

ST ALBANS MASORTI SYNAGOGUE
(A company limited by guarantee)
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

Charity No. 1118649
Company No. 6131892



**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009**

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Legal and Administrative Information

Status

The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 28 February 2007. The charity was originally set up as a trust on 25 June 1990 and was granted charitable status on 1 June 1992

The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £20 each.

Following the AGM held in June 2006, the Charity changed its management structure from Trustees to a Trustee Management Board. The Officer of Chair/Co-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary are subject to annual election, whilst the remaining six trustee members are subject to election on a rolling three year basis. The immediate past Chair/Co-Chair will also serve for the following year.

The trustees at the balance sheet date were as follows:

Dr J Freedman	Trustee	
Mrs J Gess	Trustee	
Mr N Grant	Trustee	Immediate past Co-Chair
Mrs S Grant	Trustee	
Mr L Harris	Co-Chair and Trustee	
Mr P Hart	Trustee	
Mr P Hoffbrand	Treasurer and Trustee	
Mr A Levy	Trustee	
Mrs L McQuillan	Co-Chair and Trustee	
Mrs E Oppedijk	Trustee	
Mrs K Phillips	Secretary and Trustee	

Trustees

The directors

Secretary

Kathryn Alison Phillips

Registered Office

Harben House, Harben Parade, Finchley Road, London, NW3 6LH.

Administration Address

P.O. Box 23, St Albans, AL1 4PH

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

The KBSP Partnership, Harben House, Harben Parade, Finchley Road, London, NW3 6LH

Bankers

NatWest Bank, 72-74 High Street, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD1 2BQ
CAF Bank Limited, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4TA

**Trustees Annual Report
31st March 2009**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 1985, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2009. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2005.

St Albans Masorti Synagogue (SAMS) (Registered Charity number: 1118649) has provided religious services and cultural events for its Membership throughout the year. The Charity continues to provide religious education each Sunday morning during school terms for approximately 30 children (of members) - ages 5 to 13.

The Charity is in the course of seeking a new Rabbi and is working hard to ensure this vital support to the community is in place as soon as possible. During this period, the community has been using the services of visiting scholars.

The community is aware of its obligations with regards to its responsibilities to the wider public good. In this connection, the community is working with various charities towards a successful Mitzvah Day in November 2009.

The Charity has held a number of fund-raising events throughout the year to provide cultural education and these assist/contribute to the funds required to employ the Rabbi. The Charity has reserves to support the Rabbinical position, as it is not possible to fully fund the position, from the operating budget. Other sources of funding have been donations from members, grants from grant-making trusts and income received as a result of the Government's Gift Aid Scheme. The current lack of Rabbinic support has allowed the Charity to maintain reserves at such a level to ensure continuity of employment for many years to come.

The Assembly of Masorti Synagogues (AMS) has provided the services of a youth leader from within its NOAM youth organisation. The Charity made monthly contributions to AMS for an agreed proportion of the cost of the youth leader. The youth leader provides a focus for the Charity's members children who participate in NOAM from the age of 5 to 15.

The Charity continues to seek its own premises in order to provide a community centre in which education sessions, children's activities such as a nursery, religious services and social activities can take place. Due to the number of fully paid-up members, the strategy adopted for acquiring and managing its own premises is based on a self funding model in which the facility will be used for other income generating activities which will meet the charity's building operating costs. The previously constituted building committee continues to seek appropriate properties for consideration and to find the necessary funding to meet this objective. The Charity has set up a building fund (within its accounts) to attract ring-fenced funds for the purpose of property acquisition. The Charity continues its "Buy-a-Brick" campaign to encourage donations towards the acquisition of premises.

Since June 2006, the Charity is managed by a Trustee Management Board, which meets regularly and whose members are elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Trustee Board appoints committees who deal with detailed issues such as operations, fund-raising, education, religious affairs, personnel, events & social activities and membership.

The Charity's membership has remained static at 164 adult members at the end of the year.

**Trustees Annual Report
31st March 2009**

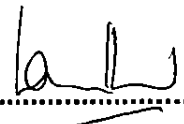
The Charity does not currently face any major financial risks over the coming financial year as its day to day operating expenses are fully costed within the annual budget, the Charity operates a prudent budget with income and expenditure tracked by department on a line by line basis each month. The Charity's Treasurer is responsible for the preparation and operation of the budget and prepares financial reports that are distributed to the trustees and finance committee and ordinary members (if required) prior to presentation and review at the relevant meetings. The budget process determines the annual contributions requested from Members and hence the income for the new financial year is expected to meet all the Charity's anticipated expenditure. As explained above the financing of the Rabbinical position is provided through the reserves that have been built up over the past few years. Any financial exposure that may arise as a result of potential premises acquisition will be managed separately and the Charity will not move in this direction unless funding is secured either through known donations or agreed loans. The Charity's building fund will be used in the first instance to handle any immediate costs involved in the search and acquisition process and is intended to cover any upfront professional fees that may be required.

