Charity Registration No. 1144866

Company Registration No. 07831243 (England and Wales)

THE BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

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THE BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Honorary Officers

Jackie Alexander (Chair)

Annette Nathan (Hon. Secretary)

J. Strauss (Hon. Treasurer)

R. Nothman (Asst Hon.Secretary)

A. Hurst (Asst Hon.Treasurer)

Trustees

Status unchanged	Re-elected	Appointed	Resigned
J Abramson	A Davis (Exec)		A Stadlen (02/11/20)
Jackie Alexander (Exec)	P Hirschovits		
John Alexander	F Joseph (Exec)		
J Brookes	F Lehmann		
P Burger	Adam Nathan		
C Cohen	R Nothman (Exec)		
D Cohen	S Percival		
K Conway	D Pollins		
S Cutner	C Walford		
S Goldstein			
J Hacker			
M Horowitz			
A Hurst (Exec)			
Annette Nathan (Exec)			
M Nathan			
R Pollins			
J Strauss (Exec)			
D Tausz			
J Trenner (Exec)			
N Viner (Exec)			

Charity number	**1144866**
Company number	**07831243**
Principal address & registered office	**51 Belsize Square London NW3 4HX**

THE BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Auditor

HW Fisher LLP
Acre House
11-15 William Road
London
NW1 3ER

Banker

Scottish Widows Bank Plc
67 Morrison Street
Edinburgh
EH3 8YJ

CAF Bank Limited
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Shawbrook Bank
Lutea House
Warley Hill Business Park
The Drive, Warley Hill
Brentwood, Essex
CM13 3BE

Investment Management Platform

Flagstone Investment Management
1st Floor
Clareville House
26-27 Oxendon Street
London
SW1Y 4EL

THE BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 4
Statement of Trustees' responsibilities	5
Independent auditor's report	6 - 8
Statement of financial activities	9 - 10
Balance sheet	11
Statement of cash flows	12
Notes to the financial statements	13 - 26

THE BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020, which also contains the directors' report as required by company law.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the Charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and 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 (FRS102)(effective 1 January 2019).

Public Benefit
The Trustees have complied with their duty under the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission. The benefit to the public is manifestly demonstrated by the activities and achievements contained in this report.

Objectives and activities
The Synagogue's objectives are to advance the Jewish religion in accordance with the teachings and practices of progressive Judaism. To further these objectives the Charity is to maintain the synagogue for public worship, conduct regular Services, provide the services of a Rabbi and a Cantor, and provide religious education of Jewish children, youth and adults. The Synagogue is authorised to provide facilities for marriages, burial and assistance for the aged, the sick and the needy.

Achievements and performance
2020 was an extremely challenging year for everyone and the synagogue was no exception. In March, the Government announced a national lockdown to help combat the Covid-19 pandemic. This meant the synagogue had to close its doors to congregants for all Services and moved all activities online. The Community adapted to the changes well and we have continued to support our members throughout the pandemic. During the lockdown periods the synagogue Chair wrote a weekly email to the Community keeping them up to date with synagogue news and online activities form other organisations.

After ten successful years, Rabbi Dr Stuart Altshuler entered his final year as spiritual leader of the Synagogue. At the start of July 2021 he began a 12-month sabbatical before officially leaving Belsize Square in June 2022. The synagogue is extremely grateful to Rabbi Altshuler for his contribution to the community. Services and kiddushim were held in his honour which were well attended. Rabbi Altshuler's successful conversion and adult education programmes continued online while the synagogue was closed. Many of the conversion students who completed the course have become members of the community.

Cantor Dr Paul Heller completed his seventh year of service. His participation not only enhances Services but also continues the musical tradition for which the Synagogue is well known. Cantor Heller ran successful online education courses during the year and actively supported our welfare officer. Cantor Heller also officiated at the majority of our funerals.

Rabbi Rodney Mariner continued in his Emeritus Rabbi role and assists when needed, supporting the community when Rabbi Altshuler was away or unavailable and officiating at funerals when requested.

Rabbi Gabriel Botnick has been appointed as Belsize Square's fifth Rabbi and began his tenure in April 2021.

We are as always immensely grateful for the contribution of our ministers in the day to day life of the Synagogue.

