

REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES

The National Churches Trust

Annual Report and Financial Statements Year ended 31 December 2016

Charity Registration No. 1119845

Company Registration No. 06265201 (England and Wales)

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WEDNESDAY



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19/07/2017
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Jinaka Ugochukwu, Executive Assistant
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Volunteers

We are grateful to our dedicated volunteers whose generosity helps support our work.

Charity Number

1119845

Company Number

06265201 (England and Wales)

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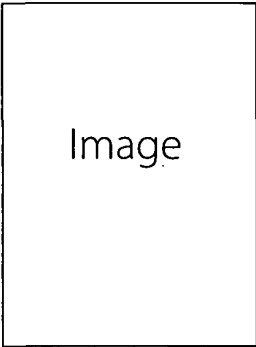
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Chairman's message



Image

In 2017, we mark the tenth anniversary of the National Churches Trust. Created to take forward the work of the Historic Churches Preservation Trust, the new Trust was established as the charity dedicated to supporting and promoting church buildings of all Christian denominations across the UK.

Funding repairs and new facilities and supporting churches to ensure their long-term survival are at the heart of our work. Our income comes from individuals and charitable bodies, not from government or church authorities. So it is entirely thanks to the help of our generous supporters that since 2007 we have been able to carry out our work. That has included providing over 1,600 grants worth over £15 million to help places of worship in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, including both listed and unlisted buildings.

Our funding makes a real difference as it means that churches remain open for public use and can be used by more people. Employment is also provided for skilled crafts people.

The last ten years have seen many positive changes in how the UK's churches are supported. There has been much closer working between those involved in looking after church buildings at the national, denominational and local level – which means that best practice and new ideas are shared more effectively.

But it is not just the experts and those directly concerned with church heritage who value church buildings. Our most recent ComRes opinion poll shows how well loved they are by the public. More than four in five Britons (83%) agree that the UK's churches, chapels and meeting houses are an important part of the UK's heritage and history.

A real challenge

Looking ahead, however, much remains to be done and there are some real challenges. Despite excellent work undertaken by many churches around the country, there is still a backlog of repairs. The burden of organising this work and raising the necessary funds falls on congregations which in many places are growing smaller, particularly in rural areas. This emphasises the importance of engaging the wider community in caring for and about their local church building.

In 2016, we welcomed the Government's formation of the English Churches and Cathedrals Sustainability Review.

Churches represent our nation's greatest collection of heritage buildings and this means that the government of the day needs to be involved in safeguarding these remarkable places for future generations.

Funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and from the Government-supported Listed Places of Worship Grants Scheme and the Roof Repair Fund have been extremely instrumental to the progress that has been made in recent years.

In April 2017, along with church heritage sector partners, we were disturbed at proposed changes to the way that the Heritage Lottery Fund awards grants to churches and other places of worship. These would mean that for the first time since 1977, no ring-fenced funding for church repairs will be available from Government or statutory heritage organisations.

It is vital that the HLF's move to make churches compete with the wider heritage sector for funding does not result in a significant loss of grants for urgent structural repairs. We will work with churches, partners and the HLF to address issues in any new arrangements that might mean that small churches and chapels, those serving rural communities and those belonging to denominations which find it hard to introduce community use for theological reasons, are not disadvantaged.

In the meantime, based on our work with thousands of churches throughout the UK, we offer our own five point plan for securing the sustainability of church buildings.

1. Let's make sure that church buildings are properly looked after. Experience shows that it is better to conserve historic fabric through regular maintenance rather than having to undertake major structural repairs because the condition of a building has been allowed to deteriorate.

That's why we have launched our 'MaintenanceBooker' website, which makes it much easier for churches to get professional help to maintain their buildings. We hope that, together with other sector schemes to encourage regular maintenance, the funding paradigm can move away from repair and replacement to maintenance and conservation.

2. Let's make even more churches centres for their community. Churches remain primarily places of worship. That is why we only support churches that are open for regular worship. But they can also often play a vital role in activities for the benefit of the wider community.

With the right facilities, such as toilets, kitchens and heating, church buildings can be used as venues for music, the arts, leisure, social action and other community activities, and can host facilities such as post offices and libraries.

This use of church buildings as 'community hubs' has the strong support of the public. 83% of British adults think that churches, chapels and meeting houses play an important role for society as they provide a space in which community activities can take place.

3. Let's put churches firmly on the visitor and the tourist map. Churches, chapels and meeting houses are treasure houses of heritage and history. The potential for churches to attract visitors and for visits to be enjoyable and worthwhile is huge.

Through ExploreChurches, the National Churches Trust is developing a high quality web-based resource for visitors and churches. As well as bringing new people through the doors, attracting visitors brings with it the potential for income through donations and gift purchases.

We are developing ExploreChurches in close co-operation with partners in the tourism, heritage and church sectors, demonstrating what can be achieved by working together with others.

4. Let's make it easier for churches to apply for funding. The UK's churches will always require funding from a variety of sources to pay for repairs and new facilities. That is partly because of the costs involved in looking after historic buildings – 45% of all England's Grade I listed buildings are cathedrals and churches.

However, it is often very difficult for the people who are charged with fundraising for churches to navigate the complex web of grant-giving trusts, foundations and heritage organisations.

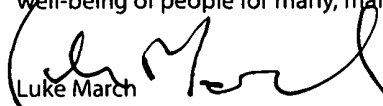
Whilst it is right that effort should be required, I hear too many stories of people who have had to write hundreds of individual fundraising applications. It would be sensible for the sector to streamline the grant application process so that, without any funder having to surrender independence, a process is created allowing churches to submit one application that can reach as many potential funders as possible.

5. Let's make sure that churches are open. More churches are now open on a regular basis than when the National Churches Trust was established in 2007. That's partly because, together with other grant funders, we require that any churches we help are accessible to the public to visit. It is surely better that church buildings are open so the public can enjoy their beauty, history and sense of prayerfulness.

However, there is still a widespread view that churches need to be kept locked to prevent theft or vandalism. But an open church can often be safer as the local community then becomes more engaged with the building. Who knows, new people may come forward to help keep the gutters clear and support the future of the building!

Over the next year, we will be developing a new long-term strategy for our work. The five points above will form part of that strategy. But I would very much like to know what you think needs to be done to ensure a future for the UK's church buildings. Please do contact me at: chairman@nationalchurchestrust.org

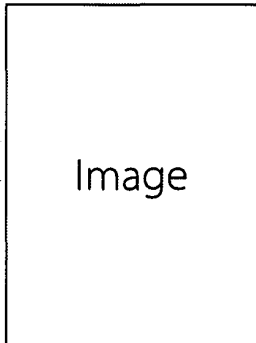
Churches, chapels and meeting houses are at the heart of communities in cities, towns and villages. They are a unique combination of architecture, history and faith. As we move into our second decade, the National Churches Trust will continue to be a leading voice in helping to ensure that church buildings play a vital role in the life and well-being of people for many, many years to come.


Luke March
Chairman

15 June 2017

Graphic

Chief Executive's message



The past year has been one of substantial and positive change for the National Churches Trust.

Our reorganised Church Support Team has worked to strengthen the advice, funding and help we provide for churches of all Christian denominations throughout the UK.

A refocused grants programme means that as well as being able to fund urgent repairs and the installation of community facilities, we can also help with grants for maintenance work and to allow churches to develop plans for high quality repair and community projects.

Local support is a key element in the future of church buildings. That's why we have continued to devote considerable time and resource to further strengthen our relationships with local churches trusts across England and with the organisations dedicated to supporting church buildings in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Working in partnership to develop lasting relationships is critical if more churches are to be supported and given access to the best local, regional and national support.

Making a difference

So much of the work of supporting the UK's ecclesiastical built heritage depends on getting to know at first hand the buildings and the people responsible for their future. So, even though we are a small team, when we are invited to join celebrations or to attend services of thanksgiving when projects are completed, our staff and trustees accept as many invitations as possible, as there is nothing better than to be able to see at first-hand the difference our grants and support make.

I have been privileged to get to know more of our donors and supporters, including some of the almost 500 people who joined the National Churches Trust as Friends or Cornerstone Club members in 2016. I know that our Friends enjoy reading our news and publications, and are keen to participate in our tours and attend our events. Going forward, we will be making sure that more of our events are held outside London so that as many people as possible can take part.

Very sadly one of our Cornerstone Club members died in March 2016. He had been a loyal champion of our work for many years and so we were touched that he remembered the Trust in his Will. Legacies are an important part of our income without which much of our work would not be possible.

My thanks go to all our supporters, whether they choose to donate to a specific appeal, pledge a gift in their Will, or become a Friend, Life Friend or Cornerstone Club member. We simply could not do our work without you.

Championing church buildings

Whether church buildings are listed or unlisted, on Historic England's At Risk Register, or need new facilities to be of value to more people, the National Churches Trust can help.

In 2017 we will continue to strengthen our partnerships, award as many grants as our funding will allow and continue to champion the cause of church buildings so that communities across the UK can use and enjoy these buildings for many years to come.

Thank you for your interest in the National Churches Trust.

Claire Walker
Chief Executive

Trustees' report

Introduction

In 2016 The National Churches Trust made substantial progress in delivering the key objectives of its current three year strategy, which covers the period from 2015 to 2017.

The Trust continued to be well managed, making effective use of its financial resources and drawing on the strengths of its professional staff and dedicated volunteers.

This allowed the Trust to launch a number of new initiatives, including the 'ExploreChurches' church visitor and tourism website and the Yorkshire Maintenance Project. Supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Yorkshire Maintenance Project provides an opportunity to try out a new approach – helping to keep churches well maintained now in order to avoid the need for expensive repairs later. We will use the lessons from the Project when developing this approach nationally.

Our experienced team also ensured that the Trust was able to support as many church buildings as possible, listed or unlisted, from all Christian denominations and from all geographical areas of the UK, with support, advice and grant funding.

This Annual Report and the accompanying Financial Statements provide key information on the work undertaken in 2016 to achieve the Trust's current four key priorities:

- A robust and effective grant and church support programme.
- A strong partnership with local and regional churches trusts.
- A new service to promote churches: 'ExploreChurches'.
- Running an efficient and professional charity.

These objectives support the Trust's charitable aims which are:

- To help maintain the UK's heritage of church buildings and to enhance their ability to serve local communities.
- To promote the benefit to communities of church buildings and to inspire everyone to value and enjoy them.

As the national, independent charity dedicated to supporting and promoting places of worship of historic, architectural and community value used by all Christian denominations throughout the UK, the National Churches Trust plays a key role in helping to keep churches, chapels and meeting houses open and supporting local people and communities.

1. PROVIDING A ROBUST AND EFFECTIVE GRANT AND CHURCH SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Ensure that we continue to be able to offer significant direct financial assistance and support and advice to places of worship in a way that makes an impact.

Grants programmes

Across our various grants programmes in 2016, the National Churches Trust awarded grants totalling £1,399,470, helping to enable 166 projects at places of worship in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. In addition, we worked with other trusts and charities which awarded grants to seven places of worship totalling £35,000 based on our recommendations.

Grants awarded in 2016 benefitted Church of England, Roman Catholic, Church of Ireland, Church of Scotland, Church in Wales, Methodist, United Reformed, Baptist and Presbyterian places of worship. We continue to be able to award grants to listed and unlisted churches.

Our grants programme is made possible thanks to the generous funding provided by Trusts, Foundations, legators, donors and Friends.

Assistance in applying for a grant was available to all who requested it, with the expert knowledge of the Trust's grants team being of particular use in helping places of worship identify additional funding sources.

Urgent structural repairs that keep churches open, windproof and watertight remain the focus of our largest grant programme, Repair Grants. Equally importantly, through our Community Grant programme we also support projects that bring the wider community into places of worship by installing modern facilities such as toilets and kitchens. In this way, the Trust helps to ensure that places of worship remain open and of benefit to local people and the wider community.

Grants consultation

Following a successful grant consultation in 2016, the Trust's grants programmes expanded to address gaps in support available to churches.

A Project Viability and Development Grant programme was launched to help churches develop better quality, sustainable projects, and to develop their plans to a stage at which they can apply to major grant bodies such as the Heritage Lottery Fund. The first round was more than twice oversubscribed.

The Trust also introduced two pilot Maintenance Grant initiatives, to help to clear gutters and to fund small repair issues as they arise, in order to prevent the need for extensive and expensive repair works in the future.

With these new programmes, the Trust is now able to help support churches and chapels at every stage of their projects: the design and development phase, the delivery phase, and the post-project maintenance stage.

