

Ackworth Community Church Trust

Report and Accounts
Year ended 31 March 2025

Stewardship 
Active generosity

1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB
www.stewardship.org.uk

ACKWORTH COMMUNITY CHURCH TRUST
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	15 Beech Street South Elmsall Pontefract WF9 2HG
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Declaration of Trust dated May 1996 as amended December 2020
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1056207
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	Neill Gardiner Alyn Griffith (resigned March 2025) Joel Guest Maryna Hanks
BANKERS	Barclays Bank plc Kingdom Bank Limited
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Jaimée Young Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

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ACKWORTH COMMUNITY CHURCH TRUST

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Objectives of the charity

1. To advance the Christian faith, in accordance with the statement of beliefs shown in the Declaration of Trust, in the county of West Yorkshire and in other such parts of the UK or the world mission field (operating area) as the trustees from time to time think fit.
2. To relieve persons in conditions of need or hardship or who are aged and infirm and to relieve the distress caused thereby in the same operating area as the trustees from time-to-time think fit.
3. To promote and fulfil such other charitable purposes beneficial to the community in the area of operation as the trustees think fit.

Governance

The names of the trustees as the time of this report are: Neill Gardiner, Joel Guest, and Maryna Hanks. Alyn Griffith resigned as a trustee and chair of trustees on 03 March 2025. Joel Guest has been appointed chair of trustees.

The governing document of the charity is a Declaration of Trust which has been in place since 1996, the church was founded in 1991. The charity has 3 trustees selected from the body of the church depending upon their reputation and experience. The power to appoint trustees lies with the trustees. The day to day running of the church is managed by 4 elders, one of whom, Michael Bellamy, is full time and paid by the church. The elders make financial decisions about the management of the church with reference to the trustees for significant sums. One of the elders is also a trustee.

Ashley Guest resigned from his position as lead elder. A new lead elder, Michael Bellamy was appointed and started in his role on 01 August 2024.

Review of the charity's main activities and achievements

To further the above objects and vision, the charity's main activities and achievements were as follows:

We have run a weekly Toddler Group, called Little Oaks, which has provided a connection to the community and a support for local parents and families. In the Spring we met with some of the parents and children for a Forest Church on a Sunday afternoon and again in late summer for a picnic and games afternoon.

We have worked with Churches Together in Ackworth, to support outreach to the local community in particular at Easter and Christmas. This included short services in the local Co-op on Good Friday and in the lead up to Christmas.

We have supported the local foodbank with a collection at church in Winter.

As well as normal Sunday services we encouraged discipleship through weekly Bible studies and prayer meetings.

In planning the activities the Trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

Financial review

There was an increase in the general reserve of just over £2,300, plus increases in giving and expenditure. The trustees and elders retained the £25,000 in a 6 month savings bond with Kingdom Bank, which attracts a significantly better rate of interest than those offered by Barclays. This reserve will be used to fund the employment of the new lead elder in future years, and as such has been designated for this purpose. For other designated funds:

- the Little Oaks Parent and Toddler group funds increased by £550;
- the Needs fund provided

Our income comes from voluntary giving from church members and attendees. There are three main avenues to give: via an account with Stewardship, on which Stewardship claim the gift aid and then grant funds to the church; or giving by Standing Order or through the offerings box. The giving through the offerings box has reduced but some people who give regularly in this way have made occasional gifts. We have also established our own Gift Aid scheme for those who give by Standing Order, with a view to claiming through the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme in the future.

Our policy is to retain sufficient reserves:

- To ensure that the church and charity has sufficient funds to meet its financial commitments;
- To demonstrate that the church and charity is sustainable into the future;
- To ensure that the church and charity is able to manage future unforeseen financial difficulties;
- To ensure that excessive funds are not held without any identifiable reason or for any identifiable purpose.

Reserves policy

The trustees have determined that the charity should aim to hold unrestricted cash of no less than £8,000 (which equates to about 3 months of unrestricted expenditure) so that the charity could continue to operate should income and / or expenditure vary adversely. At the year end, the charity held unrestricted cash of £40,865 and the charity is complying with its reserves policy.

Mission

We support the work of missionaries to churches in Malawi, both in prayer and financially. We also continued with our support of Your Mission, a charity who run missions training courses and often facilitates mission trips.

Responsibilities of trustees

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.

