance of health and safety. This will encourage all staff to participate in developing and practicing safe working methods and to have regard for the welfare of themselves and others. CTE has a certified first aiders amongst its employees. Staff training and consciousness-raising is regarded seriously.

CTE is aware of the implications of the full implementation of the Disability Discrimination Act in all its activities. Staff have been made aware of, and are required to implement, the data protection principles. CTE is registered with the Information Commissioner.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The result for the year is shown in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 14, and is considered satisfactory by the Trustees. The levels of both income and expenditure are consistent with the previous year. The surplus in the year on the General Fund of £95,068 (2014: £99,980) leaves the general fund with a balance of £470,686 which the Trustees consider adequate to provide the charity with stability and enable longer term planning.

INVESTMENT POLICY & PERFORMANCE

The Trustees' policy is to retain any short-term surplus funds, including designated and restricted funds, in the highest possible interest-bearing accounts consistent with the objects of the charity, currently using the CAF Bank 'Gold Account', the CCLA Investment Management 'COIF Charities Deposit Fund' and the Epworth Investment Management 'Affirmative Deposit Fund for Charities'. Long-term surplus funds are placed in quoted investment funds, currently using the CCLA Investment Management 'COIF Charities Investment Fund'. Investment performance was satisfactory.

RESERVES POLICY

It is the policy of the Trustees to ensure that the charity has adequate reserves to enable it to meet both its ongoing commitments in regard to general charitable activities, and its future funding requirements. The Trustees require as reserves a minimum of nine months' expenditure in order to meet any contractual and winding-up costs.

At the year end the charity held restricted funds of £27,665, designated funds of £215,767 and general funds of £470,686 (of which £439 is represented by tangible fixed assets). Following the transfer of reserves to a Special Projects Fund in the preceding year, the Trustees consider the current level of reserves to be appropriate for the present situation and requirements of the charity, and will continue to review the overall position and policy at regular intervals. The Special Projects Fund is intended to be expended over the next 3 to 5 years.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS

Knox Cropper were appointed as Independent Examiners of the Charity the last Annual General Meeting and a resolution proposing their reappointment will be put to the next Annual General Meeting.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of Churches Together in England for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

(United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"...

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website.

So far as the Trustees are aware, there is no relevant information of which the charitable company's independent examiners are unaware. The Trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the charitable company's independent examiners are aware of the information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Approved on behalf of the Board

The Rt Revd Robert Byrne (Convenor/Chair)

Dated: 14th July 2016

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS TO THE MEMBERS OF CHURCHES TOGETHER IN ENGLAND FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2015 set out on pages 14 to 25.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required. The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of Sections 394 and 395 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Richard Billinghurst FCA Knox Cropper 8/9 Well Court London EC4M 9DN

16th August 2016

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN ENGLAND STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	Note s	Unrestrio General 2015	cted Funds Designate d 2015	Restricted Funds 2015	Total Funds 2015	Total Funds 2014 Restated
INCOME		£	£	£	£	Note 8
Donations and legacies Charitable Activities Investments Other	2 3 4	403,518 35,956 3,038	17,825	30,950	434,468 52,881 3,038	453,121 31,160 2,984
Total		441,612	17,825	30,950	490,387	487,265
EXPENDITURE						
Charitable activities Other	5	346,804	40,408	3,285	390,497	378,249
Total expenditure		346,804	40,408	3,285	390,497	378,249
Net Income/(Expenditure) before gains/(losses) on investments		94,808	(22,583)	27,665	99,890	109,016
Gains / (Losses) on investments		260	**	-	260	964
Net Incoming/(Expenditure)		95,068	(22,583)	27,665	100,150	109,980
Transfers between funds		*	-	-	-	-
Net movement in Funds		95,068	(22,583)	27,665	100,150	109,980
Reconciliation of Funds	14					
Balances at 1 January		375,618	238,350	-	613,968	503,988
Net movement in Funds		95,068	(22,583)	27,665	100,150	109,980
Balances at 31 December		470,686	215,767	27,665	714,118	613,968

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN ENGLAND BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2015

	Notes	20	15	20	14
Phone d Alberta		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets Tangible assets Investments	9 10	439 21,288		1,299 21,028	
Current Assets Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	11	7,703 772,420	21,727	148,668 531,195	22,327
		780,123	i i	679,863	
Current Liabilities Amounts falling due within one year Net Current Assets	12	(36,410)	743,713	(42,965)	636,898
Creditors: amounts falling due in more than one year			(51,322)		(45,257)
Net Assets			714,118		613,968
Funds Unrestricted: General unrestricted funds Designated unrestricted funds Restricted	14 14 14	•	470,686 215,767 27,665	•	375,618 238,350
Total Funds			714,118		613,968

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2015.