As a result of views expressed in our grants consultation, we refined our scoring criteria and processes as part of improving the robustness and transparency of our grant assessment process.

From 2017 we will no longer require churches applying for grants to be members of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland. This will allow churches and chapels from as wide a range of denominations as possible to apply. We have also increased flexibility in the cost range of projects we will fund, which is intended to help the Trust support geographic and denominational priority areas.

The Trust experienced continuing high levels of demand for its grants in 2016, with a total of 357 full applications being made online. To reduce the length of time between application deadlines and decisions by the Grants Committee, and therefore help churches to get speedier responses to their applications, the Trust increased the number of grant application deadlines and decisions from two to three rounds a year.

Priority areas

The Trust continued to encourage applications from parts of the UK which have been under-represented in its grant funding. Priority areas included the North East of England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

Denominations which have historically only made a small number of applications, including the Baptist and Presbyterian churches, were pro-actively encouraged to seek funding. Although funding for the North East remains an area for improvement, the Trust managed to fund several strong projects across our other priority areas and denominations. We also agreed with partners in Wales and Northern Ireland to launch new Partnership Grant programmes which will be open to applicants there for the first time in 2017.

Repair Grants

The National Churches Trust's Repair Grant programme awarded 46 grants of £6,000 and above across the UK

towards the cost of urgent and essential structural repair projects. Supported by the Pilgrim Trust, this included eight Cornerstone Grants of £40,000 which were awarded to projects in England, Scotland and Wales.

Community Grants

The National Churches Trust's Community Grant programme awarded 18 grants of £5,000 and above for projects which introduce facilities to enable increased community use of places of worship. All types of community projects were considered, with the majority of funding allocated to install or improve toilets or catering facilities.

Micro-Grants in Partnership with the Cinnamon Network

Having established a partnership with the Cinnamon Network in 2015, in 2016 the first seven grants were made to churches awarded a National Churches Trust Community or Repair Grant to allow them to obtain a £2,000 micro-grant to set up a Cinnamon Network Recognised Project. These micro-grants support churches setting up a social action project such as CAP Money Courses, Make Lunch and Parish Nursing.

Partnership Grants

The National Churches Trust's Partnership Grant programme awarded grants on the recommendation of local churches trusts in England and Scotland. Applying local knowledge and expertise, 83 grants of £2,500 to £10,000 were awarded for urgent repair projects with estimated costs usually of between £10,000 and £100,000 (including VAT and fees).

For the first time, several trusts were allowed to submit projects with costs exceeding £100,000 on the understanding that they could not also be awarded another National Churches Trust grant. Further consultation will be undertaken in 2017 to direct the future of the Partnership Grant programme.

Project Viability and Development Grants

The Trust opened a pilot programme for places of worship to apply for funding to explore the feasibility of new facilities and develop architectural, fundraising and business plans ahead of a major funding bid. The Trust awarded £65,970 in funding to 12 projects for the first phase of the pilot, which will be run for a second year in 2017.

WREN Grants

The Trust's partnership with WREN to recommend church projects for Landfill Community Fund grants ended in 2016 as changes in the scheme were introduced by the Government. Over the eight years of working together, the Trust recommended 103 projects for WREN funding, of which 74 were approved with total funding of £2,518,220. These grants helped six churches to be removed from the Heritage at Risk Register in 2016, including Rusholme, Holy Trinity and Hexton, Church of St Faith.

Support and advice programme

The National Churches Trust also helps places of worship by providing support and advice to the people who look after church buildings.

In 2016, the Church Support Team answered over 600 enquiries on a range of topics by phone, email and letter. This was a 24% increase on the previous year. The majority of enquiries related to funding and fundraising, in particular for roof repairs and the installation of facilities. Other topics included setting up Friends' groups, reclaiming VAT, and finding funding for a range of other church features, activities and new build structures.

The Church Support Team also provided advice in person at over 20 events around the country. This included helping volunteers and professional staff who look after the UK's churches with planning and managing repair projects, advising on how best to plan and carry out regular maintenance and to enable greater community use of church buildings.

The Building Advice section of the Trust's website provides a wealth of advice about how to care for and manage church buildings. For anyone planning a project, there is detailed advice about how to scope, fund, manage and evaluate work. The online Resource Centre holds more than 2,500 links to resources from organisations across the sector and beyond and is the largest and most comprehensive source of advice for those who care for churches in the UK. There were nearly 27,000 visits to the Building Advice section of the website in 2016, with the most popular section being the Resource Centre.

Yorkshire Maintenance Project

In August 2016, the National Churches Trust was awarded £90,100 by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for the Yorkshire Maintenance Project which will help keep churches and chapels in Yorkshire in good condition and reduce the need for expensive repairs. There are 1,095 listed places of worship in Yorkshire, including 346 Grade I listed churches, buildings of the highest heritage significance. However, keeping on top of maintenance of these important historic buildings can be a challenge, putting their future at risk.

Drone surveys of churches, training workshops to help volunteers maintain church buildings, and 'MaintenanceBooker', a new website allowing churches of all denominations to book gutter clearances and other urgent maintenance tasks, are the key elements of the Yorkshire Maintenance Project. The 'MaintenanceBooker' service, which launched in February 2017 at www.maintenancebooker.org, is available to all churches across Yorkshire, listed and unlisted. The Trust hopes to extend the service to other regions in the future.

Drones over Yorkshire

As part of the Yorkshire Maintenance Project, a series of drone surveys of churches was carried out by Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA). MOLA have produced 3D interactive models of St Laurence Priory, Snaith and Christ Church, Stannington, two historic churches in Yorkshire, to explore the ways that this technology could be valuable for those looking after places of worship.

In places where access is difficult or expensive, drones can supplement regular inspections, giving church leaders and architects a level of detail that would be unattainable from the ground. The 3D models created by MOLA will test how the information gathered by drones can be used for inspections, condition surveys, and interpretation.

The use of drone footage in church maintenance and inspection has exciting potential and the National Churches Trust will continue to promote the use of this technology by churches.

Image

Key objectives for 2017

- Evaluate and improve the Project Development and Maintenance pilot programmes, plus the Cinnamon Network micro grants partnership
- Ensure that the recipients of grants are representative of the pan-denominational and UK - wide remit of the Trust
- Improve the Partnership Grant programme, including launching the programme in Northern Ireland and Wales
- Do more to measure and demonstrate the impact of grants on the recipient churches and their wider communities
- Launch the 'MaintenanceBooker' church maintenance system in Yorkshire in partnership with 2buy2, the HLF and the Pilgrim Trust, and plan for its expansion to other regions of the UK

How our grants make a difference

• **Vital repairs and maintenance can go ahead, enabling churches and chapels to remain open for public use**

• **Repairs and new facilities enable wider use of church buildings by local people**

• **Employment is provided for skilled crafts people across the UK**

Graphic

2. A STRONG PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL CHURCHES TRUSTS

Develop a stronger and deeper partnership with local and regional churches trusts that offers reciprocal benefits; enhance relationships with all parts of the UK; and develop dedicated local support.

In 2016, the National Churches Trust continued to prioritise work with regional partners across the UK.

England

In England, there is an active network of local county and city based trusts that help churches and chapels. Many give essential grant funding and provide helpful advice. They also organise the annual Ride+Stride for Churches event which raises funds for many thousands of places of worship.

The National Churches Trust helps these churches trusts continue to flourish. This includes providing funding for church repair and modernisation projects through a Partnership Grants programme. This has provided over £1million in grant funding towards repairs of churches and chapels over the last five years.

Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales

The Trust's partnerships in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales continued to develop in 2016.

In Scotland, the Trust worked closely with Scotland's Churches Trust (SCT), the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Scottish Redundant Churches Trust to put together a Places of Worship Funding training day in Edinburgh in May 2016, with over 100 delegates in attendance. SCT remained the largest single recipient of the Partnership Grants budget, receiving £50,000 in 2016.

In Northern Ireland a grant of £10,000 was awarded to Ulster Historic Churches Trust to pilot a local maintenance scheme in the Ballymena area, to be launched in 2017 alongside a new Partnership Grants scheme.

In Wales, the Trust is a member of the Welsh Places of Worship Forum and Wales Heritage Group. In 2016, plans were advanced to launch a Partnership Grant scheme in Wales with the Church in Wales, and to open a consultation in early 2017 on the support needs of Welsh churches and chapels.

Annual Conference

The National Churches Trust works with representatives of churches trusts through the Churches Trusts Forum. The Trust helps to organise the Forum's Annual Conference and produces a newsletter containing the latest news about the work of local and regional trusts.

The Annual Conference, held on 19 May 2016 at the Merchant Taylors' Hall in York, was attended by a record number of trustees, volunteers and staff from local and regional churches trusts, as well as representatives from other heritage and faith organisations.

The success of the conference was in no small part due to the contribution of the Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust which helped to organise an inspiring day featuring expert speakers, workshops and discussions.

The Trust continued to provide strategic co-ordination to the Ride+Stride for Churches National Committee. Through new branding guidelines developed together with the Committee, the Trust sought to help churches trusts increase participation in the annual Ride+Stride for Churches events that raise funds for grant programmes for places of worship throughout England. The Trust also started to work with new partners, including the Diocese of Salisbury, to try to encourage schools to take part in Ride+Stride for Churches.

Marsh Awards for Innovative Projects

A highlight of the conference in York was the announcement of the winners of the first 'Marsh Awards for Innovative Projects', run jointly with the Marsh Christian Trust.

The Awards celebrate the contribution by faith volunteers running invaluable local activities and help to demonstrate the positive impact that installing new facilities such as kitchens and toilets has on churches, individuals and communities. Charities that help places of worship, including local and regional churches trusts, nominated 13 projects from around the UK.

The winning project was Space@St Andrew's for St Andrew's Church, Blagdon, in Somerset, nominated by the Somerset Churches Trust. Following the creation of a new community space with toilets and a kitchen, the Church is now being used in several new ways. This includes 'Wi-Fi Wednesday', which helps villagers to get online.

'Recycles' a Salvation Army project in Ilford, London, was the runner up project. Participants work with trained mechanics to recycle bicycles so that they are ready for sale. They also attain practical skills to secure employment, and contribute to their local community.

Thanks to the support of the Marsh Christian Trust, St Andrew's Church was awarded a £1,000 prize and 'Recycles' was awarded a £500 prize.

Support for local volunteers

To help ensure that the many volunteers who help to look after church buildings in England have an up to date knowledge base, in 2016 the Trust ran three training and skills workshops.

'Turning Donations Into Gifts' was run by a new fundraising consultancy Gifted Philanthropy in Church House, London. It provided expert advice to help local fundraisers raise money from individuals.

'Bidding for Success', held in Wareham Parish Hall in Dorset, was a one day event run in partnership with the Heritage Lottery Fund, South West. 80 representatives from places of worship and from local churches trusts learnt how to make high quality grant applications to the Heritage Lottery Fund, the National Churches Trust and the Dorset Historic Churches Trust.

Finally, 'More than Bricks and Stones: unlocking the potential of your church's heritage', allowed 70 people to develop ideas on how best to inspire and encourage heritage engagement. The workshop was run in conjunction with St Clement's church in Notting Dale in west London and was supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. Contributors included Empowering Design Practices (an initiative between the Open University and national charity The Glass House), the Church of England, the Heritage Lottery Fund, academics and consultants.

Support for churches

A national partnership with JustGiving continued to make it easier for churches trusts and individual churches to fundraise. Our partners can join JustGiving for free, giving access to the whole JustGiving platform, and saving the usual £15 a month subscription fee. Churches that already have a JustGiving subscription are also eligible to take part (although fees already charged will not be refunded).

Key objectives for 2017

- Provide strategic support to Ride+Stride for Churches
- Enhance partnership working between the National Churches Trust and local and regional churches trusts
- Increase engagement with churches through events and projects

The 2016 Marsh Awards

The Space@St Andrew's in Blagdon, Somerset, was the first winner of the 'Marsh Awards for Innovative Projects' run by the National Churches Trust and supported by the Marsh Christian Trust.

A flexible open space was created by removing pews and a mezzanine floor was added, the area separated from the church by a glazed screen to the tower arch. A second phase of the project created pods at the end of each aisle, with fully accessible toilets, a kitchen, and a utility room.

Revd Jane Chamberlain, Rector, Blagdon with Compton Martin and Ubley, said:

"The church is now serving the community in ways that we could not have imagined at the start. Winning the first 'Marsh Award for Innovative Projects' is a real honour and I hope and pray that those who have supported the project will receive this as further affirmation of our journey together."

Image

3. A NEW SERVICE TO PROMOTE CHURCHES

Deliver ExploreChurches, a new website to promote churches to visitors.