During the course of the year, the Synagogue continued to offer religious, educational and welfare activities. Religious Services were maintained each Shabbat, with Services held on Friday evenings and Saturday mornings throughout the year. During the initial lockdown in March 2020, Cantor Heller led Friday night Services on his own from our sanctuary which were streamed into the homes of our members via BelsizeLIVE and his technical expertise allowed us to use a combination of recorded and live Services on Saturday mornings. Rabbi Altshuler joined him later in the year, shortly before we were allowed to welcome back congregants after the first lockdown. Our numbers were severely limited and a booking system was created to maximise our space. All Government guidelines were strictly adhered to, including using choir recordings when it was not possible to have our choir singing in the Sanctuary.

Services continued to be held on the on the first two and last days and evenings of all the major Jewish festivals, including both days of Rosh Hashanah and throughout Yom Kippur. Due to the limit in numbers permitted to attend as a result of the pandemic, members were invited to book into the High Holyday Service of their choice. Every member who requested to attend was accommodated for at least one of these special Services. Our High Holyday Youth Services were held entirely online to allow maximum participation and attendance.

Services are led by one or both of the ministers, with involvement from members of the Community on a regular basis. The music of our Services continues to be enhanced by our Synagogue, Community and Youth choirs accompanied by an organ. We are delighted to be able to webcast our Services via BelsizeLIVE for the benefit of both members and non-members both in the U.K. and overseas.

There is no charge for this facility but a number of non-members chose to send us donations to help cover our costs. BelsizeLIVE proved to be an invaluable asset during the pandemic with both members and non-members making full use of the facility. For those members who could not attend the High Holyday Services they were broadcast on BelsizeLIVE, allowing many non-members from around the world to watch.

Our commitment to education, for all ages, remains as strong as ever with numerous events open to members and the wider community. Our Cheder, led by our Head, Caroline Loison, provides popular weekly educational activities for children between the ages of 5 and 15. Our Cheder adapted to the pandemic by providing weekly online lessons, complimented by 1-2-1 Hebrew lessons for those who wanted. Unfortunately, Caroline was unable to run as many youth activities as she would have liked but ran a couple of well attended online events. Our Youth Choir leader provided individual on-line singing lessons to Cheder and Youth Choir members during this period.

Our weekly Adult Discussion Group continues to be popular, attracting new members and producing a lively debate amongst attendees. Sessions took place online using Zoom when the synagogue had to close and attracted many people who would not usually attend. The annual Holocaust Memorial Day programme, which is held in February each year, again attracted over 1,000 students from local schools over a two-week period, just prior to the pandemic and in 2021 was held online. We are extremely grateful to all the volunteers for making this an outstanding learning experience for which we receive exceptional feedback every year.

Welfare activities are led mainly by our Community Care Co-ordinator who provides support for the aged and needy in our community. Many are members of the Association of Jewish Refugees and we remain extremely grateful to the AJR for their continued and generous funding of this role. We have an established committee of volunteers to support this work through providing lunches and maintaining contact with older members. When the pandemic started, the response to our call for volunteers was emphatic. Many members helped in ensuring our elderly and vulnerable members received regular contact and updates from the community. Many of these members received support with shopping, collecting medication and appropriate gifts for some Festivals. The Synagogue participates in the annual Mitzvah Day programme each November when over 100 of our members and children join in a variety of good deeds both within our own community and also locally. Other activities include quarterly clothing collections for refugees and collections of food and other essentials for various local charities. Usually our youth choir visits a local care home but with it not being possible this year a virtual concert was recorded for the residents which was also made available to other care homes.

Our musical year included two virtual concerts for our members to enjoy. The London Young Sinfonia performed an orchestral concert that was streamed and watched by over 250 households. And Pizmon, a cappella group from Barnard College, performed live from the USA on Zoom into the homes of our members.

Fundraising activities

The Synagogue requires regular fundraising activities, in addition to annual membership subscriptions, to support its infrastructure and continue to provide a wide range of events and services.

Unfortunately, major fundraising events including our annual Chanukah Market had to be cancelled.

The Belsize 100 initiative, asking members to add a £100 donation to their annual subscription, continues to be successful, again raising over £35,000.

