

**TAUNTON YOUTH FOR CHRIST**

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT  
AND  
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31st MARCH 2023**

**Registered Charity Number: 1081565**

**TAUNTON YOUTH FOR CHRIST**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2023**

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## TAUNTON YOUTH FOR CHRIST

### CHARITY INFORMATION

<b>TRUSTEES:</b>	Mrs C Solanki (Chair)
<b>(Executive Committee members)</b>	Rev V Carrington (resigned September 2022)
	Mr H J Clark
	Ms N Vieira
	Mr S Burton
	Mr D Slack
	Miss L R Darley (appointed November 2022)
<b>REGISTERED ADDRESS:</b>	1 Fons George Road
	Taunton
	Somerset
	TA1 3JU
<b>REGISTERED CHARITY:</b>	1081565
<b>INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:</b>	Mark Roney
	Aspen Waite Doyle
	Chartered Certified Accountants
	Old Town Hall
	Fore Street
	Wellington
	Somerset
	TA21 8LS

## **Trustees Annual Report 2022-23**

Taunton Youth for Christ  
33 North Street  
Taunton, TA1 1LW

Charity Number: 1081568

Chairperson: Mrs Cathrine Solanki

Treasurer: Mr David Slack

Secretary: Miss Laura Darley

Trustees: Mr Harvey Clarke, Miss Nelma Vieira, Mr Sam Burton, Rev Vince Carrington, (Resigned Sept '22).

### **Employees**

Full time Kelly Jones, Centre Director, Appointed August 2022

Ant Stephens, Youth Worker, Resigned April 2023

### **Summary of Purpose**

To see young lives changed by Jesus.

### **Main Activities**

School mentoring, School Chaplaincy, Schools Work, (Christian Union, Safe Space)  
Youth Club, Detached Community Work, Termly Events, Support Churches.

### **Mentoring**

Taunton Youth for Christ offered four days mentoring per week throughout the year, two at The Castle School, Taunton and two days at Court Field's School, Wellington. Pupils are referred by welfare staff within the school. The courses ran between 6-8 weeks and sessions were based on biblical principles and covered many topics. Forgiveness, anger management, issues around peer groups and family reconciliation are covered and all sessions are open to young people of any background.

Ant had a caseload of 24 mentees a week. And Kelly saw 20 mentees between September and April 2023.

### **Chaplaincy**

Kelly and Ant both engaged in Chaplaincy work over the year. Ant at Court Field's School providing a Christian Union and break time support for vulnerable students to talk through issues. Kelly supports the Chaplain at The Academy in Taunton on a Wednesday afternoon. Kelly hosts a drop-in session during lunchtime and sees mentees during the afternoon. As a result of Kelly's input, she was invited to join the ethos committee. This has provided a good platform to input Christian values for the school.

## **Outreach**

The youth outreach van/bus was commissioned in September 23 and has proved an invaluable resource to the team. We saw a regular group of young people attend the Thursday evening session over the winter months and having a dry space enables us to build relationships. The young people and their parents have been very grateful for the provision of a venue to gather during the winter months, play X Box and talk through situations arising at home and school. The team have had several positive interactions with local police during the sessions and were able to provide a safe space occasionally for young people who were in distress and required professional input. On those occasions the team remained on site at the park until police, ambulance and social services were able to arrange overnight provision or medical assistance.

As the weather has improved increased numbers of young people now attend the sessions and the overlap with school's work is as we hoped it would be. Where conversations were brief due to school timetables, the team are now able to build strong relationships without time restrictions. Because of the police involvement, Kelly has built a good relationship with the local Violence Reduction Unit in Taunton, and they requested we run an additional evening at Priorswood. This was implemented in April 23 and is proving to be a success. The team regularly see 30-40 young people and are working on creating a culture of honour and respect to model good practice. The Violence Reduction Unit have agreed to fund £1300 annually in 2023/24 to cover the costs of refreshments and fuel for the generator.

## **Youth Club-FNP**

Youth club ran weekly term time until April 23 when Ant resigned his position. Numbers were often in the early twenties, and they followed the Rock Solid programme of games and a talk in addition to playing X box and using the garden whenever possible. Several off site trips were facilitated including a visit to Flip- Out a trampoline centre in Wellington.

## **Events**

We have hosted three Living Out Loud sessions over the year, one a term and seen around seventy-eighty young people attend. Teaching, worship, fun and games were the core of each session and in total ten young people have made a commitment to follow Jesus.

## **Summary Of Achievements**

### **Mentoring**

We continued to assist young people with reconciliation with parents, anger management, peer group pressure, pre-clinical depression, despondency, self-esteem, and fear issues during the sessions. The young people we see are given tools to cope with change and interpersonal skills. Each pupil attends a six- or eight-week course of mentoring, and we have supported upwards of 150 pupils over the year. The team continue to see the effects on mental health of lockdown as life has returned to a more normal pattern.