With a wonderful national collection of churches, chapels and meeting houses, the potential for the UK's places of worship to attract visitors is huge. Visitors are important as they often make a donation and spread the word about churches they have enjoyed, thereby increasing the sustainability of church buildings.

In 2016 the National Churches Trust launched a new church tourism website www.ExploreChurches.org.

ExploreChurches is a high quality resource for visitors and churches, supporting and promoting the UK's churches and chapels and providing information and details to encourage and make it easier for people to visit them.

The website has a contemporary design and features four key page categories which are designed for easy use on laptops, tablet devices and mobile phones:

- **A distinctive home page**
- **Themed 'curated' lists of churches, such as Wooden Churches, Devon Churches and Churches on TV, with a new list added every two weeks**
- **An interactive map, searchable via location and church features / facilities**
- **A listing page for every featured church which includes engaging information and photographs to encourage visitors. There is also the ability for visitors to leave feedback and comments about churches they have visited, 'Trip Advisor' style**

When ExploreChurches went live in November 2016, it had over 1,200 churches listed, and six themed lists. The website was launched at Stowe Parish Church, linking in with the anniversary of the wedding of Capability Brown at that church and a curated list of Capability Brown churches (sponsored by the Capability Brown Festival).

The launch received supportive publicity, including articles in the Daily Telegraph and on the BBC Countryfile blog. Social media posts about the website were especially encouraging and Twitter and Facebook users have enthusiastically shared new themed 'curated' lists when they go live.

The aim is eventually to include all churches in the UK that are open to visitors on the ExploreChurches site. Please visit the website at www.ExploreChurches.org to find out how to get involved and to add a church that you love or look after.

Key objectives for 2017

In 2017 the website will be further developed. Current plans include:

- Increase coverage by making it easier to add churches, chapels and meeting houses to the website
- Make the website sustainable by raising income through the sponsorship of curated lists and selected advertising
- Create an events calendar for the UK's churches (at present there is no website dedicated to allowing churches to list and promote events)
- Add a range of downloads to church listings pages, such as leaflets, trails and guidebooks

Discover ExploreChurches

Churches, chapels and meeting houses are 'treasure houses' of heritage, history and community.

They may contain ancient carvings both in stone and timber, traces of wall paintings, green men, wonderful roof bosses, gargoyles and dripstone heads, tombs and monuments, stained glass and more.

Churches are also tangible expressions of the evolution of British culture, local heritage, family history and tales of human events and achievements, embellished with architecture, art and craftsmanship.

The potential for churches to attract visitors and for visits to be enjoyable and worthwhile is huge. ExploreChurches will help to make it easier for everyone to discover for themselves the UK's wonderful churches, chapels and meeting houses.

Image

Case STUDY

PARTNERSHIP GRANT Colonsay Parish Church, Scotland

Address:	Church of Scotland, Isle of Colonsay, Argyll, PA61 7YW
Denomination:	Church of Scotland
NCT grant awarded:	NCT Partnership Grant £3,000 April 2015 (works carried out Spring/Summer 2016)
Setting:	Rural
Architect:	Rebecca Cadie BArch DipArch ARIAS RIBA (ARPL Architects)
Contractors:	Rowan Stoneworks
Project cost:	Approximately £60,000
Opening hours:	Open for activities throughout the week, worship 11.30am every Sunday
Visitors in 2016:	The church moved to four regular services a month with an average attendance of 25. The church is well visited in summer months.
Website:	www.colonsaychurches.org

Image

Image

Colonsay Parish Church is a charming white-harled kirk built in 1802 to the design of architect Michael Carmichael. Features include a 'birdcage' belfry which crowns a classical pediment above the semi-circular vestry, the pediment being enhanced by a 'blind' oculus.

With generous support from visitors and friends the local congregation renewed the windows in 2015. However, it was then unexpectedly advised that the 'birdcage' belfry was in a dangerous condition. The weather on Colonsay is such that the belfry could not be left exposed in its parlous state, and the congregation was told that the belfry must be restored otherwise the church would have to close.

The work was split into two phases, with the first to dismantle the belfry before it fell and the second to restore and reinstate the stone belfry and bell, and to replace cast iron gutters to the vestry roof. Due to the urgency of the works the parishioners found £20,000 to fund the first phase of work whilst fundraising £40,000 to enable phase two.

The appeal was launched on St Andrews Day 2015 (30 November) but phase one was delayed due to ferocious weather. The belfry was removed in January 2016 and fundraising continued throughout early 2016. In June 2016 work started on the reinstatement of the belfry and new cast iron gutter work. The project was completed in September.

"This was a daunting project and we have been amazed and humbled by the wonderful response."

Project challenges: The total cost of the project was £60,000, and the church set itself the challenge of raising £20,000 from their own resources – a daunting task in an island of 135 people, almost 90 of whom are pensioners or schoolchildren. The congregation had no expertise in structural conservation and, although the church was listed,

they initially found it difficult to obtain helpful advice or information from the agencies that they turned to.

Impact:

- The building was saved from closing which would have had a negative effect on such a tight-knit community.
- The condition of the building has been improved and secured for the next 200 years! The church bell has been brought back into use.
- Number of church services doubled from two to four services per month.
- Greater public engagement – significant public support from the local community and significant positive media coverage as well as world-wide exposure through the web.
- The church has resolved upon a programme of good stewardship with all future maintenance being positively and timely rather than patching and repairing.

Key lessons learnt: Conservation management skills together with basic project management skills. Church members have learnt to fundraise on a large scale and have become media savvy. Although they did not previously have any structural conservation experience they have now formed good relationships with a number of key partners and are committed to proactive maintenance.

New uses: As well as increasing the number of weekly services the church was also used as an exhibition space for local artists and crafts folk for three months in 2016.

New users: The church continues to be well visited throughout the summer months and the congregation expect this to increase given the connections they have made throughout the world through their fundraising appeal. The church plays a full part in community life, is always open for private prayer or contemplation and is freely available for appropriate secular use.

4. AN EFFICIENT AND PROFESSIONAL CHARITY

Ensure that the Trust operates effectively, maximising the resources devoted to charitable objectives, delivering financial sustainability and maintaining positive relationships with beneficiaries, stakeholders and the public.

Strengthening the charity

At a time when charities are under increased scrutiny, in 2016 the National Churches Trust continued to prioritise its financial control and monitoring systems.

A review of the Trust's current risk register was started with a view to updating its format, with the work to be completed in 2017. The Trust further developed the design and content of its management accounts to improve the quality of the information available to trustees and allow them to guide and manage the charity more effectively. Trustees were also provided with detailed guidance notes on financial systems and controls currently in place within the charity.

At a time of continuing economic volatility, the Trust commissioned an independent review of its investment strategy and the performance of its investment portfolio in order to ensure that it continues to be in line with the Trust's strategic aims and objectives whilst continuing to maximise returns and mitigate risk. Findings of the review are to be addressed in the first half of 2017.

The average monthly number of employees was 14 and employment costs continue to be kept as low as possible. The Trust continues to benefit from the expertise of volunteers, who make a valuable contribution to the work of the Church Support and Fundraising teams.

In 2016 a new staff handbook was introduced which includes up-to-date policies and procedures, benefits and entitlements and other general terms of employment. A review of existing staff benefits took place to help ensure that the Trust can continue to recruit and retain high quality staff, thereby saving costs on recruitment and training.

With the Trust relying on IT and digital communication platforms for much of its day-to-day work, preparatory planning took place for the introduction in 2017 of fibre optic broadband to its Westminster offices. Fibre optic broadband provides super-fast internet speeds and allows for faster data transfer compared to the standard copper wires which are used in regular broadband connections. The new broadband system will help boost productivity levels and make the Trust's IT systems more reliable.

Friends Membership and Fundraising

Friends

The Friends scheme provides a direct opportunity for people to help the Trust protect and revitalise the UK's church buildings and enables it to engage more closely with people who love churches.

Graphic

Increasing the number of Friends remained a key priority in 2016. By the end of the year 492 new Friends had joined, bringing the total to 2,004. New Friends were recruited via a variety of methods including recruitment leaflets in churches, advertisements in magazines and newspapers, and appeals to selected audiences.

The Trust's Friends membership scheme has a very high degree of loyalty with 78% of Friends renewing their membership in 2016.

In April 2016 Friends were invited to take part in a survey about their membership. Nearly 40% responded which shows a very high level of engagement. Friends were highly appreciative of the Trust's events but would like more to be held outside of London. They commented very favourably on the high quality of the Trust's publications including printed and electronic newsletters and the Annual Review. The Trust remains grateful to Rev Canon Roger Royle for his work in representing the Trust to Friends in their bi-annual newsletter.

Cornerstone Club

The Trust's club for those wishing to make a larger contribution continued to be well supported. In December 2016 key supporters of the Trust, including Cornerstone Club members, were invited to the House of Lords for a dinner hosted by the Lord Cormack, one of the Trust's Vice Presidents and a former trustee.

The dinner provided an opportunity to celebrate the work of the Trust, highlight its achievements and discuss plans for the coming year. Guests were enthusiastic in their support of the Trust and we are extremely grateful for their continuing generosity.

Legacies

Legacies represent a significant element of the Trust's voluntary income with £605,364 notified and accounted for in 2016. We have continued to promote legacy giving in a variety of ways, including advertising in selected external publications as well as in the Trust's own newsletters, and via our website and social media. As a result, the number of legacy pledges notified to the Trust and requests for information increased during the year. More information can be found at www.nationalchurchestrust.org/legacy

The Trust remains extremely grateful to the many legators and legacy pledgers who have generously supported our work.

Trusts and Foundations

The Trust benefits from the loyal support of a wide range of grant making trusts and foundations. Many have supported the work of the Trust over a long period of time and this is fostered through high quality reporting and engagement with these funders. In addition, the Trust looks for potential new funders and introduces its work to them through well researched funding applications and face-to-face meetings. Income from grant making trusts remained in line with previous years.

The Trust extends its thanks to all grant making bodies who have supported our work in 2016 and in particular to The Aslackby Trust, The Beatrice Laing Trust, The David Webster Charitable Trust, The Dulverton Trust, The Goldsmiths' Company Charity, The Heritage Lottery Fund, LJC Fund Limited, The Mercers' Company, P F Charitable Trust, The Pilgrim Trust, The RH Scholes Charitable Trust and the Stuart Heath Charitable Settlement.

Professional Trades Directory

The Trust's on-line Professional Trades Directory provides an important way of promoting and supporting a wide range of skilled craftsmen and trades people who are able to undertake the specialist work needed to maintain, conserve and improve churches, chapels and meeting houses. Through the year, profiles of members were

Graphic

published in the Trust's Friends newsletter and promoted online and via social media.

In 2016, the Trust conducted a survey of existing Professional Trades Directory members to better understand how it supports their work and how this might be further improved. The responses demonstrated the value of the Directory

with the majority of respondents indicating they had joined because they recognised the important role the National Churches Trust plays in the church heritage sector.

Respondents indicated they would appreciate the opportunity to better promote their membership of the Directory. As a result a range of marketing materials, including car stickers, will be made available to members in 2017.

By the end of 2016 the Professional Trades Directory had 104 members and as there are considerable opportunities to expand membership, the Trust looks forward to welcoming more members in 2017.

Celebrating with Friends

The National Churches Trust celebrated at Christmas in 2016 with over 230 Friends and supporters at St Giles-in-the-Fields in the heart of Covent Garden. It was a wonderful occasion, generously supported by CCLA the investment management company, with a festive atmosphere and beautiful music.

St Giles-in-the-Fields, an elegant Grade I listed Palladian building, is also known as the Poets' Church for its links to John Milton and Andrew Marvell.

Guests were welcomed by broadcaster Huw Edwards, who hosted the evening. Bill Bryson OBE read 'The night before Christmas', by Clement Clarke Moore, and Dr Jenny Freeman OBE read 'Christmas' by Sir Betjeman. Claire Walker, Chief Executive of the National Churches Trust, read 'Nativity Play' from 'George Don't Do That' by Joyce Grenfell.

Music was provided by the Amici Di Canto octet, who sang a varied programme including 'In the bleak mid-winter', by Christina Rossetti and Harold Darke, and 'We wish you a Merry Christmas'; and the Crofton Junior School Chamber Choir, whose performance included 'O Come, All You Children' by JPA Schultz and 'A Christmas Thought' by B Graham.

Image

Promoting the work of the Trust and making the case for church buildings remained the core functions of Communications and Public Affairs.

New audiences

Social media, the web and e-newsletters are key to reaching new and existing audiences effectively and efficiently and all saw substantial growth in 2016.