The Charity's reserves are split into nominal funds. These are the general, development, building, Rabbinical employment and B'nei Mitzvah funds. The Charity's policy towards these funds is as follows:

- General Fund will attract donations that have not been given in support of any specific cause and are used for any exceptional expenditure that may arise throughout the year that lies outside of the operating budget
- Communal Development Fund (which now includes the NOAM fund) This fund was originally set up to assist with the growth of the Community. Due to the maturity of the Community, this has now been amalgamated with the General Fund
- Communal Building Fund Is a ring-fenced fund with respect to finding and funding the purchase of a permanent building. Income from the Buy-a-Brick campaign and specifically directed donations are added to this fund.
- Rabbinical Employment Fund: This fund is ring-fenced and its purpose is to provide on-going financial support to the employment of a Rabbi and other employees (other than Cheder Teachers who are funded within the operating budget). In addition, the income received as a result of the Government's Gift Aid scheme is directed into this fund.
- B'nei Mitzvah Fund: Receives earmarked donations to support this programme

TRUSTEE

Paul Hoffbrand

TRUSTEE

Laurence Harris

Date 5 October 2009

Date 5 October 2009

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The charity's trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and its financial activities for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- a) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- b) make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- c) state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- d) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with Companies Act 1985. 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

**Independent examiner's report on the accounts of St Albans Masorti Synagogue
for the year ended 31 March 2009**

Report to the Trustees of St Albans Masorti Synagogue

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2009 set out on Pages 7 to 15

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company 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 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income exceeded £100,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales

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 43 of the 1993 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 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 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 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 221 of the Companies Act 1985; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 226(A) of the Companies Act 1985 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

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



MICHAEL L MARKS FCA
The KBSP Partnership
Chartered Accountants
Harben House, Harben Parade, London NW3 6LH
Date 6 October 2009

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31st March 2009**

	Notes	2009 £	2008 £
INCOME RESOURCES			
Membership fees	1	44,152	49,898
Appeal for Rabbinical Employment fund	1	300	1,500
Gift Aid Refund	1	18,823	17,237
Fund Raising and other Sources of income	1,3	45,775	40,934
Interest Receivable		2,780	3,056
Online filing fee			250
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Incoming Resources		111,830	112,875
		<hr/>	<hr/>
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Charitable expenditure	2	66,774	71,884
Support costs	2	12,963	14,222
Management & Administration costs	2	4,870	2,765
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total resources expended		84,607	88,871
		<hr/>	<hr/>
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	1	27,223	24,004
Fund balances at 1 April 2008		138,453	114,449
		<hr/>	<hr/>
FUND BALANCES at 31 March 2009		165,676	138,453
		<hr/>	<hr/>

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2009

	Notes	2009 £	2008 £
FIXED ASSETS	6	774	1,032
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank -Communal Development	47,723	17,662	
Cash at Bank – Main Accounts	115,588	116,666	
Payments in advance	1,879	1,706	
Fees Receivable	2,674	3,697	
Other Debtors	5,695	5,900	
		<u>173,359</u>	<u>145,631</u>
		174,333	146,663
CREDITORS: DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR			
Deferred Income	3,782	1,411	
Sundry creditors	7 4,875	6,799	
		<u>(8,657)</u>	<u>(8,210)</u>
		165,676	138,453
NET ASSETS			
Represented by.			
SYNAGOGUE RESERVES			
General Reserves	8	80,805	56,687
Communal Development Fund	8	-	15,868
Rabbinical Employment Fund	8	31,721	28,080
Communal Building Fund	8	51,948	36,183
Bar/Bat Mitzvah fund	8	1,202	1,635
		<u>165,676</u>	<u>138,453</u>

The trustees confirm that, in accordance with Section 249B(4) of the Companies Act 1985 for the financial year ended 31 March 2009 the charity was entitled to exemption under Section 249A(1) of the Act from the requirement to have an audit.

The trustees have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2009 in accordance with Section 249B(2) of the Companies Act 1985.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- a) ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records which comply with Section 221 of the Companies Act 1985 and
- b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the year and of its surplus or deficit for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 226 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 1985 to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charity

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007).