All our fundraising events are open to members and a request for additional donations is also issued once a year with the membership fee letter. There is a legacy scheme which is publicised by leaflets that are available for members to take at the Synagogue entrance. No phone calls are made to pressurise members into attending events or donating. However, we do make calls to encourage members to pay their subscriptions once they are more than 6 months overdue.

Financial review

Total income for the year was £979,165 (2019: £1,198,829). Subscriptions (including gift aid reclaimed) were lower at £417,878 (2019: £455,207) as the synagogue received fewer enquires from potential new members during the pandemic. The Membership Committee continues to review several initiatives to increase the Synagogue's membership base.

We continue to enjoy a successful and mutually beneficial relationship with our tenants, Keren's Nursery. Keren's Nursery had to close for a short period during the first lockdown. The synagogue agreed to share the pain with the nursery and negotiated a reduced rent for that period. We rent out the scout hut, which occupies part of the Synagogue's land, to the Hampstead 22nd Sea Scouts who sublet the hut to another nursery, Oliver's, during the week. Oliver's nursery had to close for a significant period of time

during the year leaving the Scouts unable to pay their rent. Again, the synagogue agreed to share the difficulties with the Scouts and negotiated a reduced rent for the remainder of the year.

Expenses for the year of £991,091, excluding depreciation of £115,131 (2019: £110,317), were lower than the 2019 figure of £1,203,527. The largest portion of running costs comprises wages and salaries, including those of our two full time ministers, the cost of running our office and facilities as well as our educational, musical and welfare activities. The Synagogue utilised the government's furlough scheme for members of staff who were unable to perform their duties. The impact of the pandemic resulted in lower running costs of ongoing activities as well as minimal costs for events. Our legal expenses were also significantly lower in 2020.

The overall outcome of gross income of £979,165 less total expenditure of £1,106,222 meant that the net assets of the Charity at the end of 2020 of £3,550,799 were £127,057 lower than at the previous year end (£3,677,856).

The net assets principally comprise land and buildings of £2,429,418, which includes capitalisation of all development expenditure on the synagogue building. The Charity held £1,254,632 in cash and deposits at 31 December 2020 compared to £1,265,190 at the end of 2019.

In addition to the fixed asset fund, representing the land and buildings, the Charity held £1,001,697 in unrestricted funds at 31 December 2020. This is in keeping with the Reserves Policy (see below). The amount held in designated and unrestricted funds is kept under review by the Trustees and the Synagogue's Finance Committee as part of financial planning for the future. A further £119,684 remains held as restricted funds.

Structure, governance and management

Belsize Square Synagogue was founded in 1939 and established as a charity by its constitution, which was first adopted in 1971. In 2011 a new charity, The Belsize Square Synagogue (the 'Charity'), was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee and in 2012 assumed the assets, liabilities and activities of the previous, unincorporated, body. The Charity's governing documents comprise the Memorandum and Articles of Association, which are largely similar to the constitution of the previous body.

The Synagogue is organised under the management and control of the governing body, ("the Board"), whose members, together with the elected Chair, comprise the charity Trustees. The Board consists of up to 33 elected members, and appoints, from among its members, the Honorary Officers of the Synagogue who include the Hon. Treasurer and the Hon. Secretary, in addition to the Chair. The Board also appoints the Executive, which consists of the Chair and eight members of the Board, including the Honorary Officers.

The Board Members, Chair, Honorary Officers and members of the Executive who served during the year and up to the date of approval of the financial statements are set out on the front page of this report and financial statements. All appointments, re-elections and resignations took place at the Annual General Meetings on 2 November 2020 and 7 June 2021 unless otherwise stated.

The Board constitutes various committees, whose membership is made up of members of the Community. These committees take responsibility for organising and managing various activities within the community and report to members of the Executive and/or the Chair. Periodic reports are also made to the Board and to the Annual General Meeting of the Synagogue's members. The Chairs and membership of each committee are approved by the Board on an annual basis. The Executive are appointed by Board resolution as the Remuneration Committee. The Trustees as well as the Synagogue's Finance & Audit Committee have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to manage exposure to the major risks such as predictability of income.

A legally qualified and long-standing Board member has responsibility for ensuring that from time to time there is a presentation to the Board about Charity Trustee and Director obligations and liabilities. This forms part of new Board member induction.

Reserves Policy

The Synagogue holds two main categories of funds.