### **Chaplaincy**

As a result of Ants resignation, we took time to review the provision of mentoring in schools and it was agreed to advertise a Chaplaincy post to replace the mentoring post made vacant. This will enable us to expand our input and spread the workload over several days enabling us to develop greater continuity with the pupils in building relationship and reach a wider group of young people.

Ant and Kelly both engaged in Chaplaincy work, facilitating Christian Unions, drop-in sessions, and running assemblies at school. In addition, Kelly and Ant supported a local church at Christmas to run a carol service and an Easter service where pupils were taken to the local venues. The school was grateful to have the support and input of the Chaplains to facilitate these activities. Christian Unions continue to provide opportunities for young people to explore matters of faith and invite those with faith related questions to attend. CU's ran at The Castle School, Court Field's and The Academy.

## **Outreach**

Having felt strongly a call to pursue working with young people in the local parks and schools, we are very encouraged with the uptake of detached van sessions. We aim to demonstrate Christian values and encourage the young people we meet to follow our example in forgiving, showing tolerance of those we meet, accepting new members to join us and respecting the needs of every individual. We have been hugely encouraged by the uptake during the detached sessions and the team have built solid relationships. Young people have come to us at times of celebration, extreme trauma, fear, frustration and confusion and we have given them time and encouragement. Statutory bodies are sometimes called upon if situations demand, however the young people trust us to advocate on their behalf and this has resulted in disclosures resulting in good outcomes. Several of the young people who made a commitment to follow Jesus are now regularly attending church and attending a group to explore the bible.

We currently run two evenings of outreach, Tuesdays at Priorswood and Thursdays at Hamilton Park. Kelly has been approached by police to extend the provision to neighbouring town and local churches want to sponsor a post in a further town. We are looking into appointing someone for one position and are encouraging the local churches to get involved as volunteers.

Having the van as a safe space has enhanced our capacity to sit with young people regardless of weather conditions and given the local youth a focal point to gather and relax together.

## **Youth Club- FNP**

The Friday Night Project has been running weekly term times and we see a regular attendance of between 20-30 young people. Friends bring along friends and the vibe is relaxed and safe.

## **Events**

This year has been successful in terms of attendance to Living Out Loud events. We are frequently asked when the next event will take place and there is now an anticipation for every session planned. Attendance is usually around seventy young people however this can vary. Once again, we hosted the American team, Carry the Love and they remained with us to visit schools and do outreach. Attendees are a mixture of church and outreach young people with the majority being unchurched. Young people are happy to invite friends along and we have set a format for every event so that the youth know in advance what to expect however the guest speakers vary.

## **Financial Review**

Income is £48,017 and expenditure is £67,170. The deficit of £19,153 is due primarily to payments made for the refurbishment of the youth bus.

We are grateful for significant increases in our regular giving this year and an application for a grant of £15,000 is in the process of submission to cover the additional cost of our full time Centre Director in addition to a jointly funded youth worker. Our reserves of £50,811 are slightly in excess of 12

months running costs and would support a small deficit for a short period of time while additional regular income is sought.

### **Governance**

Taunton Youth for Christ is affiliated to British Youth for Christ. The constitution is based on the national model and TYfC seeks to comply with the national charter. However, TYfC is an independent charity that has trustees appointed by the existing trustees. The Trustees have continued to meet regularly throughout the year bi monthly and are always available in the event of urgent matters arising.

The Trustees are aware of the Charities Commission's Guidance on public benefit and are satisfied that the above activities meet the public benefit requirements for charitable status.

### **Future Plans**

As we consider the way forward, our goal is always to reach as many young people as possible in our town and surrounding area. We will be reviewing the schools work over the coming months and considering the benefits of mentoring services over School Chaplaincy.

With regards to outreach we hope to continue to build on our volunteer base of 19 to extend the park work and facilitate additional sessions. When Ant resigned his position, this gave us an opportunity to consider partnering with a local church to employ a joint youth worker and the plans to establish this role are now in place.

We feel strongly this will enable us to bridge the gap between outreach and church as our hope is to see many more young people feel comfortable to do as a small number have done over the last year and find their way to a church and grow in faith. We began an alpha group, and this has morphed into a nurture bible study. We see this as a steppingstone to growing in faith.

Kelly has worked to develop our safeguarding policies to enable safe practice amongst the outreach young people, many of whom come from very challenging backgrounds. We hope to roll out a safeguarding service to local churches to enable them to receive the young people who are now beginning to attend their churches and be confident to engage and help them grow in faith.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion Taunton Youth for Christ continues to work with statutory agencies, churches, and schools to impact our young people and to equip them to become integrated in society. We provide a safe environment to explore faith issues, personal struggles, express their feelings and have fun. Our team of 19 volunteers, Youth Workers and Trustees working together, for the goal of seeing young people's lives transformed by an encounter with Jesus.