The Trust's monthly e-newsletter, which includes news items about the Trust and the church heritage sector saw an increase in the total number of subscribers from 1,938 to 3,639 in 2016. Twitter followers rose from 5,320 to 6,483 and Facebook likes climbed from 1,748 to 2,205. A new feature introduced on the Trust's Facebook page which is proving very popular is 'Church of the Week', showcasing photographs and information about some of the UK's most interesting churches.

Use of the Trust's website continued to increase, with total pageviews rising from 248,158 in 2015 to 403,472 in 2016. Pages about the Trust's grant programmes continued to be the most visited, but following its launch towards the end of 2016, the website's 'ExploreChurches' section started to be among the most visited pages.

Media coverage of the Trust's work continued to be buoyant, with articles appearing in publications including The Observer, Country Life and The Church Times and with radio and television interviews on over 20 BBC Local Radio stations, Premier Christian Radio and BBC Look North.

The awarding of grants by the Trust was well covered by local and regional newspapers and websites. In 2016 beneficial relationships were developed with a number of Church of England dioceses, resulting in coverage of stories relating to grants awarded to their local churches.

Church heritage

In 2016, the Trust continued to play an active part in the church heritage sector. The Trust is part of Historic England's Places of Worship Forum and a member of the Heritage Alliance and the Historic Religious Buildings Alliance. Conferences attended included the Historic Churches Conference of the Catholic Bishops' Conference, the Church of England's Diocesan Advisory Committees Annual Conference and the Future of Religious Heritage Conference. A programme of meetings with amenity societies, including the 20th Century Society and the Victorian Society, allowed issues of common concern to be discussed.

In 2016, the Trust provided written evidence to a number of policy and legislative consultations on issues affecting church buildings. These included:

- Ecclesiastical Exemption (Northern Ireland)
- English Churches and Cathedrals Sustainability Review
- The Landfill Tax (Amendment) Regulations 2016
- Rural Tourism in England Inquiry (Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee of the House of Commons)
- Shale Wealth Fund Consultation

Graphic

The Presidents' Award

Stanbrook Abbey Church, a spectacular new building in the North York Moors National Park built for an order of Benedictine nuns and designed by architects Feilden Clegg and Bradley Studios, won the 2016 Presidents' Award for new church buildings. The Award is presented on behalf of the Ecclesiastical Architects and Surveyors Association President and the National Churches Trust's Joint Presidents, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York

Stanbrook Abbey Church was built for the Conventus of Our Lady of Consolation who relocated from their original 19th Century abbey building in Worcestershire. They chose a remote site on the edge of the North York Moors. The church, which is the most recent addition to the abbey, provides the focus of the mission for the community of nuns who devote their lives to study, work and prayer.

From the outside, the building presents a soaring curved facade reminiscent of a theme-park roller coaster, faced in vertical timber slats, which have weathered to grey.

Image

Church Architecture Awards

The National Churches Trust exists to support churches, chapels and meeting houses so that they remain at the heart of communities. In this, the work of architects and surveyors is vital and in 2016 the Trust continued to work with the Ecclesiastical Architects and Surveyors Association in holding the annual Church Architecture Awards.

The winners of the awards were announced in November 2016 at a ceremony attended by the Trust's Vice Patron HRH The Duke of Gloucester at St Mellitus College, London, a new venue for the awards.

The Presidents' Award for new church buildings was won by architects Feilden Clegg and Bradley Studios for Stanbrook Abbey Church, a spectacular new building in the North York Moors National Park built for an order of

Benedictine nuns. The Presidents' Award was also awarded to architects Freeland Rees Roberts for a project to extend and provide new facilities for the parish church of St Mary and St Thomas of Canterbury, Wymondham, Norfolk.

The King of Prussia Gold Medal for church repair and conservation architecture was won by architects Lloyd Evans Prichard for their work to restore the spire of Sir George Gilbert Scott's St James Church, New Brighton, Merseyside.

The winner of a new award, The Young Church Architect of the Year, was also announced at the Church Architecture Awards. Tania Gomez-Duran, Associate at Freeland Rees Roberts, was chosen for her work on St Mary and St Thomas of Canterbury, Wymondham, Norfolk.

Case STUDY

CORNERSTONE GRANT Holy Trinity, Lenton, Nottingham

Address:	Church Street, Lenton, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire NG7 2FF
Denomination:	Church of England
NCT grants awarded:	NCT £40,000 Cornerstone Grant, June 2015; WREN Heritage Fund £66,980, July 2015
Setting:	Urban
Architect:	Carl Andrews RIBA, AABC, IHBC, EASA, Soul Architects
Contractors:	CEL Roofing
Project cost:	Approximately £535,326
Opening hours:	Open for worship and activities five days per week
Visitors in 2016:	The church was closed between Aug 2014 and June 2016
Website:	www.lentonparish.org.uk

Image

Holy Trinity is the parish church for Nottingham's largest parish, an inner city area which includes the main campus for the University of Nottingham. Grade II* listed with a distinctive tall square pinnaced tower, the church was built in 1841-2 in the early English style to a design by Henry Isaac Stevens.

The 2013 quinquennial inspection revealed extensive dry rot in the roof timbers caused by water ingress. By August 2014, the structural instability of the roof was such that the church was placed on the Heritage at Risk Register and forced to close. A Heritage Lottery Fund grant was awarded in 2015 for the replacement of the nave and south aisle roofs but further funding was needed to complete the urgent work to the north aisle roof and clerestory windows.

The church approached the National Churches Trust who recommend the project for a WREN FCC Heritage Grant (Landfill Communities Fund) and also awarded a £40,000 Cornerstone grant. These grants enabled all of the essential repairs to be completed in a single project, saving scaffolding costs and minimising the time that the building was closed.

Works to the clerestory and north aisle began in summer 2015 and were complete by the reopening of the church in June 2016. Phase two, which will complete the roofing works, is currently underway.

"Our small and low-earning inner-city congregation could not have borne the cost of this project. The NCT and WREN grants have enabled us to complete our essential repairs more quickly, and more economically, enabling us to reopen the building to the benefit of all."

Project challenges: With a congregation largely made up of students and young people, the main challenge for the church was finding the necessary expertise to plan, manage and complete the fundraising and project management. A small team of volunteers, together with the vicar, Megan Smith, took on responsibility for the project. With no prior experience of building projects, it has been a steep learning curve but they have been helped by support from the local community.

Impact:

- The condition of the building has been enhanced - fabric has been secured and the building will be removed from the Heritage at Risk Register.
- A full internal redecoration has been completed by volunteers (making use of the internal scaffold while it was still *in situ*).
- Grant funding has allowed work to the north aisle, south aisle and nave to be undertaken in the most seamless and cost-effective way.
- The project has benefited the congregation and community – the church has reopened for worship and regular community activities have resumed.
- There is increased public engagement with the heritage.

Key lessons learnt: Project management skills; shrewd decision-making when choosing professionals to oversee the work; the value of a church cannot be judged by the size of its congregation – they were overwhelmed by the level of interest and support from the local community.

New uses: Since the building's reopening in June, they have already hosted a community fun-day, a 'Poketop' (for the latest Pokemon craze) and a three day kids holiday club. Additional plans include musical concerts, use by university societies to create exam-time revision space for students, craft fairs and local history events.

New users: The reopening weekend welcomed at least 300 people who had not previously visited the church.

50 Things to do in a Church

In July 2016, the Trust launched its '50 Things to do in a Church' campaign, which celebrated the many and diverse uses of church buildings.

As well as being places of worship, church buildings play a vital role in activities for the benefit of the wider community. It is estimated that nearly 90% of churches are used for community purposes as well as for regular worship.

Included in '50 Things to do in a Church' were activities and things to see and do linked to music and the arts, the spiritual, helping the community, art and architecture, food and drink, history, nature and wildlife, and sport and leisure.

Finding peace and quiet was one of the '50 Things to do in a Church' and a particular attraction for Michael Palin, writer and performer and Vice President of the National Churches Trust. In a video specially recorded for the Trust he described how during a lunch break whilst being cross-questioned in a court case at the very heart of Fleet Street in London, he discovered the church of St Dunstan-in-the West. He said: "I was never so grateful for a place of repose, an oasis of peace and quiet in the midst of the mayhem."

The campaign was widely covered in the church and heritage media and proved to be especially popular on Twitter, using the hashtag #50thingsinachurch. It was the focus of the Trust's summer 2016 fundraising appeal which raised over £20,000 from Friends and other supporters.

Church heritage opinion poll

Providing up to date information on support for and attitudes to church buildings allows the Trust to influence policy developments on the future of places of worship and provides valuable data which can be used by the church heritage sector.

According to the third ComRes opinion poll on attitudes to church heritage, commissioned by the National Churches Trust in December 2016, 57% of British adults back the Government providing financial support to churches in order to protect their heritage and history for future generations.

The poll also showed that the British public back churches being available for a variety of community uses, in addition to being used as places of worship. Half of British adults (49%) say that churches, chapels and meeting houses should be used as community centres in addition to being used as places of worship. Other top additional uses for church buildings are as heritage or arts centres and spaces for hosting community services such as post offices or libraries.

More than four in five Britons (83%) agreed that the UK's churches, chapels and meeting houses are an important part of the UK's heritage and history. The proportion of adults agreeing ranges from 89% for adults aged 65+ to 71% for 18 – 24 year olds.

Churches, chapels and meeting houses are seen by British adults as providing a range of important benefits for the UK. The top three benefits are as places of worship (52%), as examples of beautiful architecture (51%), and as an important part of local identity (42%). Only 9% of Britons do not think that churches, chapels and meeting houses have any important benefits for the UK.

Key objectives for 2017

Corporate/Organisational objectives

- Strategic planning for 2018 – 2022 with newly formed trustee strategy committee
- Review staff capacity and resourcing

Fundraising objectives

- Recruit 500 new Friends
- Develop a new corporate income stream
- Diversify legacy marketing and increase number of legacy pledgers

Communications objectives

- Strengthen the Trust's brand through a clearer visual identity
- Re-launch the website with a strong new homepage and easier navigation
- Increase awareness of the Trust's work with key sector decision makers and Parliamentarians

Case STUDY

COMMUNITY GRANT Hankelow Methodist Church, Hankelow

Address:	11, Old School Lane, Hankelow, Crewe, Cheshire CW3 0JN
Denomination:	Methodist
NCT grants awarded:	NCT £15,000 Community Grant, December 2015
Setting:	Rural
Architect:	Gary Chesters BSc, MRICS Chartered Building Surveyor
Contractors:	JF Properties of Hankelow, Cheshire
Project cost:	£103,000
Opening hours:	The building is available seven days a week
Visitors in 2016:	Visitor footfall is up to 75 a week, a 50% increase
Website:	www.cheshiresouth.org.uk/churches/audlem/hankelow.html

Image

The Methodist Church in Hankelow is a small unlisted brick building constructed in 1935. It is the only publicly available building in the local rural area. The project was planned to help mission in the local community through the provision of a modern and accessible community building, open to all, as well as to make maintenance, heating and financing of the church building more sustainable.

The proposals were to modernise and upgrade the church premises including the provision of two modernised toilets, an enlarged and modernised kitchen and new double glazed external doors to suit disabled people as well as providing new lighting in the hall to help people with low vision.

"The National Churches Trust grant enabled us to complete the whole refurbishment project."

Project challenges: To coordinate the project with the builder and architectural surveyor and to source and agree the materials and equipment required. Maintaining the cash flow of grant claims from many funders to be able to pay invoices was difficult at times.

Image

Impact:

- Condition of the building improved - through the provision of fully refurbished and extended premises.
- Benefited the community – the project mobilised local community spirit and effort. Increased use has been fully supported by Cheshire East Council's Nantwich and Rural Hub community development team who are now helping market the premises for a variety of new uses.
- Greater public engagement – Hankelow Amenities Group, which organises village events, trips out and village upkeep, helped with fundraising as did Audlem & District Community Action which runs the weekly older people's day club.
- Benefited the congregation and previous/existing users – the attendance both at church services and events, as well as use of the building has increased. Cheshire South Methodist Circuit has also supported the project as it fitted with the Circuit's Mission to Small Rural Churches to ensure full community use in modernised premises.

Key lessons learnt: That it is always going to take a bit longer than planned, even when the building work has started. That if you want to achieve quality and get just what you want, then you have to have a good and flexible contractor and keep in close touch on site. That an active project coordinator can keep an eye on the cashflow, keep costs in check and get alternatives agreed if there are potential additional costs to the build.