The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 14th July 2016 and were signed on its behalf by:

Peter Hammond, Director Company Number: 05354231

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN ENGLAND CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	£	2015 £	£	2014 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year Adjustments for:		100,150		109,980
Depreciation charges (Gains)/losses on investments	860 (260)		860 (964)	
Dividends, interest and rents from investments (Increase)/decrease in debtors	(3,038) 140,964		(2,690) (45,426)	
(Decrease)/increase in creditors Increase/(decrease) in creditors over	(6,554)		(42,288)	
one year	6,065	138,037	(1,743)	(92,251)
Cash flows from operating activities		238,187		17,729
Cash flows from investing activities				
Dividends, interest and rents from investments Proceeds from the sale of plant and	3,038		2,690	
equipment Purchase of plant and equipment	-		5,698 (1,221)	
Cash provided by investing activities		3,038		7,167
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		241,225		24,896
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		531,195		506,299
Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		772,420		531,195

1) Accounting Policies

a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Churches Together in England meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

This is the first year in which the financial statements have been prepared under FRS 102, therefore the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required a restatement of comparative items was required (see note 8). In accordance with the requirements of FRS 102, a reconciliation of opening balances is also provided along with an explanation of the transition (see note 16).

b) Going Concern

After making enquires, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue its activities for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements as outlined in the Statement of Trustee's Responsibilities on page 12.

c) Grants receivable, donations and subscriptions

Grants receivable, donations and subscriptions are recognised in the period when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item of income has been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

d) Investment income

Investment income is recognised on the receipts basis.

e) Grants paid

Grants paid are recognised on a payments basis.

f) Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them. Costs are split between categories based on staff time.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities and include the charity's governance costs. Governance costs are those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the costs relevant to the strategic management of the charity.

g) Pension costs

Pension costs represent contributions payable to employees' personal and denominational and other pension schemes, including The Pensions Trust (see below), and are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they are incurred.

The Pensions Trust Growth Plan is in most respects a money purchase arrangement, but does include certain guaranteed benefit elements. The Plan is a multi-employer scheme. As such it is not possible in the normal course of events to identify the share of the underlying assets belonging to the individual participating employers, and accordingly, in accordance with section 28 of FRS102,

is also accounted for as a defined contribution scheme with contributions being recorded as they become payable.

Where the scheme is in deficit and where the charity has agreed to a deficit funding arrangement, the liability for this obligation is recognised as the net present value of the deficit reduction contributions payable under the agreement.

h) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of each tangible fixed asset over its expected useful life as follows:

i) Office furniture

- 10% / 20% straight line

ii) Office equipment - 20% straight line

iii) Computer equipment - 50% / 33% straight line

i) Listed investments

Listed investments are shown at market value. Realised and unrealised gains are disclosed in the Statement of Financial Activities

i) Funds

Unrestricted funds are incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general fund. Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for a particular purpose. At the decision of the Trustees, previously designated funds may be transferred back to unrestricted general funds without further specified purpose. Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund, together with a fair allocation of costs.

k) Financial Instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments, these being unit trust investments, cash at bank, debtors and creditors (see notes 10, 11 and 12). Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

2) Donations and Legacies

	Unrestri General 2015 £	cted Funds Designated 2015 £	Restricted Funds 2015 £	Total Funds 2015 £	Total Funds 2014 £
Donations:	432	-	-	432	658
Grants:			30,950	30,950	1,200
Contributions from Member Churches	403,086	-	~	403,086	451,263
Total	403,518	and the second s	30,950	434,468	453,121