Restricted funds are held where monies are given for specific purposes by donors.

Unrestricted funds comprise all remaining funds and are segregated into two additional categories:

(i) Designated Funds, which represent the net book value of the Synagogue's fixed assets as well as, periodically, amounts that the Board wishes to set aside for specific substantial future projects; and

(ii) Other Charitable Funds, which broadly comprise the unrestricted cash balances available to manage the Synagogue's day to day activities.

A formal Reserves Policy exists, which sets out the Synagogue's policy that Other Charitable Funds should be maintained at a level sufficient to finance annual working capital requirements and to enable the Synagogue to meet all of its charitable objectives, which is £914,000 when quantified. This policy is reviewed by the Board and the Finance Committee on an annual basis. An amount of £25,334 has been transferred from Other Charitable Funds to Designated Funds at 31 December 2020 representing fixed asset additions during the year.

Key risks and uncertainties disclosures
The Synagogue has developed a Risk Register which is reviewed annually by the Board and the Finance & Audit Committee. There are currently 49 identified risks in the categories of: Financial; External premises and Security; Governance; Religion; Subletting part of the building to third parties; Cheder; Trips; Welfare; Youth. New risks are added when appropriate. None of the current risks are categorised as red and consequently there are no principle risks to the Synagogue.

At the time of writing of this report, the Synagogue has not fully reopened as we continue to follow guidelines released by the government during the Coronavirus pandemic. The Synagogue continues to function and is maintaining as many activities as possible both in person and online, including Livestreaming services, board and committee meetings taking place virtually, cheder, adult education and other activities also continuing online. A network of volunteers continues to keep in touch with vulnerable members of the community.

From a financial perspective, income has decreased as a result of the pandemic, both from membership subscriptions as well as lower donations due to fewer events and activities taking place. The Synagogue remains sensitive to any cases of financial hardship. There is also a risk that our rental income decreases if our tenants, Keren's Nursery and Hampstead 22nd Sea Scouts are forced to close again. The Synagogue is managing the cost base as efficiently as possible during this period. The trustees are comfortable that with the actions being taken the Synagogue will be able to continue to operate for the foreseeable future.

Plans for the future
In 2021, Rabbi Gabriel Botnick succeeded Rabbi Dr Stuart Altshuler when Rabbi Altshuler commenced his planned sabbatical in July 2021. Rabbi Botnick began work at the synagogue in April 2021 starting with a short induction period.

As well as striving to increase our membership, we regularly look at ways to better utilise our assets. We continue to pursue options regarding rental of the hall but also are considering refurbishing it.

Day-to-day we continue to rely on the huge and unstinting generosity of members, in remembering the community in their legacies and in donating so substantially to our future both in terms of monetary gifts and time dedicated on behalf of the Community. We remain extremely grateful.

Disclosure of information to auditor
Each of the Trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor are aware of such information.

On behalf of the Board

Jackie Alexander
Chair

28 Sep 2021

THE BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

The Trustees, who are also the Directors of The Belsize Square Synagogue for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;

- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- 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 charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that 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 Companies Act 2006. 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 BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Belsize Square Synagogue (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2020 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2020 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the Trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the Trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the Trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the Trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

As part of our planning process;

- We enquired of management the systems and controls the charity has in place, the areas of the financial statements that are most susceptible to the risk of irregularities and fraud, and whether there was any known, suspected or alleged fraud. The charity did not inform us of any known, suspected or alleged fraud.
- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the company. We determined that the following were most relevant: the Charities SORP, FRS 102, The Charities Act 2011, The Companies Act 2006 and GDPR.
- We considered the incentives and opportunities that exist in the charity, including the extent of management bias, which present a potential for irregularities and fraud to be perpetuated, and tailored our risk assessment accordingly.
- Using our knowledge of the charity, together with the discussions held with the charity at the planning stage, we formed a conclusion on the risk of misstatement due to irregularities including fraud and tailored our procedures according to this risk assessment.

The key procedures we undertook to detect irregularities including fraud during the course of the audit included:

- Identifying and testing journal entries and the overall accounting records, in particular those that were significant and unusual.
- Reviewing the financial statement disclosures and determining whether accounting policies have been appropriately applied.
- Reviewing and challenging the assumptions and judgements used by management in their significant accounting estimates.
- Assessing the extent of compliance, or lack of, with the relevant laws and regulations.
- Testing key income lines, in particular cut-off, for evidence of management bias.
- Assessing the validity of the classification of income, expenditure, assets and liabilities between unrestricted, designated and restricted funds.
- Obtaining third-party confirmation of material bank balances.
- Documenting and verifying all significant related party balances and transactions.
- Reviewing documentation such as the charity board minutes for discussions of irregularities including fraud.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. The primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of irregularities and fraud rests with the those charged with governance of the entity.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Andrew Rich (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of HW Fisher LLP

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Acre House
11-15 William Road
London
NW1 3ER
United Kingdom

28/9/21

THE BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Current financial year

	Notes	Unrestricted funds general 2020 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies	3	655,813	-	81,133	736,946	896,691
Charitable activities	4	7,133	-	-	7,133	38,861
Other trading activities	5	178,181	-	-	178,181	258,259
Investments	6	8,635	-	231	8,866	5,018
Other income	7	48,039	-	-	48,039	-
Total income		897,801	-	81,364	979,165	1,198,829
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	8	186,750	11,502	184	198,436	255,379
Charitable activities	9	727,148	103,629	77,009	907,786	1,058,465
Total resources expended		913,898	115,131	77,193	1,106,222	1,313,844
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(16,097)	(115,131)	4,171	(127,057)	(115,015)
Gross transfers between funds		(18,812)	25,334	(6,522)	-	-
Net expenditure for the year/ Net movement in funds		(34,909)	(89,797)	(2,351)	(127,057)	(115,015)
Fund balances at 1 January 2020		1,036,606	2,519,215	122,035	3,677,856	3,792,871
Fund balances at 31 December 2020		1,001,697	2,429,418	119,684	3,550,799	3,677,856

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

THE BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Prior financial year

	Notes	Unrestricted funds general 2019 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2019 £	Restricted funds 2019 £	Total 2019 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	756,828	-	139,863	896,691
Charitable activities	4	38,861	-	-	38,861
Other trading activities	5	258,259	-	-	258,259
Investments	6	4,780	-	238	5,018
Total income		1,058,728	-	140,101	1,198,829
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	8	235,176	11,020	9,183	255,379
Charitable activities	9	862,577	99,297	96,591	1,058,465
Total resources expended		1,097,753	110,317	105,774	1,313,844
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers		(39,025)	(110,317)	34,327	(115,015)
Gross transfers between funds		(30,717)	30,717	-	-
Net expenditure for the year/ Net movement in funds		(69,742)	(79,600)	34,327	(115,015)
Fund balances at 1 January 2019		1,106,348	2,598,815	87,708	3,792,871
Fund balances at 31 December 2019		1,036,606	2,519,215	122,035	3,677,856

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

THE BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2020 £	2019 £	2019 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	**14**		2,429,418		2,519,215
Current assets					
Debtors	**15**	77,285		61,865	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,254,632		1,265,190	
		1,331,917		1,327,055	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	**16**	(210,536)		(168,414)	
Net current assets			1,121,381		1,158,641
Total assets less current liabilities			3,550,799		3,677,856
Income funds					
Restricted funds	**18**		119,684		122,035
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	**19**	2,429,418		2,519,215	
General unrestricted funds		1,001,697		1,036,606	
			3,431,115		3,555,821
			3,550,799		3,677,856

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 23 Sep 2021

J Strauss

J Strauss
Trustee

Company Registration No. 07831243

THE BELSIZE SQUARE SYNAGOGUE

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	2020 £	£	2019 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	21		5,910		(1,418)
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(25,334)		(30,717)	
Investment income received		8,866		5,018	
Net cash used in investing activities			(16,468)		(25,699)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents			(10,558)		(27,117)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			1,265,190		1,292,307
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			1,254,632		1,265,190

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Belsize Square Synagogue is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 51 Belsize Square, London, NW3 4HX.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "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 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

The Trustees have considered the effects of Covid-19 during 2020 and the continuing effects into 2021. Covid-19 has impacted the Synagogue's regular activities, which meant the synagogue had to close its doors to congregants for all services and move all activities online in March 2020. The Synagogue did welcome back congregants after the first lockdown – although numbers were severely limited to comply with government regulations.

The Synagogue's income fell in 2020 due to the impact of the pandemic, particularly in key areas like membership subscriptions and voluntary donations. The Synagogue was unable to hold any of the fundraising events it has planned post March 2020. This fall in income was partially offset by a reduction in expenditure whilst the building was closed. The Synagogue also utilised the government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme for staff who were unable to undertake their roles during lockdown.

With the impact of the pandemic expected to continue in 2021, the charity has budgeted prudently and assumed that many areas of income would not return to pre-pandemic levels. Subject to further government restrictions, the Synagogue is planning to return to a regular calendar of events and services.

Given the level of reserves the Synagogue has and the financial projections that have been prepared, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue for the foreseeable future, and thus the financial statements continue to be prepared on the going concern basis.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid is recognised at the time of the donation.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected.

Investment income is included when receivable.

1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs of attracting voluntary income, collecting subscriptions and the costs of fundraising.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of the delivery of activities and services for beneficiaries.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets other than freehold land are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Freehold buildings	Over 20 years straight line on completion
Fixtures and fittings	25% and 33 1/3% straight line
Religious items	10% reducing balance
Cemetery	Not depreciated

Cemetery land is not depreciated because any potential depreciation charge is deemed to be immaterial at this stage. The Trustees continue to review and intend to depreciate the land when a material proportion of the burial land has been used.

The painting is included in the financial statements at an insurance valuation and is not depreciated as the residual value is not expected to be less than current value.

Freehold buildings are included in the financial statements at cost less depreciation. The Trustees are satisfied that at the present time the market value of the property exceeds the value at which it is recognised in the financial statements and therefore no impairment provision is required.

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks.

1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1 Accounting policies **(Continued)**

1.10 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

1.12 *Government grant*

Government grants are recognised at the fair value of the amount received or receivable when there is reasonable assurance that the grant conditions will be met and the grants will be received. Government grants for the charity relates to the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme. As this scheme involves a transfer of resources from government to the charity, it meets the definition of a government grant. The scheme is designed to compensate for staff costs, so amounts received or receivable are recognised in the income statement as part of other operating income over the same period as the costs to which they relate. *Government grants are accounted for under the accrual model.*

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources.

The Trustees are required to make judgements in respect of depreciation rates and non-depreciation of the charity's assets. Further information can be found on this in accounting policy 1.6.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2020	**Restricted funds 2020**	**Total 2020**	Unrestricted funds general 2019	Restricted funds 2019	Total 2019
	£	**£**	**£**	£	£	£
Donations and gifts	214,932	72,133	287,065	286,621	139,863	426,484
Legacies receivable	23,003	9,000	32,003	15,000	-	15,000
Membership fees	417,878	-	417,878	455,207	-	455,207
	655,813	81,133	736,946	756,828	139,863	896,691

4 Charitable activities

	2020	2019
	£	£
Education & Welfare	4,523	26,749
Religion	2,610	12,112
	7,133	38,861

5 Other trading activities

	2020	2019
	£	£
Income from fundraising events	-	112,406
Hall hire and rental income	73,718	84,197
Security services	50,713	59,621
Other income	53,750	2,035
Other trading activities	178,181	258,259

6 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2020	Restricted funds 2020	Total 2020	Unrestricted funds general 2019	Restricted funds 2019	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Interest receivable	8,635	231	8,866	4,780	238	5,018

7 Other income

	Unrestricted funds general 2020	Total 2019
	£	£
Other income	48,039	-

During the year, £48,039 (2019: £nil) was received under the government's Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme.

8 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds general 2020	Unrestricted funds designated 2020	Restricted funds 2020	Total 2020	Unrestricted funds general 2019	Unrestricted funds designated 2019	Restricted funds 2019	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fundraising and publicity								
Other costs	-	-	184	184	1,803	-	9,183	10,986
Other fundraising costs	10,920	-	-	10,920	37,941	-	-	37,941
Staff costs	25,121	-	-	25,121	25,418	-	-	25,418
Support costs	147,622	11,502	-	159,124	167,069	11,020	-	178,089
Governance costs	3,087	-	-	3,087	2,945	-	-	2,945
	186,750	11,502	184	198,436	235,176	11,020	9,183	255,379

9 Charitable activities

	2020	2019
	£	£
Staff costs	324,190	352,160
Welfare	35,000	31,200
Burial/funerals	64,442	68,222
Religion and festivals	106,426	141,269
Other costs	4,703	37,127
	534,761	629,978
Grant funding of activities (see note 10)	36,963	75,643
Share of support costs (see note 11)	329,794	346,864
Share of governance costs (see note 11)	6,268	5,980
	907,786	1,058,465
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	727,148	862,577
Unrestricted funds - designated	103,629	99,297
Restricted funds	77,009	96,591
	907,786	1,058,465

10 Grants payable

	2020	2019
	£	£
Grants to institutions:		
Israel Sport Centre	2,213	5,750
Jaffa Institute	11,200	17,779
Yemin Orde Childrens Centre	11,200	17,514
ASSAF aid Organisation	12,200	20,200
Rays of Sunshine	-	14,400
Other	150	-
	36,963	75,643

11 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2020	Support costs	Governance costs	2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	206,470	-	206,470	198,244	-	198,244
Depreciation	115,131	-	115,131	110,317	-	110,317
Security	63,063	-	63,063	76,152	-	76,152
Legal and professional fees	21,036	-	21,036	50,395	-	50,395
Other support costs	83,218	-	83,218	89,845	-	89,845
Audit fees	-	9,355	9,355	-	8,925	8,925
	488,918	9,355	498,273	524,953	8,925	533,878
Analysed between						
Fundraising	159,124	3,087	162,211	178,089	2,945	181,034
Charitable activities	329,794	6,268	336,062	346,864	5,980	352,844
	488,918	9,355	498,273	524,953	8,925	533,878

12 Trustees and related party transactions

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year. Two Trustees were reimbursed for various expenses incurred in their capacity as Trustees totalling £561 (2019: one trustee was reimbursed £218).

During the year payments of £200 (2019: £13,991) were made in total to one Trustee (2019: four Trustees) and nil (2019: two) relatives, which have been recognised as related party transactions. These payments were for the provision of services integral to the day to day activities of the Synagogue and not in their capacity as Trustees. The governing document permits such payment in pursuit of the charitable objectives. All decisions relating to the operation of the charity rest with the Trustees and therefore key management personnel comprises only the Trustees.

Earnings in the year to Trustees and relatives of Trustees for their roles as teachers/teaching assistants in the Synagogue cheder were as follows:

F Joseph (Trustee)	£382 (2019: £219)
J Hacker (Trustee)	£96 (2019: £1,243)
S Masters (relative)	£191 (2019: £293)
B Nathan (relative)	£1,595 (2019: £1,552)
B Hurst (relative)	£578 (2019: £nil)

In the previous year, two Trustees provided catering services at Synagogue events, for which they received payment. Adam Nathan was paid £10,284 and Claire Walford was paid £400. No payments were made in the current financial year.

Donations received from trustees and other related parties in the year totalled £47,528 (2019: £69,216).

13 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2020 Number	2019 Number
	13	13

Employment costs	2020 £	2019 £
Wages and salaries	492,711	515,272
Social security costs	37,862	36,517
Other pension costs	25,208	24,033
	555,781	575,822

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more were:

	2020 Number	2019 Number
£60,000 - £69,999	1	1
£90,000 - £99,999	1	1
£130,000 - £139,999	1	1

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold buildings	Fixtures and fittings	Religious items/ Sifrei Torah	Painting	Cemetery	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost						
At 1 January 2020	2,469,341	104,628	2,558	25,000	891,983	3,493,510
Additions	11,279	14,055	-	-	-	25,334
At 31 December 2020	2,480,620	118,683	2,558	25,000	891,983	3,518,844
Depreciation and impairment						
At 1 January 2020	900,215	72,623	1,457	-	-	974,295
Depreciation charged in the year	101,208	13,813	110	-	-	115,131
At 31 December 2020	1,001,423	86,436	1,567	-	-	1,089,426
Carrying amount						
At 31 December 2020	1,479,197	32,247	991	25,000	891,983	2,429,418
At 31 December 2019	1,569,126	32,005	1,101	25,000	891,983	2,519,215

15 Debtors

	2020	2019
Amounts falling due within one year:	**£**	**£**
Other debtors	37,818	39,213
Prepayments and accrued income	39,467	22,652
	77,285	61,865

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020	2019
	£	**£**
Other taxation and social security	13,191	11,919
Other creditors	12,902	10,576
Accruals and deferred income	184,443	145,919
	210,536	168,414

17 Retirement benefit schemes

Defined contribution schemes

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

The charge to income and expenditure in respect of defined contribution schemes was £25,208 (2019 - £24,033).