New uses: Concerts are being organised on a quarterly basis including choirs, good old days and brass bands. Also day time activities such as beetle drives and carol singing are being planned. A carer's education course is also currently being run over a six week period.

New users: Prior to the project, the total footfall was about 2,500. The aim is to double this after the first year. There was a 25% increase in the first two months. 150 people attended the Open Weekend in June 2016 and all commented on how comfortable, spacious and welcoming the new premises are.

Financial Review

The total income of £1,681,700 was £230,701 above target with income from Friends subscriptions and appeals higher than budgeted for. Legacy income at £605,364, although lower than 2015 when the Trust benefitted from an above average number of legacies and also an extremely generous legacy in the form of a permanent endowment, was comparable to the average of previous years.

The Trustees made a decision in 2013 to progressively reduce the level of the Trust's restricted reserves by making more grants to churches. Accordingly, in 2016 the Trust budgeted for a deficit and the actual net deficit in restricted funds was £768,016. The overall deficit for the Group in 2016 was £332,506. This was made up of the deficit of £768,016 in restricted funds, a surplus of £288,795 in unrestricted funds and the receipt of £146,715 in endowment funds. The Trust has continued to budget for a deficit in 2017 in order to reduce both its unrestricted and restricted reserves in line with its current reserves policy.

The Trust awarded £1,399,470 in grants to churches from its own funds, as well as handling another £35,000 of grants for other organisations. The reduction in the total amount awarded when compared to previous years was a result of the closure of the FCC Heritage Fund by WREN in March 2016 following changes to the Landfill Community Fund.

In 2016, expenditure rose by £240,594 which reflects an increase in the National Churches Trust's own grant giving and church support staff and also new projects benefitting churches, including the start of the Yorkshire Maintenance Project, a new initiative for which the Trust received funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Having now been in new offices for two full years, the Trust continues to enjoy a reduction in property costs and benefits from an improved working environment for staff and volunteers which facilitates collaborative working, thereby increasing productivity.

Investments

The Trust's investments generate income and growth to help sustain the grants programme. As a result the Trustees consider it appropriate to invest prudently and they continue to hold investments in the CBF Church of England Funds managed by CCLA. In order to mitigate market risk, a substantial proportion is held in the Fixed Interest Fund, rather than the more volatile Investment Fund. The Trust's investment portfolio gained £294,411 during 2016.

The newly formed Audit and Risk Committee, made up of four Trustees, met twice in 2016. An independent professional has been appointed to review the Trust's approach to investment and this issue will be considered by the Committee in the first half of 2017.

Reserves

Following a review in 2013 the Trustees concluded that the Trust needed to increase its level of unrestricted reserves in order to be able to cope with fluctuations in unrestricted income from year to year. At the same time, the Trustees considered that the restricted reserves, available largely only for grants to maintain and enhance churches, should generally be spent as soon as practicable, subject to receipt of suitable applications of sufficient quality from churches.

The Trust's policies regarding reserves are set out below.

- Much of the Trust's income is restricted in one way or another and the general, unrestricted reserves provide flexibility to maintain activities in the event of fluctuations in income, as well as allowing the Trust to top up worthwhile projects which are only partially funded by specific donations. The Trustees regard it as appropriate to maintain free reserves of between nine and fifteen months' non-grant expenditure. At the end of 2016, the free reserves of the Trust of £1,499,931 amounted to just under 19 months' non-grant expenditure. It is the intention of the Trustees to continue with their policy of increasing support for churches in order to bring this figure in line with the Trust's policy.
- The reserves originating from Historic Churches Presentation Trust (HCPT) are available only for maintaining and enhancing church buildings (largely through grant making), and as such are treated as restricted. The Trustees regard it as appropriate to maintain this reserve at an amount equivalent to approximately the average annual expenditure on grants to churches over the last three years. This will allow the Trust to maintain a grants programme even if there should be a temporary dip in income. At the end of 2016, the reserves from HCPT stood at £1,729,202 which represented 1.4 times the average annual total of grants awarded over the last three years, a reduction over the position at the end of 2016. It is the Trustees' intention to continue to reduce this progressively over the next one to two years to equal the average annual total, subject to receipt of sufficient high quality grant applications.
- Other restricted funds are held for the benefit of certain classes or features of church buildings. It is the policy of the Trustees to spend these funds as soon as suitable, high quality projects for the relevant classes or features are identified.

The amount of funds held as permanent endowments was £2,101,069 at 31 December 2016.

The Trustees plan to review the reserves policy of the Trust during 2017 as part of their work considering the Trust's strategy for the next five years.

Auditor

Buzzacott LLP has been retained throughout 2016 as the Trust's auditor and has indicated its willingness to continue in office. A resolution proposing this will be put to the Trust's Annual General Meeting in 2017.

Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of The National Churches Trust for the purposes 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 Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Trust and of the income and expenditure of the Trust for that period.

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 Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting and Reporting by Charities;
- 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 Trust 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 Trust 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 Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the Trust's auditor is unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Trustees confirm that they have undertaken to comply with the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Risk Management Policy

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Trust is exposed, in particular those relating to the specific operational areas of The National Churches Trust, its investments and its finances.

They have identified the following as key risks:

- Investment volatility – this will be mitigated by decisions made by the Audit and Risk Committee which is reviewing the investment strategy and portfolio in the first half of 2017. The Committee uses the services of expert investment managers in order to ensure the Trust has a diversified investment portfolio.
- A significant fall in fundraised income – this is mitigated by continuing to develop and enhance our fundraising strategy in order to diversify and strengthen our income streams so that we are not over-reliant on any one source of income.
- Loss of staff members – this is mitigated by regular review of staff benefits to improve retention and having succession planning in place. The aim is also to have more than one staff member who is capable of carrying out each role, and where this is not possible to have detailed operational notes in place so that duties could be picked up quickly in the event that the staff member leaves or is away for a substantial period of time.
- Not receiving enough high quality grant applications – this is mitigated by ongoing promotion of the Trust's grant programmes as widely as possible, providing support and advice to those seeking to apply, and partnership working with other grant giving bodies in the sector.

Executive Remuneration

The key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the Trust on a day-to-day basis comprise the Chief Executive Officer and the Director of Church Support/Deputy Chief Executive.

All Trustees give of their time freely and no Trustee received remuneration during the year. Details of Trustees' expenses are disclosed in note 9 to the Financial Statements.

The pay of all staff is reviewed annually by the Board of Trustees, with increases considered in line with inflation or to reflect changes in responsibility. The Trustees benchmark against pay levels in other charities of a similar size and those in the heritage sector.

Governance and Management

The National Churches Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee. It owes its origins to the Historic Churches

Preservation Trust (HCPT) which was set up in 1953 to help repair churches following the earlier years of war damage and economic depression. HCPT now forms part of the Trust, as does the Incorporated Church Building Society (ICBS), set up in the early nineteenth century to build and extend Anglican churches. The Trust also administers the Luke Trust, a separate charity with consistent objects, and acts as its trustee. The Luke Trust is included in the consolidated financial statements of The National Churches Trust. The Trustees, who are the directors of the charity for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the activities of the Trust, ensuring that it uses its funds for public benefit in accordance with its objects.

The following were Trustees during 2016:
Luke March DL (Chairman)
Dr Julie Banham
Sir Paul Britton CB CVO
Richard Carr-Archer
Catherine Cobain
John Cowell
Andrew Day
John Drew
The Revd Canon Dr Mandy Ford (resigned June 2016)
Alastair Hunter FCA (Treasurer)
Jennie Page CBE

Revd Lucy Winkett was appointed as Trustee in March 2017.

The Trust has three standing committees which focus on particular areas.

The Nominations Committee recommends the appointment and re-appointment of Trustees, maintains an overview of the process of induction for new Trustees, and ensures that there are appropriate succession plans in place for the Chairman, Treasurer and Chief Executive.

The Grants Committee considers and recommends applications from churches for grants. It includes a number of external, independent members with a wide range of expertise, as well as at least two Trustees.

The Audit and Risk Committee oversees the Trust's financial management and reporting, liaises with the external auditor and periodically reviews how the Trust manages its investments.

The Trust also from time to time convenes steering groups to lead the development of particular projects. The members of the Trust's committees are listed on page five.

The Trustees and other members of the Trust's committees and steering groups all give their time voluntarily.

New Trustees are recommended for appointment by the existing Trustees on the advice of the Nominations Committee. The appointment of Trustees is subject to ratification by the Trust's Joint Presidents, the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. Each year at the Annual General Meeting, one-third of the Trustees retire by rotation and may be re-appointed subject to a maximum of ten years as a Trustee. Richard Carr-Archer retired by rotation at the AGM in September 2016 and was re-appointed.

The Nominations Committee met in the last quarter of the year to consider recommendations for candidates who might replace The Rev Canon Dr Mandy Ford who stood down as Trustee in June 2016. The Committee is keen to ensure that the Board of Trustees has a diverse range of skills so that their expertise can help to ensure that church buildings of all denominations remain in good repair and at the heart of communities throughout the UK.

Supporting the work of the Trust

As part of their work to evaluate the impact of grant funding by the Trust, Trustees held their September 2016 meeting at St Mary's Roman Catholic Church (Our Immaculate Lady of Victories), Clapham, London, which was previously awarded a £40,000 Cornerstone Grant by the Trust to help towards spire repairs. Trustees were given a history of the church and had the opportunity to tour the building.

Trustees continued to take an active part in supporting the work of the Trust during the year. This included attending ceremonies and events marking the completion of repair and community projects funded by the National Churches Trust and taking part in the annual Ride+Stride for Churches and other fundraising events.

The Trust has a small staff responsible for developing strategy for approval by the Trustees and for delivering the Trust's programme of work and support for churches, under the direction of the Chief Executive, Claire Walker. We are grateful for the hard work and dedication of all the staff, and for the support of volunteers who help with a number of our projects and activities.

A number of staff are mentored by Trustees to help expand their knowledge of church heritage and provide assistance in the furthering of professional objectives and developing new workplace skills.

The Trust acts as convenor and secretariat for the Churches Trusts Forum which brings together almost 40 independent local trusts which operate at county or regional level across the UK supporting churches in their areas. The Trust also provides administrative and promotional support for the annual Ride+Stride for Churches fundraising event organised by the local trusts.

Through membership of Future for Religious Heritage, a charity based in Brussels, The National Churches Trust exchanges information and ideas with charities supporting and promoting church buildings and heritage in a number of European countries.

Fundraising

The charity sector continued to attract attention during 2016 over concerns about fundraising methods. In 2016 the new Fundraising Regulator was formed to replace the Fundraising Standards Board, with a Fundraising Preference Service in development to be launched during 2017. The National Churches Trust has registered with the Regulator and continues to monitor and update its data protection policies so that any direct fundraising and all communication with its Friends and supporters is compliant with current regulations.

All relevant marketing and fundraising materials are carefully reviewed to ensure they clearly highlight that:

- The National Churches Trust does not make public or sell supporter details to any third parties; and
- Friends and supporters have the opportunity to receive updates about the Trust's work by post and email but anyone not wanting to receive these can let the Trust know and such communication will cease.

The National Churches Trust is committed to helping ensure that the United Kingdom's churches and chapels remain in use and of benefit to as many people as possible.

On behalf of the Trustees, our thanks go to our Friends and supporters who continue to make our work possible through their generous contributions. As a charity which receives no funding from Government or church authorities, our work is only possible through the support of voluntary contributions.

No one organisation can ensure the future of the UK's churches, chapels and meeting houses. So our appreciation for their help and guidance is extended to the many church building experts in the UK, the volunteers who help keep churches alive, and the wider heritage community, including the Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic England, and the other statutory heritage bodies in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.



Luke March
Chairman

15 June 2017

Independent auditor's report – To the Members of The National Churches Trust

We have audited the financial statements of The National Churches Trust for the year ended 31 December 2016 which comprise the consolidated statement of financial activities, the consolidated and charity balance sheets, the consolidated statement of cash flows, the principal accounting policies and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including FRS 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland.

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 auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to any party other than the charitable company and charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditor

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Report, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Trustees' Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2016 and of the group's income and expenditure, 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.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, the information given in the Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements and the Trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements. Also, in the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' report.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept; 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 and take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.