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

Approved:



Paul Hoffbrand - TREASURER



Laurence Harris - CO-CHAIR

Date:

5 October 2009

5 October 2009

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st March 2009**

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2007), the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2005) and the Companies Act 1985.

a Membership fees and similar income

Membership fees receivable are accounted for on an accruals basis

b Donations

Donations received for the general purposes of the Charity are included as unrestricted funds when received

c Fund Raising and other sources of income

Incoming resources from fund raising activities are included as they become receivable.

d Gift Aid

Tax recovered in respect of fees paid under Gift Aid is accounted for on a receipts basis.

e Appeal for Rabbinical Employment

This represents donations received aiding the employment of the Synagogue's Rabbi.

f Resources expended

Resources expended are accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure is apportioned to cost categories as applicable. Support costs are made up of expenditure for the running and maintaining of the community activities.

g Funds

The Charity maintains ring-fenced funds with respect to the purchase of a building and with the rabbinical employment fund, all other funds are not restricted Any net movement in resources in the accounting period is transferred to various funds as appropriate.

h Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life

Office equipment - 25% reducing balance

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st March 2009**

2	RESOURCES EXPENDED	Notes	2009	2008
			£	£
	(A) CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE			
	Rabbinical Costs	4	23,504	30,716
	Cheder	5	11,691	16,280
	Burial Society		5,583	5,056
	Subscription to AMS		8,931	8,712
	Board of Deputies		2,638	2,238
	Subscription CJE		706	660
	NOAM		6,631	-
	Kol Nidre Appeal		2,020	-
	Other Charitable Expenditure		5,070	8,222
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			66,774	71,884
			<hr/>	<hr/>
	(B) SUPPORT COSTS		2009	2008
			£	£
	Hire of Premises		6,386	6,178
	Insurance		2,813	2,585
	Other Costs		3,764	5,459
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			12,963	14,222
			<hr/>	<hr/>
	(C) Management & Administration Costs		2009	2008
			£	£
	Accountancy fees		1,495	1,469
	Professional fees		2,941	-
	Depreciation of Office Equipments		258	344
	Other Costs		176	952
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			4,870	2,765
			<hr/>	<hr/>
3	FUNDS RAISING AND OTHER SOURCES OF INCOME		2009	2008
			£	£
	General donations		43,755	39,149
	Kol Nidre		2,020	1,785
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			45,775	40,934
			<hr/>	<hr/>

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st March 2009**

4 STAFF COSTS

RABBINICAL COSTS	2009	2008
	£	£
Salary	-	19,294
Pension Costs	-	1,628
Employer's National Insurance	-	1,982
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	22,904
Rabbinical Expenses	-	3,926
Other Salaries & costs	23,504	3,886
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	23,504	30,716
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cheder Teachers' salaries	7,556	12,537
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	No	No.
Average number of employees (full and part time)	9	9
	<hr/>	<hr/>

No employees during this or the last accounting period earned in excess of £60,000

5 CHEDER

	2009	2008
	£	£
Rent	2,100	2,500
Teachers	7,556	12,537
Other costs	2,035	1,243
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Expenditure	11,691	16,280
	<hr/>	<hr/>

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31st March 2009**

6 FIXED ASSETS

	Office Equipment	
Cost:	£	
At 1 April 2008 & 31 March 2009	1,611	
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	
Depreciation:		
At 1 April 2008	579	
Charge for this year	258	
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	
	837	
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	
Net book value:		
At 31 March 2009	774	
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	
At 31 March 2008	1,032	
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	

7 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2009	2008
	£	£
Social Security and other taxes	334	121
Other creditors	2,421	812
Accruals	2,120	5,866
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>
	4,875	6,799
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2009**

8 MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	£	2009 £	£	2008 £
General Reserves				
Balance brought forward from previous years	56,687		46,632	
Surplus for the year	4,817		10,055	
Amalgamation with Communal Development Fund	19,301		-	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
Balance carried forward		80,805		56,687
Communal Development Fund				
Balance brought forward from previous years	15,868		14,826	
Surplus for the year	3,433		1,042	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
Balance transferred to General Reserves	19,301			
	<hr/>			
Balance carried forward	-			15,868
Rabbinical Employment Fund				
Balance brought forward from previous year	28,080		36,122	
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	3,641		(8,042)	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
Balance carried forward		31,721		28,080
Communal Building Fund				
Balance Brought forward from previous year	36,183		14,834	
Surplus for the year	15,765		21,349	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
Balance carried forward		51,948		36,183
Bar/Bat Mitzvah Fund				
Balance brought forward from previous year	1,635		2,035	
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	(433)		(400)	
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
Balance carried forward		1,202		1,635
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		165,676		138,453
		<hr/>		<hr/>

9 TAXATION

The Charitable company is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

10 TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

There was £nil (2008 = £nil) remuneration paid to the Trustees in the year

Trustees may also make a claim for relevant expenses, these are done through the normal channels, which includes the completion of an expenses claim form.

11 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

All Trustees are also members of the synagogue and pay fees and received benefits in line with all other Members

12 SHARE CAPITAL

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital