

Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

Financial Accounts

31 December 2015

Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

Financial accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2015

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Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

Legal and Administrative Information

Status

The synagogue was registered with the Charity Commission on 23rd September 1996 and is governed by a constitution and rules adopted on 28th June 1978.

Trustees and Council Members

Mr Henry Fried	Honorary Joint Chair
Mr I Boemer	Honorary Joint Chair
Mr R Assenheim	Honorary Secretary
Mrs S Friedman	Honorary Treasurer
Mr Martin Neville	
Mrs R Allen	
Mrs D Rowland	

Charity Number

1058193

Principal Address

1 Hainault Avenue
Giffard Park
Milton Keynes
MK14 5PQ

Independent examiner

Mr A J Collett FCA
Collett Hulance LLP
40 Kimbolton Road
Bedford
MK40 2NR

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
PO Box 170
Milton Keynes
MK6 1AL

Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

Trustees Report for the year ended 31st December 2015

The Trustees present their report along with the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2015. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 8 and comply with the applicable law and the requirements of SORP 2015, Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

Constitution and objects

The Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue, known in Hebrew as Bet Echud, is constituted under a deed of trust established in 1979 and is a registered charity No 1058193.

The principal objects of the Synagogue are the promoting of Judaism in the spheres of public worship, religious, educational, social, cultural and charitable activities.

Structure, governance and management

The Synagogue's governing document is its constitution, which is reviewed periodically. The Trustees of the Synagogue are its Council Members, including the Honorary Officers, who are elected by the membership in open meeting. There is also provision for up to three members to be co-opted to serve on Council until the subsequent Annual General Meeting. The constitution restricts the number of consecutive years a member can stay on council.

The Trustees normally meet twelve times a year and there are Sub-committees and Groups which report to the council, which then approves their activities. The main Sub-committees and Groups are:

Ritual: this committee deals with all aspects of the provision of Synagogue services including festivals;

Cheder education: this committee deals with the provision of religion schooling for children of members, through to bar/batmitzvah age and beyond;

The Council, who take appropriate external advice where necessary, makes all significant operational decisions except the appointment of a rabbi. The constitution requires that decision to be approved by the membership in open meeting.

External affiliations

The constitution provides that the Synagogue shall be a member of the Movement for Reform Judaism, for which benefit, affiliation fees are payable at a percentage of the previous year's subscription income. One of the benefits of membership of a synagogue is the availability of a burial plan, and a proportion of members' subscriptions are specifically levied in this respect: these amounts are paid by the Synagogue to the Jewish Joint Burial Society.

Achievement of objectives and review of activities

A full review of Synagogue activities is contained in the Synagogue's latest Annual Review which is circulated to all members prior to the Annual General Meeting. The key achievements during the year referred to in the Annual Review were:

Ritual: The sharing of the service leadership between visiting student Rabbi and our own lay readers and the introduction of a number of special kiddushim to honour various members for their service or for special birthdays and anniversaries. These innovations have proved popular.

Cheder and Education: Cheder classes have developed this year, with the use of the Chai curriculum and more streamed learning. With the aid of our teachers and liaising with parents there has been greater integration between the Cheder and the community.

Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

Trustees Report for the year ended 31st December 2015

(continued)

Social and Welfare: The Welfare Group is running with the aim of keeping the synagogue in touch with all members. The Reading Group and Craft Group continue to be popular and have allowed us to welcome in people from other faiths. Various events involving the wider local community are held.

The Synagogue magazine - 'Listen', is produced quarterly and as well as being available on the website a paper copy is now sent out to all members who request one.

Grants: This year the High Holy Day Appeal beneficiaries included the "Magen David Adom" fund and the "Brain Tumour Research Fund" in Milton Keynes.

Financial review

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 31 December 2015 is set out on page 7 of the accounts and shows a net operating surplus of £9,592 for the year. This compares with last year's surplus of £3,590. Because of this surplus, the Synagogue's reserves have increased and now total £130,635.

Plans for the future

Within each of our main categories the following are the short / medium term goals:

Rabbinic Support: Student Rabbis from Leo Baeck College regularly spend a given time with an established synagogue and we are currently employing a fourth year student.

Ritual: To continue providing a variety of service styles with possibly more Kabbalat Shabbats. The current wardens will take on a specialist role in relation to Pastoral, burial and B'nei Mitzvah issues. The initiative to train new wardens continues.