Amanda Francis, Senior Statutory Auditor
for and on behalf of Buzzacott LLP, Statutory Auditor

130 Wood Street
London
EC2V 6DL

15 June 2017

Consolidated statement of financial activities – for the year ended 31 December 2016

Income and expenditure	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
Income and endowments:						
Grants, donations and legacies	3	639,221	799,053	92,000	1,530,274	3,690,565
Charitable activities	4	3,498	-	-	3,498	57,974
Other trading activities	5	24,737	-	-	24,737	22,772
Investment income	6	3,974	119,217	-	123,191	129,015
Total income and endowments		671,430	918,270	92,000	1,681,700	3,900,326
Expenditure:						
Costs of raising funds		119,134	212,118	-	331,252	269,711
Charitable activities:						
• Maintaining and enhancing church buildings		2,322	1,713,864	-	1,716,186	1,591,201
• Promoting church buildings		261,179	-	-	261,179	207,111
Total expenditure	7	382,635	1,925,982	-	2,308,617	2,068,023
Net income/(expenditure) before gains/(losses) on investments		288,795	(1,007,712)	92,000	(626,917)	1,832,303
Net gains/(losses) on investments	13	-	239,696	54,715	294,411	(12,717)
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement of funds for the year		288,795	(768,016)	146,715	(332,506)	1,819,586
Reconciliation of funds:						
Fund balances brought forward 1 January		1,260,019	2,838,450	1,954,354	6,052,823	4,233,237
Fund balances carried forward 31 December		1,548,814	2,070,434	2,101,069	5,720,317	6,052,823

All of the Group's activities derived from continuing operations in the above two financial years.

Balance sheets – as at 31 December 2016

	Notes	Group 2016 £	Group 2015 £	Charity 2016 £	Charity 2015 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12	48,883	67,784	48,883	67,784
Investments	13	3,493,527	3,199,116	2,852,458	2,612,763
		3,542,410	3,266,900	2,901,341	2,680,547
Current assets					
Debtors	14	1,350,052	1,915,854	1,350,052	1,915,854
Short term deposits		1,990,462	766,504	1,907,370	680,350
Cash at bank and in hand		502,042	1,927,657	502,042	1,927,657
		3,842,556	4,610,015	3,759,464	4,523,861
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(1,664,649)	(1,824,092)	(1,649,649)	(1,798,592)
Net current assets		2,177,907	2,785,923	2,109,815	2,725,269
Total net assets		5,720,317	6,052,823	5,011,156	5,405,816
Funds:					
Unrestricted general funds		1,548,814	1,260,019	1,548,814	1,260,019
Restricted funds	18	2,070,434	2,838,450	2,002,342	2,777,797
Endowment funds	19	2,101,069	1,954,354	1,460,000	1,368,000
Total funds	20	5,720,317	6,052,823	5,011,156	5,405,816

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:


Luke March DL
(Chairman)


Alastair Hunter FCA
(Treasurer)

15 June 2017

Company Registration No. 06265201 (England and Wales)

Consolidated statement of cash flows – for the year ended 31 December 2016

	Notes	2016 £	2015 £
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	A	(323,588)	763,273
Cash flows from investing activities			
Investment income		123,191	129,015
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(1,260)	(17,639)
Cash provided by investing activities		121,931	111,376
Change in cash and cash equivalents		(201,657)	874,649
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		2,694,161	1,819,512
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	B	2,492,504	2,694,161

Notes to consolidated statement of cash flows – for the year ended 31 December 2016

A. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW (USED IN)/PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2016 £	2015 £
Net movement in funds	(332,506)	1,819,586
Depreciation	20,161	19,134
Investment income	(123,191)	(129,015)
Investment (gains)/losses	(294,411)	12,717
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	565,802	(1,575,681)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(159,443)	616,532
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(323,588)	763,273

B. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2016 £	2015 £
Short term deposits	1,990,462	766,504
Cash at bank and in hand	502,042	1,927,657
Total cash and cash equivalents	2,492,504	2,694,161

Notes to the financial statements – as at 31 December 2016

1. PRESENTATION

Group structure

These financial statements consolidate the results of two registered charities which are managed together: The National Churches Trust (NCT) and The Luke Trust (Luke). Together, they are referred to as the Group. The Luke Trust is included in these consolidated financial statements because NCT is its sole trustee and it is therefore controlled by the Trustees of NCT.

As a result of directions issued by the Charity Commission, the activities of the Historic Churches Preservation Trust (HCPT) and of the Incorporated Church Building Society (ICBS) are included as part of NCT. Funds given to HCPT and ICBS remain subject to their trusts and the terms under which they were given.

The consolidated statement of financial activities, consolidated balance sheet and consolidated statement of cash flows on pages 27 to 29 (together with their related notes) reflect the financial position of the Group as a whole. The separate charity balance sheet on page 28 and its related notes exclude Luke and cover only NCT (including HCPT and ICBS). NCT is referred to in these financial statements as the Charity. A summary of the financial results and position of Luke is given in Note 23

Funds

The funds of the Group are divided into three categories, depending on the terms on which they have been donated.

Unrestricted general funds are those which may be used for any purpose within the broad charitable objectives of the Charity and the Group.

Restricted funds are held for specific purposes laid down by the donors, and are not available for any other purpose. Most of the restricted funds are available only for supporting the maintenance and improvement of church buildings, and include some funds which can only be used for specific projects or for churches in particular geographical areas. Further details are set out in Note 18.

Endowment funds comprise of capital sums which must be permanently held. The income which arises on the endowment funds can be used for specified purposes and remains subject to the terms under which the funds were given. Further details of the endowment funds are set out in Note 19.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are laid out below.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared for the year to 31 December 2016 with comparative information given in respect to the year to 31 December 2015.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policies below or the notes to these financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (Charities SORP FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

The financial statements are presented in sterling and are rounded to the nearest pound.

Notes to the financial statements – as at 31 December 2016

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Preparation of the financial statements requires the Trustees to make judgements and estimates. Significant judgements and estimates have been made in relation to:

- estimating the likely amount of legacy income once the Group is aware of its entitlement to receive a legacy;
- the allocation of shared costs across activities based on staff time; and
- estimating the useful economic life of tangible fixed assets.

Assessment of going concern

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern assumption is appropriate in preparing these financial statements. The Trustees have made this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of these financial statements.

The Trustees have concluded that there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Group to continue as a going concern. The Trustees are of the opinion that the Group will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due. The most significant areas of judgement that affect items in the financial statements are detailed above. With regard to the next accounting period, the year ending 31 December 2017, the most significant areas that affect the carrying value of the assets held by the Group are the level of investment return and the performance of investment markets (see the investments and risk management sections of the trustees' report for more information)

Income recognition

All income is recognised once the Group has entitlement to receipt, it is probable that the income will be received and the monetary value of the income can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Income comprises grants, donations and legacies, investment income and income from other charitable and trading activities.

Grants from government, other statutory agencies and charitable bodies are included as income from charitable activities where these amount to a contract for service or where they are specific to particular activities. Along with income of a contractual nature and income generated from trading and commercial sources they are recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the charity and the revenue can be reliably measured. All such income is measured as the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

Donations are recognised when the Group has confirmation of both the amount and settlement date. In the event of donations pledged but not received, the amount is accrued for where the receipt is considered probable. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the Group is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the Group and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Legacies are included in the statement of financial activities when the Group is entitled to the legacy, the amount of the legacy receivable can be reliably measured, the executors have established that there are sufficient surplus assets in the estate to pay the legacy and any conditions attached to the legacy are within the control of the Group. Entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the Group is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor to the Group that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. In the event that the gift is in the form of an asset other than cash or a financial asset traded on a recognised stock exchange, recognition is subject to the value of the gift being reliably measurable with a degree of reasonable accuracy.

Where legacies have been notified to the Group, or the Group is aware of the granting of probate, but the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Group; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

Resources expended

Expenditure is included in the statement of financial activities when incurred and includes irrecoverable VAT.

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Group to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Notes to the financial statements – as at 31 December 2016

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Expenditure comprises direct costs and support costs. All expenses, including support costs, are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. The classification between activities is as follows:

- Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure associated with raising funds for the Group. This includes staff costs associated with fundraising and an allocation of support costs.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs associated with furthering the charitable purposes of the Group through the provision of its charitable activities. Such costs include grants, direct costs, and support costs including governance costs.

Expenditure on maintaining and enhancing church buildings reflects the costs of the Group's work with churches helping them to maintain the UK's heritage of church buildings and to enhance their suitability as centres of community life. This includes making grants and providing advice and information.

Expenditure on promoting the value of church buildings includes costs related to encouraging visits to churches, liaising with national church bodies and Government, and working generally to promote the value to communities of church buildings and to inspire everyone to value and enjoy them.

Grants payable are included in the statement of financial activities when approved. In order for a grant to be approved, the intended recipient has to provide evidence that it has any necessary consents to carry out the project and that the project is likely to go ahead. Grants approved but not paid at the end of the financial year are accrued.

In addition to grants payable, costs of each expenditure category include the salaries of those employees directly involved (apportioned between activities where necessary based on time spent), other costs directly attributable to the category, and a proportion of general support costs.

In order to carry out the primary purposes of the Group it is necessary to provide support in the form of a suitable working environment, staff development, financial management, office services and equipment, good governance and similar costs. Support costs, including governance costs, represent indirect charitable expenditure. Governance costs comprise costs relating to the public accountability of the charity (including audit costs) and compliance with regulation and good practice. Support costs are apportioned based on staff time.

Tangible fixed assets

All fixed assets or groups of fixed assets costing more than £1,000 and with an expected useful economic life exceeding one year are capitalised. Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

- Leasehold improvements – on a straight line basis over the life of the lease up to the date of the first break clause.
- Office equipment – on a straight line basis over four years.

Fixed asset investments

Listed investments are financial instruments which are traded on a public investment market. They are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price.

As noted above, the main form of financial risk faced by the Group is that of volatility in equity and other investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular investment sectors.

The Group does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments. The Group only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments.

Realised gains (or losses) on investment assets are calculated as the difference between disposal proceeds and the opening carrying value or the purchase value if acquired during the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and the previous carrying value. Realised and unrealised investment gains (or losses) are combined in the statement of financial activities and are credited (or debited) in the year in which they arise.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at their settlement amount, less any provision for non-recoverability. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid. Debtors and prepayments are discounted to present value of the future cash receipt where such discounting is material.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand represents such accounts and instruments that are available on demand or have a maturity of less than three months from the date of

Notes to the financial statements – as at 31 December 2016

acquisition. Term deposits of more than three months but less than one year are disclosed as short term deposits. Cash placed on deposit for more than one year is disclosed as a fixed asset investment.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are recognised at the amount the Group anticipates it will pay to settle the debt. They are discounted to the present value of the future cash payment where such discounting is material.

Pensions

NCT contributes to the personal pension schemes of its employees. These schemes are defined contribution schemes and the contributions are charged to the statement of financial activities as they are incurred.

Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Notes to the financial statements – as at 31 December 2016

3. INCOME FROM GRANTS, DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2016 £
Grants and donations	380,462	544,448	–	924,910
Legacies	258,759	254,605	92,000	605,364
	639,221	799,053	92,000	1,530,274

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2015 £
Grants and donations	337,554	455,592	–	793,146
Legacies	319,452	1,209,967	1,368,000	2,897,419
	657,006	1,665,559	1,368,000	3,690,565

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds 2016 £	Unrestricted funds 2015 £
Contributions towards grant programme overheads	100	57,974
Church support events and consultancy	3,398	–
	3,498	57,974

5. INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds 2016 £	Unrestricted funds 2015 £
Events	8,791	12,095
Other	15,946	10,677
	24,737	22,772

Notes to the financial statements – as at 31 December 2016

6. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2016 £
Income from listed investments	–	117,555	117,555
Interest receivable	3,974	1,662	5,636
	3,974	119,217	123,191

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2015 £
Income from listed investments	–	125,002	125,002
Interest receivable	2,621	1,392	4,013
	2,621	126,394	129,015

7. TOTAL EXPENDITURE

	Grants (Note 16) 2016 £	Staff costs (Note 8) 2016 £	Other costs (Note 10) 2016 £	Governance costs (Note 11) 2016 £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
Expenditure on charitable activities:						
Maintaining and enhancing church buildings	1,360,970	223,454	110,268	21,494	1,716,186	1,591,201
Promoting church buildings	12,000	150,250	95,625	3,304	261,179	207,111
	1,372,970	373,704	205,893	24,798	1,977,365	1,798,312
Costs of raising funds	–	189,204	142,048	–	331,252	269,711
	1,372,970	562,908	347,941	24,798	2,308,617	2,068,023

	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total 2016 £
Expenditure from:			
Unrestricted funds	119,134	263,501	382,635
Restricted funds	212,118	1,713,864	1,925,982
Total expenditure	331,252	1,977,365	2,308,617

	Raising funds £	Charitable activities £	Total 2015 £
Unrestricted funds	95,791	202,111	297,902
Restricted funds	173,920	1,596,201	1,770,121
Total expenditure	269,711	1,798,312	2,068,023

Notes to the financial statements – as at 31 December 2016

8. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2016 Number	2015 Number
Fundraising	3	2
Communications	2	2
Church support	6	5
Management and administration	3	3
	14	12

There is no material difference between the average number of employees and the full time equivalent number.