3) Charitable Activities

	Subscriptions from intermediate	Unrestri General 2015 £	icted Funds Designated 2015 £	Restricted Funds 2015 £	Total Funds 2015 £	Total Funds 2013 £
	'Churches Together' bodies Conference fee income Sales of publications	10,675 21,676 417 2,288	7,000 10,825 -		17,675 32,501 417 2,288	12,425 10
	Total	35,956	17,825		52,881	31,160
4)	Investments					
		Unrestri General 2015 £	cted Funds Designated 2015 £	Restricted Funds 2015 £	Total Funds 2015 £	Total Funds 2013 £
	UK Listed Investment Bank interest received	813 2,225	:		813 2,225	803 1,887
	Total	3,038	-		3,038	2,690
5)	Expenditure: Charitable activities					
					Total Funds 2015 £	Total Funds 2014 £
	Staff costs: General activities Minority and Ethnic Christian affairs Interfaith officer Evangelisation officer				154,110 49,803 4,849 49,876	143,954 48,911 23,911 48,911
	Total Staff costs				258,638	265,687
	Support costs: Rent				9,000	12,200
	Property expenses Office costs Staff welfare, training and recruitment Computer consultancy and running cost	ts			88 8,372 473 6,836	7,371 7,842 1,704 10,356
	Travel expenses Insurance Legal fees, HR and financial consultance	ev.			21,198 4,013 15,998	23,564 2,384 16,095
	Conference expenses Publications	,			59,323	23,367 94
	Depreciation				860	860
	Total Support costs			-	126,161	105,837
	Governance Costs Independent Examination Fee Other Governance costs				1,125 4,573	2,500 4,225
	Total Governance costs				5,698	6,725

Total 390,497 378,249

6) Trustees' Emoluments

None of the Trustees were remunerated or received pension benefits.

Expenses reimbursed to Trustees for travel, subsistence and conference expenses were £2,500 (2014: £2,051).

7) Staff Costs

Staff costs during the year were:	2015 £	2014 £
Wages and salaries Social security costs Pension contributions Redundancy Total	206,148 20,503 31,987 258,638	218,844 21,442 25,401
No employees received remuneration greater than £60,000.		
The average number of employees during the year was:	2015 Number	2014 Number
Direct charitable activities Management and administration	3.5 1.5	4.0 1.5
Total	5.0	5.5

All staff are entitled to receive pension contributions. Pension contributions for the current year are after recognising the movement in the deficit reduction funding provision for the year as analysed in note 13. This was an increase of £6,065 in the current year (2014: release of £1,743).

Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the charity, directly or indirectly, including any trustee (whether executive or otherwise) of the charity. The key management personnel of Churches Together in England are the Trustees and the General Secretary.

Total compensation paid to key management personnel in the year amounted to £ 52,344.60.

8) Comparative figures

9)

The comparative figures for the Statement of Financial Activities, for the year ended 31 December 2014, on the same basis as the current year figures, are presented and restated as if Charities SORP FRS 102 had been in force at that time are shown below:

	Unrestric General 2014 £	cted Funds Designate d 2014	Restricted Funds 2014 £	Total Funds 2014
INCOME				
Donations and legacies Charitable Activities Investments Other	453,121 21,160 2,690 294	10,000		453,121 31,160 2,690 294
Total	477,265	10,000	-	487,265
EXPENDITURE Charitable activities Other	378,249 -	-	:	378,249
Total expenditure	378,249	*	**	378,249
Net Income/(Expenditure) before gains/(losses) on investments	99,016	10,000		109,016
Gains / (Losses) on investments	964	_	•	964
Net Incoming/(Expenditure)	99,980	10,000		109,980
Tangible Fixed Assets				
	Office Equipment £	Office Furnitur £	е	otal £
Cost At 1 January 2015 Additions Disposals	2,775		-	2,775
At 31 December 2015	2,775			2,775
Depreciation At 1 January 2015 Charge for the year Disposals	1,476 860		-	1,476 860
At 31 December 2015	2,336			2,336
Net Book Value At 31 December 2015	439		-	439
At 31 December 2013	1,299			1,299

10) Investments

Market Value	UK Listed Investments 2015 £	UK Listed Investments 2014 £
At 1 January 2015	21,028	20,064
Increase on revaluation in year	260	964
At 31 December 2015	21,288	21,028
Historic Cost	20,000	20,000

The UK listed investment is Income Units in CCLA Investment Management Limited's COIF Charities Investment Fund.

11) Debtors

	2015 £	2014 £
The Free Church Federal Council (Incorporated) Other debtors Prepayments	2,934 1,490 3,279	73,189 73,381 2,098
Total	7,703	148,668

12) Current Liabilities: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	2015 £	2014 £
Other creditors Tax and NI creditor Accruals Deferred current year income	7,829 6,279 22,302	30,240 6,225 6,500
Total	36,410	42,965

13) Pension Obligations

Past and some current employees of CTE are entitled to membership of the Pension Trust Growth Plan ("the Plan"). This is a multi-employer pension plan which in most respects is a money purchase arrangement, although it does include certain guarantee elements as described below.

Contributions paid into the Plan up to and including September 2001 (Series 1 and Series 2) were converted to defined amounts of pension payable from normal retirement dates. From October 2001 contributions were invested in personal funds which have a capital guarantee and which are converted to pension on retirement, either within the Plan or by the purchase of an annuity.

