

**Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue**

**Financial Accounts**

**31 December 2016**

**Charity Number 1058913**

**Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue**

**Financial accounts**

**For the year ended 31 December 2016**

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## **Milton Keynes and District Reform Synagogue**

### **Legal and Administrative Information**

#### **Status**

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

#### **Trustees and Council Members**

Mr Henry Fried	Honorary Chair
Mrs D Rowland	Honorary Vice Chair
Mrs S Friedman	Honorary Treasurer
Mr R Assenheim	Honorary Secretary
Mr S Cohen	Honorary Warden
Mrs C Assenheim	
Mr I Boemer	
Mrs D Latner-Mclaughlin	

#### **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 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

The Trustees present their report along with the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2016. 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 that 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: this is 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 that 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 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016**

(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 Alzheimers Research and Jewish Care. A donation towards the pond clearance was also made to the local Giffard Park Community.

#### **Financial review**

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year to 31 December 2016 is set out on page 7 of the accounts and shows a net operating surplus of £14,232 for the year. This compares with last year's surplus of £9,592. Because of this surplus, the Synagogue's reserves have increased and now total £144,867.

#### **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 working with several of them.

**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 we encourage 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 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 (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 03/04/2017... and signed on its behalf by



**Henry Fried**  
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 2016

I report on the accounts for the trust for the year ended 31 December 2016, 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: 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016

	£	£	£	£
	Cost	Depn to date	Net book value	31.12.15
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>				
Building	159,952	58,982	100,970	104,968
Religious Ritual Items	2,566	2,150	416	554
Furniture and Fittings	44,056	38,341	5,715	5,116
Tangible Fixed Assets (leasehold land)	15,000		15,000	15,000
	<u>221,574</u>	<u>99,474</u>	<u>122,100</u>	<u>125,638</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Debtors and Prepayments [12]		7,770		6,720
Cash at Bank and in Hand		26,770		22,146
		<u>34,540</u>		<u>28,867</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
Amounts falling due within one year [13]		5,815		11,548
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			<u>28,725</u>	<u>17,319</u>
			<u>150,825</u>	<u>142,957</u>
<b>LONG TERM LIABILITIES</b>				
Amount falling due after one year				
Mortgage			5,958	12,323
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>			<u>144,867</u>	<u>130,635</u>
<b>FUNDS OF THE CHARITY</b>				
Unrestricted Income Funds			144,868	130,635
Designated Funds [14]			0	0
<b>TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS</b>			<u>144,868</u>	<u>130,635</u>

Approved by the Executive of the trustees (the synagogue council) on 03-04-2017  
and signed on its behalf by

RIM Friedman  
Henry Fried  
D Rowland

Trustee and Hon Treasurer

Trustee and Chairman

Trustee and Vice Chairman

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2016	Total Funds 2015
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>					
Subscriptions (Net)		24,341		24,341	24,588
Income tax recoverable on subscriptions		5,170		5,170	5,279
Donations and legacies		2,453	500	2,953	3,895
Income tax recoverable on donations		474		474	765
JJBS			5,405	5,405	7,213
Interest		12		12	12
Income from charitable activities	[2]	289		289	584
Other incoming resources	[3]	8,879	2,400	11,279	8,188
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>41,618</b>	<b>8,305</b>	<b>49,923</b>	<b>50,522</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Rabbinic fees and expenses		722		722	988
Services and festivals	[4]	874		874	2,295
Education	[5]	1,551		1,551	1,522
JJBS			5,405	5,405	7,213
MRJ affiliation		2,240		2,240	2,724
Synagogue magazine		280		280	211
Charitable donations		142	500	642	450
		<u>5,809</u>	<u>5,905</u>	<u>11,714</u>	<u>15,402</u>
Building:					
Running expenses	[6]	8,534		8,534	13,520
Depreciation	[7]	6,037		6,037	5,429
		<u>14,571</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>14,571</u>	<u>18,949</u>
Other Resources Expended:					
Administration	[8]	1,289		1,289	1,187
General expenses	[9]	4,662	2,400	7,062	3,995
Fund raising	[10]	419		419	334
Borrowing charges	[11]	635		635	1,062
		<u>7,005</u>	<u>2,400</u>	<u>9,405</u>	<u>6,579</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>27,385</b>	<b>8,305</b>	<b>35,690</b>	<b>40,929</b>
<b>NET INCOMING RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR</b>		<b>14,232</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14,232</b>	<b>9,592</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
Total funds brought forward		130,635	0	130,635	121,043
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<b>144,867</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>144,867</b>	<b>130,635</b>