We are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

We also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

Approval

This report was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Joel Guest

Joel Guest (Jul 30, 2025 15:55:46 GMT+1)

Joel Guest

Date: Jul 30, 2025

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
ACKWORTH COMMUNITY CHURCH TRUST

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Ackworth Community Church Trust ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2025 on pages 5 to 8 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

J. Young
J. Young (Aug 12, 2025 12:05:11 GMT+1)
Jaimée Young

Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Aug 12, 2025

ACKWORTH COMMUNITY CHURCH TRUST
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
		General Funds	Designated Funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
<i>Income receipts</i>						
Donations		12,290	-	-	12,290	12,791
Gift aid receipts		2,290	-	-	2,290	1,543
Charitable donations		24,580	-	-	24,580	23,221
Charitable activities		-	1,325	-	1,325	1,794
Bank interest		996	-	-	996	132
Other		469	-	-	469	250
<i>Total receipts</i>		40,625	1,325	-	41,950	39,730
<i>Payments</i>						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	36,127	1,074	-	37,202	32,160
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	2,400	-	-	2,400	2,400
<i>Total payments</i>		38,527	1,074	-	39,602	34,560
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers		2,098	250	-	2,348	5,170
Transfers between funds	5	(300)	300	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		1,798	550	-	2,348	5,170
Cash funds as at last year end		11,372	27,145	-	38,517	33,347
Cash funds at this year end	A	13,170	27,695	-	40,865	38,517

The notes on pages 7 - 8 form part of these accounts.

ACKWORTH COMMUNITY CHURCH TRUST
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS AT THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
	General funds	Designated funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
A Cash funds					
Barclays Community	8,872	-	-	8,872	6,597
Barclays Business	4,296	-	-	4,296	4,234
Barclays Little Oaks	-	2,251	-	2,251	1,701
Barclays Needs	-	445	-	445	445
Kingdom Bank 6 month Savings Bond	-	25,000	-	25,000	25,000
Cash in hand	1	-	-	1	541
	<u>13,170</u>	<u>27,696</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>40,866</u>	<u>38,517</u>
B Other monetary assets					
Gift aid due to charity	564	-	-	564	-
	<u>564</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>564</u>	<u>-</u>
C Liabilities					
Falling due within one year:					
Pension	173	-	-	173	186
Accrued expenses	-	-	-	-	720
	<u>173</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>173</u>	<u>906</u>
D Assets retained for charity's own use					
			Fund to which asset belongs	Value 2025	
				£	
Contents and equipment			General	5,860	
				<u>5,860</u>	

The trustees have used insurance values as the trustees are unable to reliably estimate current values; insurance values may differ materially from current values.

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf

by Joel Guest date Jul 30, 2025
Joel Guest (Jul 30, 2025 15:55:46 GMT+1)
Joel Guest

The notes on pages 7 - 8 form part of these accounts.

ACKWORTH COMMUNITY CHURCH TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

		<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
		General funds	Designated funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly						
Staff Salary	Note 4	27,479	-	-	27,479	21,088
Pension		1,208	-	-	1,208	1,898
Churches Together		-	-	-	-	70
Outreach		100	-	-	100	450
Children's work		225	-	-	225	197
Books, Conferences and Training		-	49	-	49	188
Premises Hire		1,663	695	-	2,358	2,210
Insurance		314	-	-	314	601
Visiting Speakers		1,217	-	-	1,217	1,104
Sundry Expenses		1,031	-	-	1,031	706
Ministry gifts		-	300	-	300	750
Accounts Examination		720	-	-	720	690
Payroll Fee		583	-	-	583	565
Stationery, Postage and Equipment		1,139	30	-	1,169	1,244
Copyright		450	-	-	450	399
		<u>36,127</u>	<u>1,074</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,202</u>	<u>32,160</u>

3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others

Organisations:						
Salt Malawi		1,800	-	-	1,800	1,800
Your Mission		600	-	-	600	600
		<u>2,400</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,400</u>	<u>2,400</u>

ACKWORTH COMMUNITY CHURCH TRUST
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

4 Transactions with related parties

A relative of trustee Joel Guest served as a church leader and was paid £10,535 [2024: £22,986] for serving in that capacity. These payments include employer pension contributions and are permitted by the charity's governing document.

No payments were made to any other trustees or persons related to them, except for reimbursement of expenses paid out on behalf of the charity.

5 Movement of funds

	Opening balance £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Closing balance £
General funds	11,372	40,625	(38,527)	(300)	13,170
Designated funds					
Little Oaks Toddler Group	1,700	1,325	(774)	-	2,250
Needs Fund	445	-	(300)	300	445
Reserve for full time worker support	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
Total unrestricted funds	38,517	41,950	(39,602)	-	40,865
Total restricted funds	-	-	-	-	-
Total funds	38,517	41,950	(39,602)	-	40,865

Reserve for full time worker - funds set aside for future full time worker support

The Little Oaks Toddler Group is a Parents and Toddler Group run by members of the church

The Needs Fund relates to a fund set aside to meet urgent financial needs of church members, their