Employment costs	2016 £	2015 £
Wages and salaries	463,496	365,930
Social security costs	44,953	35,605
Other pension costs	45,610	34,059
	554,059	435,594
Temporary staff	3,759	7,993
Recruitment costs	5,090	10,719
	562,908	454,306

No employees received £60,000 or more (2015: none).

The Charity Trustees were not paid and did not receive any other benefits from employment with the Group (2015: £nil).

The Trustees are responsible for the overall direction and control of the Group. The key management personnel of the Group, having authority and responsibility for planning and controlling the activities of the Group, comprise the Trustees, the Chief Executive and the Director of Church Support. The total remuneration (including taxable benefits but excluding employer's pension contributions) of the key management personnel for the year was £110,100 (2015: £83,122).

9. TRUSTEE EXPENSES

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration during the year (2015: none). No Trustee received payment for professional or other services supplied to the Group (2015: none).

Four trustees were reimbursed for expenditure on travel and subsistence totalling £2,991 in the year (2015: three trustees were reimbursed £2,266). The Charity purchased insurance to protect it from any loss arising from the neglect or defaults of its Trustees and to indemnify the Trustees against the consequences of neglect or default on their part. The insurance premium paid in the year by the Charity for a combined insurance policy, which included the cost of insuring the Charity as a whole as well as its Trustees, totalled £3,576 (2015: £2,834).

Notes to the financial statements – as at 31 December 2016

10. OTHER COSTS

	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
Property costs	57,207	56,826
Publicity, communications and marketing	88,954	118,295
Printing, post and stationery	53,360	48,191
IT, website and telephone	32,422	28,319
Travel and entertaining	10,357	8,161
Other costs	28,785	20,991
Depreciation	20,161	19,134
Legal fees	12,387	–
Project costs:		
MaintenanceBooker development	33,938	–
ExploreChurches development	10,370	433
	347,941	300,350

11. GOVERNANCE COSTS

These comprise of all costs relating to the public accountability of the Group and its compliance with regulation and good practice. This includes costs related to statutory audit and governance-related legal fees.

	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
Auditor's remuneration	12,560	9,840
Legal and professional fees	4,747	3,106
Trustee expenses (note 9)	2,991	2,266
Staff and consultancy costs	4,500	1,445
Other costs	–	1,210
	24,798	17,867

Notes to the financial statements – as at 31 December 2016

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Group & Charity	Leasehold improvements £	Office equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 January 2016	76,214	35,535	111,749
Additions	–	1,260	1,260
Disposals	–	(15,865)	(15,865)
At 31 December 2016	76,214	20,930	97,144
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2016	24,097	19,868	43,965
Charge for year	15,243	4,918	20,161
Disposals	–	(15,865)	(15,865)
At 31 December 2016	39,340	8,921	48,261
Net book value			
At 31 December 2016	36,874	12,009	48,883
At 31 December 2015	52,117	15,667	67,784

13. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Group £	Charity £
Listed investments:		
Market value at 1 January 2016	3,187,907	2,601,554
Unrealised gains	294,411	239,695
Market value at 31 December 2016	3,482,318	2,841,249
Other investments (see below)	11,209	11,209
	3,493,527	2,852,458

Analysis of listed investment holdings at 31 December 2016:

	Group Market Value £	Group Historical Cost £	Charity Market Value £	Charity Historical Cost £
CCLA Investment Management				
Investment Fund	2,395,768	1,163,646	1,872,548	881,605
Fixed Interest Fund	1,086,550	1,027,281	968,701	965,034
	3,482,318	2,190,927	2,841,249	1,846,639

At 31 December 2016, 19.2% of the Investment Fund was held by the fund managers in overseas equities. The remaining listed investments were all held in the UK.

Other investments comprise a Chalice and Paten and the King of Prussia Gold Medal, all of which are recorded at their insurance value.

Notes to the financial statements – as at 31 December 2016

14. DEBTORS

	Group 2016 £	Group 2015 £	Charity 2016 £	Charity 2015 £
Legacies receivable	1,263,914	1,878,200	1,263,914	1,878,200
Other debtors and prepayments	86,138	37,654	86,138	37,654
	1,350,052	1,915,854	1,350,052	1,915,854

15. CREDITORS – AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Group 2016 £	Group 2015 £	Charity 2016 £	Charity 2015 £
Grants payable (note 16)	1,427,470	1,353,500	1,412,470	1,328,000
Funds held on behalf of others (note 17)	187,529	447,126	187,529	447,126
Accruals and other creditors	49,650	23,466	49,650	23,466
	1,664,649	1,824,092	1,649,649	1,798,592

16. GRANTS

	Group 2016 £	Group 2015 £	Charity 2016 £	Charity 2015 £
Grants unpaid as at 1 January	1,353,500	1,167,250	1,328,000	1,147,250
Grants awarded in the year	1,399,470	1,335,500	1,384,470	1,305,500
Grants cancelled in the year	(26,500)	(40,000)	(26,500)	(40,000)
Grants paid in the year	(1,299,000)	(1,109,250)	(1,273,500)	(1,084,750)
Grants unpaid as at 31 December	1,427,470	1,353,500	1,412,470	1,328,000

All grants are payable to institutions. All restricted fund grants are made in respect of the fabric of the building of places of worship. Grants are cancelled if not taken up within two years. In addition to the grants awarded by the Group from its own funds, as summarised above, NCT managed grant programmes on behalf of other grant-giving bodies (see note 17). Further details of grants awarded in the year are included within the Trustees' Report.

17. FUNDS HELD ON BEHALF OF OTHERS

Group & Charity	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
Funds held as at 1 January	447,126	15,000
Funds received in the year	364,615	557,900
Interest on funds	779	-
Contributions towards grant programme overheads	(100)	(57,974)
Grants paid out in the year	(624,891)	(67,800)
Funds held as at 31 December	187,529	447,126

NCT manages grant programmes on behalf of other charities and bodies which give grants for repairs and improvements to places of worship as summarised above. The movement of these funds is not recognised in the statement of financial activities of the Group.

Notes to the financial statements – as at 31 December 2016

18. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	At 1 January 2016 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains and losses on investment £	At 31 December 2016 £
Charity					
General HCPT funds	2,599,355	369,581	(1,479,430)	239,696	1,729,202
ICBS funds for Church of England churches	14,486	1,869	(10,000)	-	6,355
Yorkshire Maintenance Project	-	90,100	(40,219)	-	49,881
Cost of fundraising events	-	3,375	(3,375)	-	-
Church support training	-	750	(750)	-	-
Spires appeal	21,821	1,448	(23,000)	-	269
Cornerstone grants	-	180,000	(180,000)	-	-
Repair grants	-	50,000	(50,000)	-	-
Maintenance grants	-	20,000	-	-	20,000
Community grants	-	25,000	(25,000)	-	-
Grants in general	-	75,000	(75,000)	-	-
Grants for grade I listed churches	-	396	(396)	-	-
Grants for churches in:					
Birmingham & West Midlands	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Hampshire and the Islands	-	312	(312)	-	-
Norfolk	-	5,300	(5,300)	-	-
Leicestershire	-	2,500	(2,500)	-	-
Northumberland & Newcastle	500	500	(1,000)	-	-
Yorkshire	-	55,700	(700)	-	55,000
Cornwall	-	4,000	(4,000)	-	-
St Mary's Church, Redgrave	141,635	-	-	-	141,635
Charity total	2,777,797	895,831	(1,910,982)	239,696	2,002,342
The Luke Trust Income funds (notes 19 and 23)	60,653	22,439	(15,000)	-	68,092
Group total	2,838,450	918,270	(1,925,982)	239,696	2,070,434

19. ENDOWMENT FUNDS

	R. de Pass legacy £	Luke Trust £	Total £
At 1 January 2016	1,368,000	586,354	1,954,354
Movement for the year	92,000	54,715	146,715
At 31 December 2016	1,460,000	641,069	2,101,069

The endowment fund bequeathed by Mr R. de Pass must be held permanently by HCPT. The Charity was notified of the legacy during 2015 and a more accurate valuation was provided during 2016, leading to a further £92,000 being recorded. Income which arises from this endowment fund can be used for the maintenance of the fabric of Grade I listed historic parish churches dating from before the Victorian period.

The endowment fund held by the Luke Trust must be held permanently. The movement in the year represents the gains on revaluation of investments. Income which arises from this endowment fund (see note 18) can be used for grants to churches, subject to certain geographical preferences.

Notes to the financial statements – as at 31 December 2016

20. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Group	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	48,883	–	–	48,883
Investments	11,209	2,841,249	641,069	3,493,527
Current assets	1,715,720	666,836	1,460,000	3,842,556
Creditors: due within one year	(226,998)	(1,437,651)	–	(1,664,649)
At 31 December 2016	1,548,814	2,070,434	2,101,069	5,720,317

Charity	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	48,883	–	–	48,883
Investments	11,209	2,841,249	–	2,852,458
Current assets	1,715,720	583,744	1,460,000	3,759,464
Creditors: due within one year	(226,998)	(1,422,651)	–	(1,649,649)
At 31 December 2016	1,548,814	2,002,342	1,460,000	5,011,156

The total unrealised gains as at 31 December 2016 constitute movements on revaluation of investments and are as follows:

	Group 2016 £	Group 2015 £	Charity 2016 £	Charity 2015 £
Unrealised gains at 1 January	996,980	1,009,697	754,915	769,150
Add: net gains/(losses) arising on revaluation in the year	294,411	(12,717)	239,695	(14,235)
Total unrealised gains at 31 December	1,291,391	996,980	994,610	754,915

21. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

The total minimum commitments of the Group and Charity in respect of non-cancellable operating leases are payable as follows:

Group & Charity	2016 £	2015 £
Less than 1 year	16,051	17,966
Between 1 and 2 years	16,051	16,051
Between 2 to 5 years	4,013	20,064
	36,115	54,081

Notes to the financial statements – as at 31 December 2016

22. MEMBERS' LIABILITY

The company has no share capital and is a charitable company limited by guarantee. The members would be required to contribute a maximum of £10 each in the event of liquidation.

23. THE LUKE TRUST

The Luke Trust, registered charity no. 1000550, is deemed to be a subsidiary of NCT as the latter is the sole trustee of the former. The income of the Luke endowment is directed towards churches within the remit of HCPT needing assistance for fabric repair, subject to certain geographical preferences.

A summary of the financial statements of The Luke Trust is as follows:

	2016 £	2015 £
Statement of financial activities		
Investment income	22,439	23,183
Charitable activities - grants awarded	(15,000)	(30,000)
Gain on investment assets	54,715	1,518
Net increase/(decrease) in funds	62,154	(5,299)
Balance sheet		
Investments	641,069	586,354
Net current assets	68,092	60,653
Total net assets	709,161	647,007
Income funds available for Luke Trust purposes	68,092	60,653
Permanent endowment funds	641,069	586,354
Total funds	709,161	647,007

24. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemption from disclosing transactions between itself and The Luke Trust, under the terms of FRS 102.

The aggregate amount of donations received by the Charity in the year from Trustees was £9,320 (2015: £8,975).