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE  
 NOTES TO ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

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 2016	Total Funds 2015
<b>2 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES</b>				
Quiz	0		0	283
Social events	209		209	265
Judaica	80		80	36
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>584</b>
<b>3 OTHER INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
Hall hire	8,519		8,519	6,902
Funeral costs recovered from JJBS		2,400	2,400	710
Rituals festivals	360		360	536
Conference and adult education			0	40
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,879</b>	<b>2,400</b>	<b>11,279</b>	<b>8,188</b>
<b>4 SERVICES AND FESTIVALS</b>				
Kiddush and catering	256		256	651
Lay readers	295		295	472
Ritual, festivals and choir	323		323	1,172
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>874</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>874</b>	<b>2,295</b>

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE  
NOTES TO ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2016	Total Funds 2015
<b>5 EDUCATION</b>				
Materials	39		39	10
Cheder teachers	1,512		1,512	1,512
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,551</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,551</b>	<b>1,522</b>
<b>6 BUILDING</b>				
Electricity	1,983		1,983	1,932
Water	427		427	1,823
Garden	1,415		1,415	820
Cleaning and hygiene consumables	1,429		1,429	1,288
Repairs and maintenance	2,146		2,146	5,298
Security: keyholding	519		519	480
Furniture and fittings <£500	615		615	1,878
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,534</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,534</b>	<b>13,520</b>
<b>7 DEPRECIATION</b>				
Depreciation on furniture and fittings	1,899		1,899	1,292
Depreciation on ritual assets	138		138	138
Depreciation on Building	3,999		3,999	3,999
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,037</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,037</b>	<b>5,429</b>
<b>8 ADMINISTRATION</b>				
Postage	189		189	166
Stationery and printing	83		83	100
Telephone	982		982	887
Data protection	35		35	35
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,289</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,289</b>	<b>1,187</b>
<b>9 GENERAL EXPENSES</b>				
Insurance	1,773		1,773	1,763
Professional fees	420		420	420
Council member travel expenses	144		144	334
Web site	11		11	259
Welfare	1,505		1,505	509
Funeral cost		2,400	2,400	710
MRJ Conference	810		810	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,662</b>	<b>2,400</b>	<b>7,062</b>	<b>3,995</b>

MILTON KEYNES AND DISTRICT REFORM SYNAGOGUE  
 NOTES TO ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2016	Total Funds 2015
10 FUND RAISING				
Quiz	0	0	0	133
Social events	410		410	100
Judaica	9		9	102
TOTAL	419	0	419	334
11 BORROWING CHARGES				
Mortgage interest	635		635	1,062
TOTAL	635	0	635	1,062
12 DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS				
2016 Subs not yet rec'vd	24		24	
Tax Refund on Gift Aid subs and donations	5,644		5,644	6,043
Insurance (prepayment)	135		135	143
BT phone	169		169	162
MRJ levy (prepayment)	224		224	
Interfaith donation	30		30	
Event ticket	10		10	
Hall Hire	1,535		1,535	372
TOTAL	7,770	0	7,770	6,720
13 CREDITORS				
Mortgage Repayment payable within 1 year	5,000		5,000	10,000
Rabbi salary and expenses	0		0	410
Mortgage interest	180		180	180
Key deposits	45		45	270
Listen magazine	58		58	117
Accountancy fee	420		420	420
Water rates	112		112	150
TOTAL	5,815	0	5,815	11,548