Cheder and Education: We plan to continue further integration and merging between Cheder and the remainder of the community, with improvement in regular attendance and communication with parents. We hope to encourage local families with small children to join the community.

Programme Development: Continue to evaluate methods of encouraging involvement by a broader range of members by offering more choices of activities.

Welfare will continue to deliver support to the membership, particularly the elderly and recently bereaved. To allow the Synagogue to be part of the wider community by encouraging the use of the hall by suitable outside groups.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the Synagogue to maintain our unrestricted funds, which are the free reserves of the Synagogue, at a level that is adequate to keep the Synagogue solvent. In conjunction with the subscriptions and other incoming resources, this provides sufficient funds to cover the administrative and support costs of the Synagogue.

The restricted funds are funds donated to the Synagogue for expenditure of a specific purpose or nature and are held in an appropriate form to enable the funds to be applied for the purpose for which they were established.

Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

Trustees Report for the year ended 31st December 2015

(continued)

Grant making policy

The Synagogue pursues its charitable giving mainly through the High Holy Day Appeal. Our policy is to make grants only out of donations received and only to registered charities, whether in the UK or overseas.

Risk Management

The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the Synagogue faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to mitigate risks as appropriate.

Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the accounts

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the board of trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the period end and of its incoming resources and resources expended during 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
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed subject to any 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 charity will continue in business

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the requirements of applicable law and regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in IAS1 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement because it is a small charity.

This report was approved by the trustees on and signed on its behalf by

Henry Fried
Joint Chair of Council

Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue

For the year ended 31 December 2015

I report on the accounts for the trust for the year ended 31 December 2015, which are set out on pages 6 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of the Trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required for the year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act, to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission, under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charities 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 statement below.

Independent Examiners Statement

In the course of 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 130 of the Charities Act, and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met, nor:
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

A J Collett FCA

Date:

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2015

	£	£	£	£
	Cost	Depn to date	Net book value	
FIXED ASSETS				31,12,14
Building	159,952	54,983	104,968	108,967
Religious Ritual Items	2,566	2,012	554	692
Furniture and Fittings	41,558	36,442	5,116	3,458
Tangible Fixed Assets (leasehold land)	15,000		15,000	15,000
	<u>219,076</u>	<u>93,437</u>	<u>125,638</u>	<u>128,117</u>
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors and Prepayments	[10]	6,720		7,203
Cash at Bank and in Hand		22,146		22,364
		<u>28,867</u>		<u>29,567</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Amounts falling due within one year	[11]	11,548		13,381
NET CURRENT ASSETS			17,319	16,186
			<u>142,958</u>	<u>144,303</u>
LONG TERM LIABILITIES				
Amount falling due after one year				
Mortgage			12,323	23,261
TOTAL NET ASSETS			<u>130,635</u>	<u>121,042</u>
FINANCED BY				
Unrestricted: General Fund			130,635	117,593
Designated Funds	[12]			3,450
			<u>130,635</u>	<u>121,043</u>

Approved by the Executive of the trustees (the synagogue council) on
and signed on its behalf by

Trustee and Hon Treasurer

Trustee and Hon Joint Chair

Trustee and Hon Joint Chair

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 15	Total Funds 14
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Subscriptions (Net)		24,588		24,588	25,016
Income tax Recoverable on subs		5,279		5,279	5,249
Donations and Gifts		3,522	372	3,895	7,257
Income tax Recoverable on donations		687	78	765	633
JJBS			7,213	7,213	7,594
Interest		12		12	11
Fund Raising		584	0	584	249
Other Incoming Resources	[2]	7,478	710	8,188	6,649
Total Incoming Resources		42,149	8,373	50,522	52,659
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Direct Charitable Expenditure:					
Rabbinic fees and expenses		988		988	13,193
Services and Festivals	[3]	2,295		2,295	1,962
Education	[4]	1,522		1,522	1,545
JJBS			7,213	7,213	7,594
MRJ affiliation		2,724		2,724	2,479
Synagogue Magazine		211		211	318
Charitable Donations			450	450	795
		7,739	7,663	15,402	27,887
Building:					
Running expenses	[5]	13,520	0	13,520	9,593
Depreciation	[6]	5,429		5,429	5,957
		18,949	0	18,949	15,550
Other Expenditure:					
Administration	[7]	1,187		1,187	1,067
General Expenses	[8]	3,285	710	3,995	3,116
Fund raising		334	0	334	67
Borrowing charges	[9]	1,062		1,062	1,381
		5,869	710	6,579	5,632
Total resources expended		32,556	8,373	40,929	49,068
NET RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Surplus of income over expenditure for year		9,592	0	9,592	3,590
Balances at 31 Dec 2014		117,593	3,450	121,043	117,453
Amounts transferred (balance correction)		3,450	-3,450		
BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD		130,635	0	130,635	121,043

