

Ascension Community Trust
Charity Reg number 1091887
Company registered in England and Wales
Company Number 04184090

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST
Directors Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
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for the year ended 31 March 2022

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Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Companies House Reg Number 04184090
General Information
for the year ended 31 March 2022

Principal Address
Ascension Community Trust
Ascension Church Centre
Baxter Road
Custom House
London
E16 3HJ

Director/Trustees.
Rev'd D Chesney
N J Copsey
C G Crombie
A MacDonald
F Johnson
MGJ Yeatts
Secretary
P H Beaufriere

Independent Examiners
Brian Dexter ACMA
A Thousand Hills Limited
172 Sandford Road
East Ham
LONDON
E6 3PX

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Trustees Report
for the year ended 31 March 2022

The Trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in presenting their report and financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 31 March 2022. The Trustees have adopted and followed the provisions of "Accounting and Reporting for Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland" (FRS102, effective 1 January 2019).

Structure and Governance

Ascension Community Trust is governed under the terms of its trust deed signed on 21 December 1997 and amended on 25th July 2003. Its trustees meet a minimum of six times a year to manage the activities of the trust.

Charitable Objectives

Five Year Objectives (Set in January 2018)

- Reduce Isolation and loneliness amongst the elderly
- To improve the health and wellbeing of the local community, with a focus on mental health.
- To reduce the vulnerability of struggling families.
- To integrate the community through community spaces, social activities and volunteering.
- To improve the education of local young people through the provision of activities, including sport.
- To improve individual's own ability to address their issues by providing advice and support for money, benefits and employment.

Aims and Objectives

In the last report we set objectives, and have been successful in achieving or made great progress in:

- Provide family support for those attending the foodbank and advice service.
- Ensure the long-term sustainability of the food bank through regular donations.
- To increase representation from BAME backgrounds across all aspects of the organisation so that we are more reflective of the local community.
- To secure long term funding for the advice service on the basis of demand for the currently running project

These objectives we have not been able to progress in and will continue into the next year:

- Improve the self-sustainability of the café through various methods.
- ☐ To increase the number of elderly people we are engaging with on a regular basis
- ☐ To improve sustainability through an increase of individual donors to the charity.

In addition, our aims for 2022/2023 include:

- Make the organisation structure better fit for purpose
- ☐ Improve the evaluation and monitoring of projects
- ☐ Improve marketing and communications across the whole organisation

Public Benefit Statement

Ascension Community Trust is achieving public benefit through the delivery of services to those in need in the London Borough of Newham. Services include provision of food, activities, advice and training for some of the most vulnerable in Newham. The Trustees have given due consideration to the advice given by the charity commission when selecting the services it provides.

Achievements and Performance

Impact of Covid 19

At the start of the financial year many of our regular activities were closed due to lockdown. As we were allowed to reopen activities, some had to adapt to the regulations at the time. The impact of Covid also meant fewer attendees to some of our projects and challenges due to staff and volunteer illness/requiring self-isolation.

Ascension Seniors

In the first part of the year we ran online chair based exercise classes weekly for the seniors group and provided tablets with mobile data and easy to use guides for those who didn't have a way to access these classes themselves. The on-site activities re-started in September, with a welcome back celebration, followed by weekly exercise classes and lunches. At Christmas we were able to once again run the annual Seniors Christmas Party, supported by London City Airport. The numbers of attendees to the exercise class has increased throughout the year, but the numbers for the lunches remain low. We plan to thoroughly research the needs of the older population in Newham and what support we should be providing in the course of the next year.

Complex Needs

The Complex Needs work has included the work placements provided at the Garden Community Café (detailed below) and the gardening project. The space at Ascension Church Centre has had a lot of development to start making it a therapeutic space for all who use the Centre and after a re-launch the numbers attending has increased.

Garden Community Café

The Garden Café reopened after lockdown in April 2021, however the impact of Covid and subsequent regulations has meant the numbers visiting has remained low and was slow to increase over the year. The café provided work placements to 5 individuals with complex needs, all of whom learnt at least one new life skill. We also started to implement personal development plans with each of these individuals so they can set their own targets and track progress. In October 2021 we started the "youth café", a pilot project using the café as a safe space for young people every day after school, managed by two youth workers and aiming to empower the young people. The project to date has been very successful and we secured funding for the project to continue, which we hope it will for an extended period.

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Trustees Report
for the year ended 31 March 2022

Children's (incl AFA)

The after-school club remained open throughout the year and has seen an increase in numbers. The afterschool club was attended by 23 different children, 1 of whom attended for free due to their family's financial situation. All volunteers received safeguarding training and 2 long term volunteers received pediatric first aid training. In summer 2021 we ran our annual summer scheme and Soccer School. These were both well attending and a highlight for all of the children, staff and volunteers involved. Ascension Football Academy restarted its sessions in June 2021. Of the 144 children we've engaged with through the afterschool club, summer scheme and football training, 70% of parents/carers gave feedback that they'd seen an improvement in their child's confidence, emotional well-being or independency and over 50% of the children said they had created a new connection or friendship. The family support work supported 8 families, all who had an improvement in their circumstance.

Foodbank and Advice Service

Our foodbank became part of the Trussell Trust network in June 2021 and partnered with another foodbank in Newham in March 2022. The foodbank provided 465 parcels supporting 728 adults and 498 children. Our advice service is now integrated with the foodbank and all of the attendees to the foodbank were offered an advice appointment. This has led to a large reduction in the number of individuals repeatedly coming to the foodbank, as we have been able to help address their crises.

During the year we have helped develop the Newham Advice Partnership, a network of advice organisations in Newham, who were successful in a joint bid to the Greater London Authority to provide those attending foodbanks better access to advice services.

The foodbank is in the process of being set up as an independent charity. Whilst the on-site work at Ascension will continue under Ascension Community Trust, the foodbank will expand to include other centres in Newham, overseen by one central hub independent of Ascension Community Trust, but with representation on the board. In March 2022 Bonny Downs Community Association was the second foodbank (after Ascension) to join the new Newham District Foodbank. The connection with Trussell Trust has also led to an increase in donations, both financial and of physical items. This has meant we have been able to support all those that attend.

We want to take this opportunity to thank the organisations that have funded our work over the past year. They are:

Arnold Clark Community Foundation
Ascension Church Centre
Charles French Charitable Trust
Felsted School Mission Council
Greater London Authority
Kiln Family Trust
Kilnbridge
Leathersellers
London Borough of Newham
London City Airport
National Lottery Awards for All
Neighbourly Foundation
Postcode Lottery
Riverside Group
Royal Docks Trust
The Mrs Smith and Mount Trust
Trussell Trust
Trusthouse Foundation
Tudor Trust

Plus, the many individuals and companies that have donated money or food for the foodbank.

Risk, Reserves and Financial review

Ascension Community Trust's reserves policy is that between £18,000 and £25,000 will be held in free reserves. This amount is based on a detailed calculation of the amount needed in the eventuality of unexpected events requiring a smooth closure of the charity and to mitigate any financial risks. This figure is monitored and reviewed by the board of trustees on an annual basis. Income was received in At 31 March 2021 Ascension Community trust had funds of £77,445. Of these £58,784 was restricted and £6,858 of fixed assets funds. The total amount of free reserves held is £11,803.

This level is below our reserves policy, therefore the trustees have made plans to increase this by investing in activities to raise additional free reserves. At the time of signing these financial statements the level of free reserves was back within the policy level.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees.
for the year ended 31 March 2022

To the Trustees.

I report on the Financial Statements of the Charitable company for the year ended 31st March 2022 which are set out in the following pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

The 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 needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law 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 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 the 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 examiner's statement

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

Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

To keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and

To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the SORP (FRS102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2015.

have not been met; or

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

BJ. Dexter

Brian Dexter ACMA
A Thousand Hills Limited
172 Sandford Road
East Ham
London
E6 3PX
Dated.....
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Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Income and Endowments From				
Donations and Legacies	17,907	195,635	213,542	196,256
Charitable Activities	27,703	-	27,703	2,796
Other Trading Activities	895	927	1,822	2,508
Total Incoming Resources	46,505	196,562	243,067	201,560
Expenditure on:				
Raising Funds	-	-	-	17,040
Charitable Activities	44,735	197,844	242,579	184,328
Total Resources Expended	44,735	197,844	242,579	201,368
Net Expenditure for the Year	1,770	(1,282)	488	192
net movement in funds	1,770	(1,282)	488	192
Fund Balances 1 April 2021	16,891	60,066	76,957	76,765
Fund Balances 31 March 2022	18,661	58,784	77,445	76,957

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887
Statement of Financial Position
as at 31st March 2022

Balance Sheet	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Assets	6,858	-	6,858	5,743
Current Assets				
Debtors				
Cash at bank and in hand	5,187	4,158	9,345	108
	6,620	55,968	62,588	73,579
Total Current Assets	11,807	60,126	71,933	73,687
	1,346	-	1,346	2,473
Creditors: Amounts due within one year				
Net Current Assets	<u>10,461</u>	<u>60,126</u>	<u>70,587</u>	<u>71,214</u>
	-	-	-	-
Creditors due after more than one year				
Net Assets	<u>17,319</u>	<u>60,126</u>	<u>77,445</u>	<u>76,957</u>
Funds				
Unrestricted Funds	18,661		18,661	16,891
Restricted Funds		58,784	58,784	60,066
	<u>18,661</u>	<u>58,784</u>	<u>77,445</u>	<u>76,957</u>

For the year ended 31 March 2022 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

-The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small company regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board and signed on its behalf by:

Title _____ on _____ date _____

Ascension Community Trust
Charity No. 1091887

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention, except for investments which are included at market value and the revaluation of certain fixed assets in accordance with the Charities SORP Accounting and Reporting for Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland" (FRS102, effective 1 January 2019).