The rules of the Plan give the Trustee the power to require employers to pay additional contributions in order to ensure that the statutory funding objective under the Pensions Act 2004 is met. The statutory funding objective is that a pension scheme should have sufficient assets to meet its past service liabilities, known as Technical Provisions.

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out at 30 September 2014. This valuation showed total scheme assets of £793m, liabilities of £970m and a deficit of £177m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme. During the year this amounted to £5,342 (2014: £5,186) in respect of CTE.

The recovery plan contributions are allocated to each participating employer in line with their estimated share of the Series 1 and Series 2 scheme liabilities. From 1 April 2016 to 30 September 2028: the additional contributions will be £5,359 per annum (payable monthly and increasing by 3% each on 1st April).

Where the scheme is in deficit and where the company has agreed to a deficit funding arrangement the company recognises a liability for this obligation. The amount recognised is the net present value of the deficit reduction contributions payable under the agreement that relates to the deficit. The present value is calculated using an appropriate discount rate of 2.5% (2014: 1.99%). The unwinding of the discount rate is recognised as a finance cost.

	2015	2014
	£	£
Provision as at 1 January	45,257	47,000
Unwinding of the discount factor	848	1,000
Deficit contributions paid	(5,342)	(5,186)
Re-measurements – impact of any change in assumptions	(1,266)	-
Re-measurements – amendments to the contribution schedule	11,825	2,443
Provision as at 31 December	51,322	45,257

14) Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2015 (Restated)	Income	Expenses	Gains	Transfer s	Balance at 31 December 2015
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds:						
General funds	375,618	441,612	(346,804)	260	-	470,686
Designated funds:						
The Leicester Fund	21,350	-	(5,583)	-	-	15,767
Forum 2015	17,000	17,825	(34,825)	-	-	2
Special Projects Fund	200,000	-	-	-	-	200,000
Total designated funds	238,350	17,825	(40,408)	-	-	215,767
Restricted Funds						
They also served	•	30,950	(3,285)		*	27,665
Total Funds	613,968	490,387	(390,497)	260	Separate contraction of the se	714,118

Unrestricted funds are incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Trustees for a particular purpose. The Leicester fund represents monies received from Leicester Free Church Women's Council which are used for the purposes of projects which focus on women's concerns.

The Forum 2015 represents funds earmarked by the Trustees to meet the cost of an event called The Forum which is intended to be run every three years. Funds have been used for the event which took place in 2015.

The Special Project Fund has been established to provide support for small projects run by CTE and capacity building within Churches Together groups.

The They Also Served Fund has been set up for a project to explore the Black African and Caribbean contributions of servicemen and women during the First World War.

15) Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

×	Tangible Fixed Assets £	Investments £	Other Net Assets £	Total £
Unrestricted Funds General funds	439	21,288	448,959	470,686
Designated funds: Leicester fund		-	15,767	15,767
Forum 2015 Special Projects Fund Total designated funds		-	200,000	200,000
Restricted Funds They also served	_	-	27,665	27,665
Total Funds	439	21,288	692,391	714,118

16) Transition to FRS 102 and the Charities SORP 2015

This is the first year that the Charity has presented its results under FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102. The last financial statements under UK GAAP were for the year ended 31 December 2014. The date of transition to FRS 102 and the Charities SORP 102 was 1 January 2014. The net income for the year ended 31 December 2014 and the total funds as at 1 January 2014 and 31 December 2014 has changed as a result of changes in accounting policies due to the transition from UK GAAP to FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102.

Reconciliation of reserves	At 1 Jan 2014 £	At 31 Dec 2014 £
Reserves as previously stated Provision for pension fund obligation Reallocation of Pensions Deficit Fund	522,638 (47,000)	332,828 (45,257) 88,047
General Fund as restated	475,638	375,618
Reconciliation of 2014 net income for the period		2014
2014 net income as previously stated Provision for pension fund obligation		108,237 1,743
2014 net income as restated		109,980

Previously the unfunded deficit on the pension plan was recorded as a contingent liability and the deficit reduction contributions required under the recovery plan were charged as an expense in the period in which they were required. Under FRS 102 the present value of all future deficit reduction contributions is shown as a long term liability. Any movement or recalculation of this is shown in the determination of the surplus for the year (see note 13).

The contingent liability for the pension liability was previously covered by a specific designated fund. Now the liability is recoded in the balance sheet that fund is no longer required and had been absorbed within the general fund.

17) Operating lease commitments

At 31 December 2015 the charity had no (2014: nil) annual commitments under operating leases.