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE
NOTES TO ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- a) Accounting convention
The accounts are prepared on an accruals basis and under the historic cost convention. They are in accordance with the requirements of the Statement of recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities.
- b) Subscriptions
Subscriptions are included on the basis of those due for the current year after making allowance for any amounts that are unlikely to be collected.
- c) Income tax recoverable
Income tax recoverable has been included to the extent that it arises on gift aided donations received during the year.
- d) Depreciation
The building is being depreciated at 2.5% per annum.
Religious Ritual Items and Furniture and fittings are being depreciated at 10% per annum.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 15	Total Funds 14
2 OTHER INCOMING RESOURCES				
comprise				
Hall Hire	6,902		6,902	6,114
Funeral costs recovered from JJBS		710	710	0
Rituals Festivals	536		536	355
Conference, Adult Education	40		40	180
TOTAL	7,478	710	8,188	6,649
3 SERVICES AND FESTIVALS comprise				
Kiddush and catering	651		651	597
Lay Readers	472		472	97
Ritual, Festivals, choir	1,172		1,172	1,269
TOTAL	2,295	0	2,295	1,962
4 EDUCATION comprises				
Materials	10		10	253
Cheder Teachers	1,512		1,512	1,293
Courses Conferences	0		0	0
TOTAL	1,522	0	1,522	1,545
5 BUILDING comprises				
Electricity	1,932		1,932	2,088
Water	1,823		1,823	290
Garden	820		820	3,070
Cleaning/Hygiene Consumables	1,288		1,288	1,107
Repairs and Maintenance	5,298		5,298	1,951
Security: Keyholding	480		480	480
F&F from specific donations	0		0	0
F & F <£200	1,878		1,878	607
TOTAL	13,520	0	13,520	9,593

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE
NOTES TO ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 15	Total Funds 14
6	DEPRECIATION			
	Depreciation on Furniture & Fittings	1,292	1,292	1,820
	Depreciation on ritual assets	138	138	138
	Depreciation on Building	3,999	3,999	3,999
	TOTAL	5,429	0	5,429
7	ADMINISTRATION comprises			
	Postage	166	166	201
	Stationery & Printing	100	100	31
	Telephone	887	887	801
	Data Protection	35	35	35
	TOTAL	1,187	0	1,067
8	GENERAL EXPENSES comprises			
	Insurance	1,763	1,763	1,773
	Professional Fees	420	420	420
	Council Member Travel Expenses	334	334	215
	Web Site	259	259	0
	Welfare	509	509	308
	Funeral Cost		710	0
	MRJ Conference	0	0	400
	TOTAL	3,285	710	3,995
9	BORROWING CHARGES comprises			
	Mortgage Interest	1,062	1,062	1,381
	TOTAL	1,062	0	1,381
10	DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS			
	comprise			
	2014 Subs not yet rec'vd	0	0	763
	Tax Refund on Gift Aid subs and donations	6,043	6,043	5,883
	Insurance (prepayment)	143	143	132
	BT phone	162	162	128
	Electricity	0	0	101
	Hall Hire	372	372	258
	TOTAL	6,720	0	7,264
11	CREDITORS comprise			
	Mortgage Repayment payable within 1 year	10,000	10,000	10,000
	Rabbi PAYE& expenses	410	410	529
	Mortgage interest	180	180	180
	electricity	117	117	0
	Water	150	150	0
	MRJ Levy	0	0	100
	Audit Fee	420	420	450
	2015 Subs rec'vd in advance		0	2,047
	Scroll repair	270	270	0
	Telephone		0	0
	TOTAL	11,548	0	13,306

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE
 NOTES TO ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 15	Total Funds 14
12 Specific Donations Funds				
Designated Funds - Ark furniture			0	2,100
Designated Funds - Sefer torah repair			0	364
Designated Funds - KN tree			0	480
Designated Funds - Quiz			0	0
Designated Funds - Choir			0	217
Designated Funds - Sundry items			0	181
Designated Funds - Shul used books			0	108
	0	0	0	3,450