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

Statement of cash flows

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemption in FRS102 from including a statement of cash flows in the financial statements on the grounds that the charitable company qualifies as a small company.

Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the charity is entitled to the income, and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Gift Aid is recognised when the donation to which it relates is received.

Gifts in Kind and pro-bono services are included in income as donations at a sum equal to their market value or the value to the charity. An equivalent sum is added to resources expenditure under the appropriate category.

Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended when there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure

Tangible Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, are stated at cost or valuation less depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is charged over the lifetime of the asset at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of the fixed asset over their expected useful lives.

The following specific rates apply:

Land and Buildings (Leasehold)	Straight line over the life of the lease
Plant and machinery:	25% Reducing balance

Irrecoverable VAT

VAT, to the extent that it cannot be recovered, is included in the Statement of Financial Activities as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Ascension Community Trust
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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

2. Income from Donations and Legacies	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
Donations received	8,633	2,416	11,049	7,602
Grants received	5,274	174,590	177,197	184,547
HMRC Employers allowance	4,000	-	4,000	4,000
Gifts In Kind	-	18,629	18,629	-
Subscriptions received	-	-	-	107
	<u>17,907</u>	<u>195,635</u>	<u>210,875</u>	<u>196,256</u>

3. Income from charitable activities	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
Ascension Football academy	-	-	-	-
Seniors activities	436	-	436	42
Café income	14,566	-	14,566	-
Children and family activities	12,701	-	12,701	2,754
	<u>27,703</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,703</u>	<u>2,796</u>

4. Income from other activities	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
Catering	895	-	895	2,361
Other activities for generating funds	-	927	927	147
	<u>895</u>	<u>927</u>	<u>1,822</u>	<u>2,508</u>

5. Expenditure on generating funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
Support Costs	-	-	-	13,027
Shop costs	-	-	-	4,013
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,040</u>

6. Cost of charitable activities	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
Seniors Project	120	14,818	14,938	18,189
Community Work	-	33,635	33,635	65,379
Café	16,900	33,845	50,745	-
Children and Families	15,999	27,264	43,263	57,174
Food Bank	-	23,403	23,403	24,691
Advice service	-	29,530	29,530	14,895
Admin and CEO	11,716	35,349	47,064	-
Total	<u>44,735</u>	<u>197,844</u>	<u>242,579</u>	<u>180,328</u>

Note. The costs above include the value of gifts in kind used by the charity in the period:

Children and Families - Hall hire for Afterschool club	£ 3,000
Seniors - Venue hire for elders sessions	£ 750
Advice service - Venue hire for advice sessions	£ 1,500
Foodbank - Value of donated food	£ 13,379

These have all been included as coming from restricted funds

7. Analysis of support costs	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022 Total	2021 Total
	£	£	£	£
Management	-	-	-	1,932
Human Resources	-	-	-	3,312
Governance	-	-	-	7,783
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,027</u>

8. Net income/expenditure for the year

This is stated after charging/(crediting)

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation of Fixed Assets	2,285	1,915
Accountancy Fees	1,000	1,704
Staff Pension Contributions	<u>1,099</u>	<u>937</u>

Ascension Community Trust
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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

9. Staff costs

Total staff costs for the year ended 31 March 2022 were

	2022	2021
	£	£
Salaries and Wages	136,913	123,113
Social security costs	6,997	5,389
Pension Costs	1,099	937
	145,009	129,439
The number of staff employed during the year was:		
Programme Staff	9	9
Support Staff	2	1
	2	1

10. Comparative Statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2021 Total	2020 Total
	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments From				
Donations and Legacies	19,759	172,497	192,256	185,538
Charitable Activities	2,796	-	2,796	9,919
Other Trading Activities	2,478	30	2,508	27,785
	-	-	-	-
Total Incoming Resources	25,033	172,527	197,560	223,242
Expenditure on:				
Raising Funds	16,577	463	17,040	64,804
Charitable Activities	-	180,328	180,328	108,132
Total Resources Expended	16,577	180,791	197,368	172,936
Net Expenditure for the Year	8,456	(8,264)	192	50,306
net movement in funds	8,456	(8,264)	192	50,306
Fund Balances 1 April 2021	8,435	68,330	76,765	26,459
Fund Balances 31 March 2022	16,891	60,066	76,957	76,765

11. Fixed Assets

	Land and Buildings	Fixtures and Fittings	Total
	£	£	£
COST or VALUATION			
At 1 April 2021	44,688	30,612	75,300
Additions		3,400	3,400
Disposals			-
At 31 March 2022	44,688	34,012	78,700
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2021	44,688	24,869	69,557
Charge for year		2,285	2,285
On Disposals			-
At 31 March 2022	44,688	27,154	71,842
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2022	-	6,858	6,858
At 31 March 2021	-	5,743	5,743

12. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Amounts due within one year		
Other debtors	9,345	108

Ascension Community Trust
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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

13. Creditors

- amounts due within 1 year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other creditors	346	973
Accruals and deferred income	1,000	1,500
	<u>1,346</u>	<u>2,473</u>

14. Restricted Fund Movements

	01/04/2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Advice Service	5,956	44,450	29,530		20,876
Admin and CEO	23,327	32,021	35,349		20,000
Children and Families	11,652	15,613	27,264		0
Seniors	10,249	11,957	14,818		7,388
Foodbank	6,380	22,234	23,403		5,211
Community Work	-	36,532	33,635		2,897
Garden Café	2,502	33,755	33,845		2,412
	<u>60,066</u>	<u>196,562</u>	<u>197,844</u>		<u>58,784</u>

- prior year

	01/04/2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Advice Service	-	18,774	12,818		5,956
CEO	20,607	29,150	26,430		23,327
Children and Families	17,962	38,079	47,510	3,121	11,652
Seniors	8,382	17,460	15,593		10,249
Foodbank	-	27,435	21,055		6,380
Football Academy	3,178	1,297	1,354	- 3,121	-
Garden Café	18,201	40,332	56,031		2,502
	<u>68,330</u>	<u>172,527</u>	<u>180,791</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>60,066</u>

Advice service: Funds to provide practical advice to parishioners

CEO: Grant to cover employment costs of CEO

Children and Families: To provide activities and services for children and their families in the community.

Seniors: To provide activities and services for older members of the community

Foodbank: To provide food for members of the community in urgent need

Football academy: To provide training in football for children and young people in the community

Community work: To provide activities and services to support members of the community

Administration: To support the general running of the organisation

Garden Café: To provide a community café facility within the community

Transfers: In 2020/21 The Football Academy fund was combined with the Children and Families to simplify accounts, because they achieve the same aims and some funding for this work is combined.

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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

15 Unrestricted fund movements

	01/04/2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2022
	£	£	£		£
Designated					
General funds					
Garden Café	- 2,834	18,128	16,900	1,606	-
Children and families	-	12,701	15,999	3,298	-
Seniors	-	436	120		316
General	19,725	15,240	11,716	- 4,904	18,345
	<u>16,891</u>	<u>46,505</u>	<u>44,735</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,661</u>

-Prior Year

	01/04/2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31/03/2021
Designated					
General reserve	5,000			- 5,000	-
General funds					
Garden Café	- 1,299	2,478	4,013	-	2,834
General	4,735	22,555	12,564	5,000	19,725
	<u>8,436</u>	<u>25,033</u>	<u>16,577</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,891</u>

General reserve: A designated fund to secure working capital

Garden Café: To provide finance for activities within the Garden Café

Seniors: To provide activities and services for older members of the community

General: Free reserves for the charities overall objectives.

Transfers: In 2021/22 the transfer was made from general unrestricted funds to cover a deficit in the cafe and children and families funds.

In 2020/21 a designated fund was previously made as an amount to be used for reserves in the case of closure of the charity, but it was decided by the trustees to keep this within the general unrestricted funds for the same purpose.

16. Analysis of net assets between funds as at 31 March 2022

	Fixed assets	Current Assets	Creditors	Net Assets
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted	6,858	11,807	1,346	17,319
Designated	-	-	-	-
Restricted	-	60,126	-	60,126
	<u>6,858</u>	<u>71,933</u>	<u>1,346</u>	<u>77,445</u>

- Prior year

	Fixed assets	Current Assets	Creditors	Net Assets
Unrestricted	5,743	11,148		16,891
Designated	-	-	-	-
Restricted	-	60,066	-	60,066
	<u>5,743</u>	<u>71,214</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>76,957</u>

17. Company limited by guarantee

ASCENSION COMMUNITY TRUST is a company limited by guarantee and accordingly does not have a share capital.

The liability of each member on the winding up of the company is limited to £1.