



Hertford Community Church Trust

Annual Report and Accounts

Twelve months ending 31 August 2023

Charity Number 1082292

Hertford Community Church Trust

Trustees Report

Twelve months ending 31 August 2023

Trustees and Church Leadership

Trustees and church leaders serving throughout the year are:

Trustees

Ian Tyler
Ross Hartwig
Jacqui Pattison
Cathy Sebborn (Treasurer)

Leadership Team

Jess Hartwig
Ross Hartwig
Alison Tyler

Structure, Governance and Management

Hertford Community Church Trust is constituted by a trust deed dated 30 January 2000, as amended by supplemental deed dated 2 July 2000 and is a registered charity number 1082292

The powers of appointment or removal of Trustees rests with the Trustees with due reference to the Church Leadership Team. New Trustees are selected from the members of the Church since this means that the Trustee body is whole-heartedly involved in seeing the mission of the Church worked out in practice. On being Appointed, new Trustees spend time with the existing Trustees to ensure they understand the responsibilities and the legal and financial framework in which the Church operates.

Hertford Community Church targets to have at least two Trustees who are not members of the Leadership and two who are. This is in order to achieve a healthy balance of spiritual and legal governance. Directions relating to the charitable trust are made by the Trustees, in consultation with the Leadership, who are responsible for governing the life and teaching of the Church. Day

to day decisions on expenditure and activities are decided by the staff and volunteers in charge of-different departments within the Church, with budgets set and monitored by the Trustees.

Hertford Community Church is a member of the Pioneer Network of churches.

Objectives and Activities

The Trust has the objective to advance the Christian faith in Hertford and across the world, to relieve poverty or hardship and advance education and training. The church is built on the belief that this is achieved through works in the community.

The main activities of the church are based in Hertford and these also include two separate operations under separate banners:

- Pines Pre School – a pre-school group held at Pinehurst Community Centre for up to 26 children. This is funded primarily from local government grants. This employs 8 part time staff and benefits from 5 volunteers
- Street Pastors, Hertford and Ware – this is a group of volunteers from local churches that regularly go out late at night in Ware and Hertford, to help keep the streets safe for those that are vulnerable due to an excess of alcohol and/or other drugs

Achievements and Performance

In the core church giving and donations increased modestly enabling a small increase in both donations and expenses. The Trustees took the decision to continue to pay rent for halls even though we weren't using them some of the year, in order to support them through these difficult times.

The pre-school did amazingly well to come through the financial year with a small surplus as it was a tough year due to the ongoing Covid pandemic and the age demographic which made keeping full occupancy throughout the year impossible.

SPH&W activities have also been significantly impacted by COVID as the local night-time economy has been severely affected and also in order to protect the health of some of the older and more vulnerable volunteers. However, the financial impact of this is quite modest as SPH&W is an entirely volunteer run activity.

Financial Review

This financial year we have reinstated full comparisons to the prior year.

	Church Activities	Street Pastors	Pre School	Total
Incoming resources	22	3	55	80
Resources expended	26	3	61	90
Net 2023	(4)	0	(6)	(10)
Net 2022	2	0	(5)	(3)

The income for the church was down and for the first year in a while the church had a net deficit of £4k. The pre-school delivered the expected loss for the year, but it is hoped that in 2024 it may break even. This is more important as recent cumulative losses since Covid have reduced the pre-school's reserves to just over £7,000. Street Pastors again made a de minimis surplus for year and now have reserves in excess of £6,000 that represent over 2 years normal expenditure.

The Trust has a target to maintain reserves at between one months and two months expenditure in order to manage unexpected fluctuations in income and meet liabilities as they arise. The reserves at the end of 2023 were equivalent to 1.5 months for the pre-school and much longer periods for the church and Street Pastors.

Public Benefit

In planning its activities, the Trustees have given regard to the Charity Commission's Public Benefit guidance (Reg 40 (2)(c)(ii)) and particularly the guidance for charities whose objects are the advancement of religion.

Hertford Community Church provides Public Benefit in numerous ways which include Christian witness, being active in our local communities to all in need regardless of faith and donation of resources to both local and international communities.

..... Trustee

..... Date

Hertford Community Church Trust

Statement of Financial Activities

Twelve Months Ended 31 August 2023

	Notes	Un- restricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
. Voluntary income	1	27	-	27	31
Incoming resources from charitable activities	2	-	53	53	52
Total incoming resources		27	53	80	83
Resources expended					
Charitable activities	3	37	53	90	86
Total resources expended		37	53	90	86
Net incoming resources		(10)	-	(10)	(3)
Funds at the start of the year		61	-	61	64
Funds at the end of the year		51	-	51	61

Hertford Community Church Trust

Balance Sheet

At 31 August 2023

	Notes	2023 £'000	2023 £'000
Current assets			
Debtors	5	7	
Cash at bank and in hand	6	<u>44</u>	
		51	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	<u>-</u>	
Net current assets			<u>51</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>51</u>
Represented by:			
Funds and reserves			
Unrestricted funds			<u>51</u>

Approved on: 24 May 2024

Hertford Community Church Trust

Cashflow

Twelve Months Ended 31 August 2023

A Adjustment of net incoming resources before transfers to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Net incoming resources before transfers	(10)	(3)
(Increase)/Decrease in Debtors	(1)	(5)
Increase in Creditors	-	
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	(11)	(8)

B Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 Sept 2022 £'000	Cash flows £'000	At 31 Aug 2023 £'000
Cash at bank and in hand	55	(11)	44
Total	55	(11)	44

Principal Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. Applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2005), have been followed in the preparation of these financial statements.

Incoming resources

All income is credited to the statement of financial activities on a receivable basis except Gift Aid which is accrued.

Donations are credited to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are received as receipt is the earliest point at which entitlement is considered certain.

Restricted grants and awards are included once the amount is reasonably certain to be received. The income is matched to the period of expenditure for grants extending beyond the financial year.

Resources expended and the basis of apportioning costs

Expenditure is charged to the statement of financial activities on an accruals basis.

Governance costs are negligible and no separate cost has been identified.

Fund accounting

The Restricted Funds are monies raised for, and their use restricted to, a specific purpose, or donations subject to donor imposed condition.

The General Fund represents unrestricted and undesignated monies used to fund working capital and which the organisation may use in furtherance of the charity's objectives.

1 Voluntary income

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Donations	22		22	24
Grants	0		0	0
Other income	1		1	2
Gift Aid	4	-	4	5
	27	-	27	31

2 Incoming resources from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Government grants	-	47	47	49
Fees	-	6	6	3
	-	53	53	52

3 Cost of charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Staff costs	5	50	57	55
Contributions to outside activities	11	0	11	11
Accommodation	3	2	8	5
Project costs	9	0	8	9
Administration and general	6	0	6	6
	34	52	90	86

4 Staff costs

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Total staff costs	57	55

It has not been possible to quantify the monetary value of the services of approximately 25 volunteers who give their time freely, providing a wide range of support and activities to children, youth, OAPs, local residents and staff.

The average number of actual employees was as follows:

	2023	2022
Part time - FTE equivalent of 2.5	8	8
Full time	0	0
	8	8

5 Debtors

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Gift Aid Due	7	6
	7	6

6 Cash at bank and in hand

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Current accounts	44	55
	44	55

7 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Other creditors	-	-
	-	-