Cornerstone Grants

CUBERT, Cubert Church, Cornwall	£40,000
EXETER, St Thomas, Devon	£40,000
KEMP TOWN, BRIGHTON, St Mary, Sussex	£40,000
KITTS GREEN, Our Lady Help of Christians, Birmingham	£40,000
LEUCHARS, St Athernase, Fife	£40,000
LONDON, PADDINGTON, St Mary Magdalene, London	£40,000
PAISLEY, Methodist Central Hall, Renfrewshire	£40,000
TREDEGAR, St George, Monmouthshire	£40,000
Total	£320,000

Repair Grants

ABERYSTWYTH, St Michael and All Angels, Ceredigion	£10,000
BARNINGHAM WINTER, St Mary the Virgin, Norfolk	£10,000
BAYTON, St Bartholomew, Worcestershire	£10,000
BELFAST, May Street Presbyterian Church, County Antrim	£10,000
BOLTON PERCY, All Saints, North Yorkshire	£20,000
CAPPAGH, OMAGH, St Euegens, County Tyrone	£15,000
CAREW, St Mary, Pembrokeshire	£10,000
COMBWICH, St Peter, Somerset	£6,000
DREFACH FELINDRE, St Barnabas, Carmarthenshire	£7,000
DUDLEY, St Thomas and St Luke, West Midlands	£20,000
DUDLEY ROAD, St Patrick, Birmingham	£20,000
DUNDY, St Michael the Archangel, Somerset	£15,000
HALLOW, St Philip and St James, Worcestershire	£17,000
HANLEY, All Saints, Staffordshire	£20,000
HINTON WALDRIST, St Margaret of Antioch, Oxfordshire	£10,000
HOWDEN, Sacred Heart, East Riding of Yorkshire	£14,000
KENLEY, St John the Baptist, Shropshire	£10,000
KIDDERMINSTER, Baxter URC, Worcestershire	£10,000
LONDON, BOW, St Mary and Holy Trinity, London	£20,000
LONDON, CATFORD, St Laurence, London	£10,000
MARSHAM, All Saints, Norfolk	£15,000
MEETH, St Michael and All Angels, Devon	£10,000
MIDDLEZOY, Holy Cross, Somerset	£10,000
NEW BRIGHTON, Ss Peter, Paul and Philomena, Merseyside	£10,000
NEWPORT, The Minster Church of Sts Thomas, The Isle of Wight	£10,000
NORTH PERROTT, St Martin, Somerset	£10,000
SOUTHPORT, Holy Trinity, Merseyside	£20,000
ST MAWGAN-IN-MENEAGE, St Mawgan-in-Meneage, Cornwall	£10,000
ST NEOT, St Neot, Cornwall	£10,000
STAND, All Saints, Manchester	£10,000
STEEPLE MORDEN, St Peter and St Paul, Hertfordshire	£15,000
TOXTETH PARK, St Agnes and St Pancras, Liverpool	£20,000
TREOES, Saron Independent Congregational Chapel, Glamorgan	£10,000
TUGBY, St Thomas Becket, Leicestershire	£15,000
TUNSTALL, Sacred Heart, Staffordshire	£10,000
WICK, St James, Glamorgan	£8,000
WILLINGALE, St Christopher, Essex	£10,000
WOLVERHAMPTON, St Mary and St John, West Midlands	£20,000
Total	£487,000

Project Viability and Development Grants

BOBBINGWORTH, St Germain, Essex	£5,700
SHETTLESTON, Trinity Methodist Church, Glasgow	£10,000
GREAT SHEFFORD, St Mary, Berkshire	£3,000
HERODSFOOT, All Saints, Cornwall	£1,500
NEWPORT, The Minster Church of Sts Thomas, The Isle of Wight	£5,000
SHEFFIELD, Cemetery Road Baptist Church, South Yorkshire	£10,000
SHOREDITCH, St Leonard, London	£2,600
SOUTH ELMSALL, Trinity Methodist Church, West Yorkshire	£2,500
ST ASAPH, Parish Church of Ss Asaph and Cyndeyrn, Denbighshire	£7,350
STOCKTON ON TEES, Stockton Parish Church, Durham	£2,320
TONG, St Bartholomew, Shropshire	£6,000
TOTNES, St Mary, Devon	£10,000
Total	£65,970

Cinnamon Grants

ABERYSTWYTH, St Michaels and All Angels, Ceredigion	£2,000
BELFAST, May Street Presbyterian Church, County Antrim	£2,000
GLOUCESTER, St Mary de Crypt, Gloucestershire	£2,000
MANCHESTER, Christ Church URC, Manchester	£2,000
SALTAIRE, Saltaire URC, West Yorkshire	£2,000
SARK, Sark Methodist Church, Channel Islands	£2,000
TOPCROFT, St Margaret, Norfolk	£2,000
Total	£14,000

Community Grants

BISHOPS CASTLE, St John the Baptist, Shropshire	£10,000
CASTLE COMBE, St Andrew, Wiltshire	£10,000
COTHERIDGE, St Leonard, Worcestershire	£10,000
DERBY, St Thomas, Derbyshire	£15,000
FINNINGLEY, Holy Trinity and St Oswald, South Yorkshire	£10,000
GLOUCESTER, St Mary de Crypt, Gloucestershire	£20,000
INGOLDSBY, St Bartholomew, Lincolnshire	£5,000
MANCHESTER, Christ Church URC, Manchester	£10,000
MONKS KIRBY, St Edith, Warwickshire	£10,000
OFFERTON, St Alban, Cheshire	£5,000
PERTH, Perth Methodist Church, Perthshire	£10,000
RENDESHAM, St Gregory the Great, Suffolk	£5,000
SALTAIRE, Saltaire URC, West Yorkshire	£10,000
SARK, Sark Methodist Church, Channel Islands	£10,000
SUTTON VALENCE, St Mary the Virgin, Kent	£10,000
TARPORLEY, Baptist and Methodist Church, Cheshire	£5,000
TOPCROFT, St Margaret, Norfolk	£10,000
TWYCROSS, St James the Greater, Leicestershire	£10,000
Total	£175,000

Partnership Grants

These grants are awarded in partnership with and on the recommendation of local churches trusts. The partner organisation in each case is listed below

Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Historic Churches Trust	£7,500	KELSHALL, St Faith
Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Historic Churches Trust	£5,000	THERFIELD, St Mary
Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Historic Churches Trust	£5,000	BLUNHAM, St Edmund or St James
Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Historic Churches Trust	£5,000	WATTON-AT-STONE St Andrew and St Mary
Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Historic Churches Trust	£5,000	ROXTON Congregational Church
Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	LITTLE BERKHAMSTED, St Andrew
Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust	£10,000	ELTISLEY, St Pandionia & St John the Baptist
Cornwall Historic Churches Trust	£10,000	TEMPLE, St Catherine
Cornwall Historic Churches Trust	£10,000	LANEAST, St Sidwell and St Gulval
Dorset Historic Churches Trust	£5,000	MILBORNE, St Andrew
Dorset Historic Churches Trust	£5,000	BLANDFORD FORUM, St Peter and St Paul
Dorset Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	LITTLE BREDY, St Michael and All Angels
Dorset Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	MILTON ABBAS, St James
Dorset Historic Churches Trust	£5,000	WEYMOUTH, St John
Friends of Kent Churches	£5,000	BRIDGE, St Peter
Friends of Kent Churches	£2,500	HUNTON, St Mary
Friends of Kent Churches	£2,500	DENTON, St Mary Magdalene
Friends of Kent Churches	£2,500	MURSTON, All Saints
Friends of Kent Churches	£2,500	MAIDSTONE, Maidstone URC
Friends of Kent Churches	£2,500	WITTERSHAM, St John the Baptist
Greater Manchester Churches Preservation Society	£5,000	LYDGATE, Oldham, St Anne
Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust	£5,000	CALBOURNE (IoW), All Saints
Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust	£4,500	LYMINGTON, St Thomas
Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust	£3,000	WINCHESTER, St Swithun-upon-Kingsgate
Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	PORTSMOUTH, All Saints
Hampshire and the Islands Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	BRAMDEAN, St Simon & St Jude
Herefordshire Historic Churches Trust	£5,000	LEOMINSTER, Priory Church of St Peter and St Paul
Herefordshire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	HOLMER, St Bartholomew
Herefordshire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	FELTON, St Michael the Archangel
Historic Cheshire Churches Preservation Trust	£5,000	ALDERLEY EDGE, St Philip & St James
Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	COPT OAK, St Peter
Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	BOTTESFORD, St Mary
Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	BLASTON, St Giles
Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	THORPE LANGTON, St Leonard
Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	SPROXTON, ST Bartholomew
Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	NETHER BROUGHTON, St Mary
Norfolk Churches Trust	£10,000	LUDHAM, St Catherine
Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	DRAUGHTON, St Catherine
Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	WELDON, St Mary the Virgin
Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	NORTHAMPTON, Christ Church
Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	FLORE, All Saints
Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	LILBOURNE All Saints
Northamptonshire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	GRAFTON REGIS, St Mary the Virgin
Northumbria Historic Churches Trust	£4,000	SUNDERLAND, St Andrew
Northumbria Historic Churches Trust	£3,000	SEAHAM, St Andrews
Northumbria Historic Churches Trust	£3,000	BISHOPTON, St Peter
Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust	£5,000	RADCLIFFE ON TRENT, St Mary
Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust	£5,000	MANSFIELD, St John
Nottinghamshire Historic Churches Trust	£5,000	THOROTON, St Helena
Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust	£7,500	OXFORD, St Ebbe
Scotland's Churches Trust	£5,000	BRIDGE OF ALLAN, Lecropt Kirk

Grants awarded 2015

Scotland's Churches Trust	£5,000	ALEXANDRIA, St Mungo's Episcopal Church
Scotland's Churches Trust	£5,000	AUCHINCUIVE, St Quivox
Scotland's Churches Trust	£5,000	MOTHERWELL, Dalziel St Andrews Parish Church
Scotland's Churches Trust	£5,000	BANFF, Banff Parish Church
Scotland's Churches Trust	£4,000	DUROR, Duror Parish Church
Scotland's Churches Trust	£4,000	COATBRIDGE, Calder Parish Church
Scotland's Churches Trust	£3,000	ISLE OF COLONSAY, Colonsay Parish Church
Scotland's Churches Trust	£3,000	LAIRG, Parish Church
Scotland's Churches Trust	£2,500	CAPUTH, Caputh Parish Church
Scotland's Churches Trust	£2,500	BURGHEAD FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Scotland's Churches Trust	£2,000	STRAITON, St Cuthberts
Scotland's Churches Trust	£2,000	MOSSBLOWN, Annbank Parish Church
Scotland's Churches Trust	£2,000	EDINBURGH, St James Scottish Episcopal Church
Shropshire Historic Churches Trust	£5,000	CLUN, St George
Shropshire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	WHITCHURCH, St Alkmund
Shropshire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	BASCHURCH, All Saints
Somerset Churches Trust	£5,000	EAST CLEVEDON, All Saints
Somerset Churches Trust	£4,500	BRADFORD ON TONE, St Giles
Somerset Churches Trust	£3,000	UPPER SWAINSWICK, St Mary
Somerset Churches Trust	£2,500	EAST HARPTREE, St Laurence
Suffolk Historic Churches Trust	£10,000	CRANSFORD, St Peter
Suffolk Historic Churches Trust	£4,000	WISSETT, St Andrew
Suffolk Historic Churches Trust	£3,000	KNODISHALL, St Lawrence
Suffolk Historic Churches Trust	£3,000	PLAYFORD, St Mary
Surrey Churches Preservation Trust	£10,000	ABINGER COMMON, St James
Surrey Churches Preservation Trust	£5,000	CHIDDINGFOLD, St Mary
Warwickshire & Coventry Historic Churches Trust	£5,000	CHERINGTON, St John the Baptist
Warwickshire & Coventry Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	SNITTERFIELD, St James the Great
Warwickshire & Coventry Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	HILLMORTON, St John the Baptist
Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust	£5,000	SWINDON, St Mark
Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	CASTLE COMBE, St Andrew
Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust	£2,500	WARMINSTER, St Denys
Total	£337,500	

We are grateful to the many donors who generously support the Trust, including those listed below and others who prefer to remain anonymous

Legacies

Jean Bovington
Mary Burgess
Anita Chapman
Margaret Claxton
Peter Hacker
Lionel Hemming
Marjorie Musgrove
Maureen Ramsey
Colin Rose
Margaret Smith
Hugh Spensley
Gerald Wallace
Rosemary Watson
Phillis Weaver
Brian Wilson

Major Gifts

Richard Carr-Archer
Catharine Kroon
Lord Antony Wedgwood

Trust and Foundations that gave in 2016:

Bunbury Charitable Trust
G M Morrison Charitable Trust
Gunter Charitable Trust
LJC Fund Ltd
P F Charitable Trust
Paley's Second Charitable Trust
Patricia and Donald Shepherd Charitable Trust
Sir John Sumner's Trust
The Aslackby Trust
The Atlas Fund
The Beatrice Laing Charitable Trust
The Cedars Trust
The Civic Trust
The Condon Family Trust
The David Webster Charitable Trust
The Dulverton Trust
The Earl Mawby Trust
The Edinburgh Trust No2 Account
The Eversley Charitable Trust
The Goldsmiths' Company Charity
The Grace Dieu Charitable Trust
The Green Bottle Trust
The Ian Askew Charitable Trust
The Jack Patston Charitable Trust
The John Booth Charitable Foundation
The Kettle Memorial Fund
The Leslie Mary Carter Charitable Trust

The Mercers' Charitable Foundation
The Mill Garden
The O J Colman Charitable Trust
The Oakley Charitable Trust
The Oldcastle Charity
The Pennycress Trust
The Percy Hedley 1990 Charitable Trust
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