18 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds				Movement in funds			
	Balance at 1 January 2019	Incoming resources	Resources expended	**Balance at 1 January 2020**	**Incoming resources**	**Resources expended**	**Transfers**	**Balance at 31 December 2020**
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Israel	3,480	74,809	(70,427)	7,862	37,073	(37,147)	-	7,788
Chevra	61,518	319	-	61,837	231	-	-	62,068
Welfare	-	31,200	(31,200)	-	35,000	(35,000)	-	-
Sports Fund	-	-	-	-	9,000	-	-	9,000
Medical Fund	1,453	-	(249)	1,204	-	-	-	1,204
Max Blum Book Prize Fund	2,763	-	-	2,763	-	-	-	2,763
Disabled Fund	570	-	-	570	-	-	-	570
Webcasting Project	12,848	-	(2,270)	10,578	-	(3,568)	(3,120)	3,890
VB Fund	3,664	-	-	3,664	-	-	-	3,664
Other Restricted Donations	1,412	1,290	(1,250)	1,452	-	-	-	1,452
Holocaust Memorial Day	-	32,483	(378)	32,105	60	(1,478)	(3,402)	27,285
	87,708	140,101	(105,774)	122,035	81,364	(77,193)	(6,522)	119,684

18 Restricted funds **(Continued)**

Israel - Funds raised for support of specific projects in Israel.

Chevra Kadisha - Fund to support care for the sick and needy and for work involved in cases of death.

Welfare - Funds to support the Synagogue's welfare activities.

Sports Fund - Football Scholarship supporting players at the Maccabi Games

Medical Fund - Funds raised to assist sick members.

Max Blum - Fund established to provide books as prizes at the Cheder.

Disabled Fund - Fund established to support needs of disabled members of the community.

Webcasting project - Funds received to install a camera and provide the infrastructure for webcasting Synagogue services.

VB fund - Holding fund for Scholarships for musicians.

Other restricted donations - This represents amounts received for smaller projects.

Holocaust Memorial Day Fund – Funds raised to support the synagogue's Holocaust Memorial Day education programme to schools.

Transfers in the year have arisen as a result of expenditure on specific restricted projects being initially funded out of unrestricted funds.

19 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the Trustees for specific purposes:

	Balance at 1 January 2019	Resources expended	Transfers	**Balance at 1 January 2020**	**Resources expended**	**Transfers**	**Balance at 31 December 2020**
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Asset Funds	2,598,815	(110,317)	30,717	2,519,215	(115,131)	25,334	2,429,418
	2,598,815	(110,317)	30,717	2,519,215	(115,131)	25,334	2,429,418

Fixed asset fund - equates to the value of fixed assets at the balance sheet date. The transfer above, equalling fixed asset additions, has been made for this purpose.

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds general	**Unrestricted funds designated**	**Restricted funds**	**Total**	Unrestricted funds general	Unrestricted funds designated	Restricted funds	Total
	2020	**2020**	**2020**	**2020**	2019	2019	2019	2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 December 2020 are represented by:								
Tangible assets	-	2,429,418	-	2,429,418	-	2,519,215	-	2,519,215
Current assets/(liabilities)	1,001,697	-	119,684	1,121,381	1,036,606	-	122,035	1,158,641
	1,001,697	2,429,418	119,684	3,550,799	1,036,606	2,519,215	122,035	3,677,856

21	**Cash generated from operations**	**2020**	**2019**
		£	**£**
	Deficit for the year	(127,057)	(115,015)
	Adjustments for:		
	Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(8,866)	(5,018)
	Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	115,131	110,317
	Movements in working capital:		
	(Increase) in debtors	(15,420)	(4,176)
	Increase in creditors	42,122	12,474
	Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	5,910	(1,418)

22 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charity had no debt during the year.