Signed



C Solanki

Chair of Trustees, Taunton Youth for Christ

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT  
TO THE TRUSTEES  
OF TAUNTON YOUTH FOR CHRIST**

This report on the Receipts and Payments account and statement of Assets and Liabilities of Taunton Youth for Christ for the year ended 31 March 2023, set out on pages 6 to 8, is in respect of an examination carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As Trustees you are responsible for the preparation of accounts; you consider that there is no requirement for any audit of those accounts under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility, under instructions from you, to examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act, to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Trustees and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes considering any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

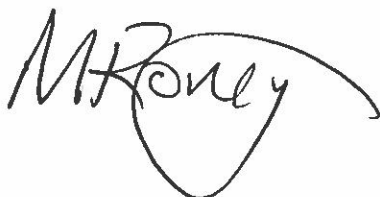
**Independent examiner's statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act.

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**Mark Roney  
Aspen Waite Doyle  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
Old Town Hall, Fore Street  
Wellington, Somerset TA21 8LS**

July 2023



**TAUNTON YOUTH FOR CHRIST**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Unrestricted Funds 2023	Restricted Van 2023	Restricted Mentoring 2023	Total Funds 2023	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
Non Gift Aid donations	25,345	-	6,192	31,537	29,642
Gift Aid donations	11,489	-	-	11,489	15,119
Income tax recovered on Gift Aid donations	3,781	-	-	3,781	2,639
Mentoring project Non Gift Aid donations	-	-	1,000	1,000	15,423
Charitable Trusts	-	-	-	-	2,000
Bank interest received	211	-	-	211	6
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>40,825</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,192</b>	<b>48,017</b>	<b>64,829</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>					
Staff salaries	31,112	-	9,711	40,823	30,099
Resources	294	-	-	294	123
Telephone	161	-	-	161	123
Training	1,355	-	-	1,355	174
Outreach	2,301	-	-	2,301	361
British Youth for Christ	500	-	-	500	500
Travel	1,046	-	-	1,046	531
Insurance and licences	871	-	-	871	689
Accountancy and payroll	618	-	-	618	616
Van cost and equipment	12,500	-	-	12,500	12,060
Van generator	2,455	-	-	2,455	
Van running costs	2,839	-	-	2,839	1,395
Fundraising and publicity	189	-	-	189	410
Office costs	1,218	-	-	1,218	918
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>57,459</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,711</b>	<b>67,170</b>	<b>47,999</b>
<b>Net (Deficit)/Surplus</b>	<b>(16,634)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(2,519)</b>	<b>(19,153)</b>	<b>16,830</b>
<b>Bank and cash funds at 1 April 2022</b>	<b>64,573</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,519</b>	<b>67,092</b>	<b>50,262</b>
<b>Bank and cash funds at 31 March 2023</b>	<b>47,939</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>47,939</b>	<b>67,092</b>

**AT 31 MARCH 2023**

		Unrestricted Funds 2023	Restricted Funds 2023	Total Funds 2023	2022
		£	£	£	£
<b>CASH AND CURRENT ASSET FUNDS</b>					
<b>Bank and cash</b>					
	Bank current account	1,437	-	1,437	2,672
	Bank reserve account	46,501	-	46,501	64,420
<b>Debtor</b>	HMRC	2,872	-	2,872	2,597
		<b>50,811</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>50,811</b>	<b>69,689</b>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees in July 2023 and signed on its behalf by

Chairman

C. Santi

**Treasurer**

David Slack

## **TAUNTON YOUTH FOR CHRIST**

### **NOTES TO THE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

##### **Accounting policies**

This Receipts and Payments account has been prepared on the basis that the gross income of the Charity is less than £250,000 in the year. As such it summarises cash movements only and includes a statement listing assets and liabilities. Receipts and Payments accounts, by definition, do not show a 'True and Fair View' of the Charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

The Receipts and Payments accounts records income as received and expenditure when irrevocably paid.

##### **Funds**

Unrestricted funds represent the funds of the Charity that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application to the general purposes of the Charity.

Restricted funds were given for the purpose of establishing a mentoring project in local schools. The original gifts have been supplemented by funding from the Wellington churches for two days per week in the Court Fields School.

Our youth workers have also provided this service in The Castle School and Bishop Fox's School for up to a further three days per week.

##### **Statement of Assets and Liabilities**

**The following assets are recognised in the statement:**

1. Closing bank balances as shown in the Receipts and Payments account.
2. Amounts owing to the Charity and due at 31 March 2022.

**and the following liabilities are recognised in the statement:**

1. Creditors for goods and services where the supply has been received and invoiced by 31 March 2023.

##### **Tangible Fixed Assets**

Fixed assets are not included in the statement of Assets and Liabilities unless the individual cost exceeds £1,500.

##### **Independent examination**

Independent examination is required where gross income exceeds £25,000.

##### **Affiliate member**

The Charity is an affiliate member of British Youth for Christ (Company number 988200 and Charity number 263446) and complies with their charter standards.