

THE LIGHT PROJECT

England & Wales · Charity number 1084941

Details

Other names	The Light College and Collective
Status	Registered
Legal form	Trust
Registered	2001-02-08
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Foxhill House Tarvin Road Frodsham WA6 6XB
Phone	03333446489
Email	office@lightcollege.ac.uk
Website	www.lightcollege.ac.uk

Activities

Objects: THE TRUSTEES SHALL HOLD THE TRUST FUND AND ITS INCOME UPON TRUST TO APPLY THEM FOR THE FOLLOWING OBJECT ("THE OBJECT") INTERNATIONALLY BUT IN PRACTICE INITIALLY IN THE CITY OF CHESTER (" THE AREA OF BENEFIT"): TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION IN THE AREA OF BENEFIT

Activities: Training, equipping and connecting pioneers and evangelists to make countless followers of Jesus. A theological college, we teach Bachelors and Foundation degrees in Theology, Mission and Evangelism. We provide training for Pioneer Chaplains and Pioneer Evangelists. We run community-centred groups, festivals, events and training, relevantly presenting the Gospel to all.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, Religious Activities
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** INTERNATIONALLY BUT IN PRACTICE THE CITY OF CHESTER
- Guernsey
- Isle Of Man
- Jersey
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-08-31	£159,314	£159,659	-	-
2023-08-31	£191,265	£195,129	-	-
2022-08-31	£217,001	£225,514	-	-
2021-08-31	£220,756	£216,219	-	-
2020-08-31	£258,917	£225,710	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Rev Philip Jump	Chair	
Amanda Roche		2022-10-13
Leslie Kristoffer Maloney		2022-12-05
Rev Amy Louise Wearing		2022-12-05

THE LIGHT PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1084941

Accounts

Registered Charity no. 1084941

The Light Project

Trustees Annual Report and Accounts

Year Ended 31st August 2024



the light
college & collective
formerly the light project

Training, equipping, and connecting pioneers and evangelists to go and make countless followers of
Jesus

The Light College and Collective is the working name for The Light Project:

The Light College, Foxhill House, Tarvin Road, FRODSHAM, WA6 6XB

T: 03333 446489 E: office@lightcollege.ac.uk W: www.lightcollege.org.uk

Registered charity (England & Wales) no: 1084941

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Contents Page

	Page
Legal and Administrative Information	1
Trustees Annual Report	2
Independent Examiners Report	16
Statement of Financial Activities	17
Statement of Financial Position	18
Notes to the Financial Statements	19

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Legal and Administrative Information

Reference

The Charity is called "The Light Project" and is registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales. The Light Project is a Charitable Trust governed by an original trust deed dated 21st June 2000. The charity also operates under the working name "The Light College and Collective."

Registered Charity Number	1084941
Registered Charity Name	The Light Project
Registered Working Name	The Light College and Collective
Registered Office	Foxhill House Tarvin Road Frodsham WA6 6XB
Date of incorporation	21st June 2000
Contact Information	Telephone: 03333 446489 Email: office@lightcollege.ac.uk Website: www.lightcollege.ac.uk

The Trustees

The trustees who have served during the year until the date this report was approved are:

Reverend P Jump	
Mr B Askey	<i>Resigned Apr 2024</i>
Reverend A Glover	
Reverend A McWilliam	<i>Resigned Sep 2024</i>
Ms A Roche	
Reverend A Wearing	
Mr L Maloney	

Key Management Personnel

Chris Duffett - Co-Principal (until May 2025)
Jonathan Oatridge - Co-Principal (from March 2025)
Rachel Oatridge - Co-Principal (from March 2025)
Tim Cox - Dean of Operations
Ali Boston – Vice Principal

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Legal and Administrative Information

Primary Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Barclays Bank UK PLC
1 Churchill Place
E14 5HP

Independent Examiner

Nigel Wyatt BSC FCA
Wyatt & Co Chartered Accountants
125 Main Street
Garforth
Leeds
LS25 1AF

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Trustee's Annual Report

Trustees Annual Report - Year Ended 31st August 2024

The trustees present their report and the independently examined financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland effective 1st January 2019.

The Trustees

The trustees who served the charity during the year were as follows:

Reverend P Jump (Chair)

Ms A Roche

Reverend A Wearing

Mr L Maloney

Mr B Askey (*Resigned April 2024*)

Reverend A McWilliam (*Resigned September 2024*)

Structure, Governance and Management

The Light Project is constituted as a charitable trust registered with the Charity Commission under charity number 1084941. It is governed by an original trust deed dated 21st June 2000.

The charity trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. The trustees give their time freely and receive no remuneration or other financial benefits.

The existing trustees are responsible for the recruitment of new trustees as and when the need arises for specific skills, experience, and knowledge within the trustee body. Before appointment the trustees ensure that a prospective trustee understands the responsibilities they are taking on and can be relied on to carry them out responsibly. References are taken and the prospective trustee is invited to attend a trustee meeting and to meet with key members of staff.

On appointment, new trustees sign a model trustee eligibility and responsibility declaration and declaration of interest form. During the induction process, the new trustee is sent a copy of the governing trust deed, a copy of the Charity Commission's guidance 'The essential trustee: what you need to know, what you need to do', a copy of the latest Annual Report and Financial Statements and a copy of our safeguarding policy and other relevant policies. The trust is currently actively looking to recruit new trustees to broaden the range of skills available to the college.

Objectives and Activities

The purpose of the Charity is advancing the Christian religion in the area of benefit. Each year the trustees review our objectives and activities to ensure they continue to reflect our aims. In carrying out this review the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular its supplementary guidance on the advancement of religion for the public benefit.

During 2020 The Light Project underwent a rebranding with a new logo and a new working name of The Light College and Collective. This name more accurately reflects the activities of the charity and the increased emphasis on training, equipping and connecting pioneers and evangelists to go and make countless followers of Jesus.

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Trustee's Annual Report



the light
college & collective

- Vision** – to train, resource and connect pioneers to go and make countless followers of Jesus.
- Mission** – to identify, support, equip and encourage pioneers via courses based on practical evangelism and current research as well as sound biblical teaching. To this end all lecturers should be practicing evangelists as far as possible. Innovative ideas for making disciples and the courage to share failures as well as successes are encouraged. The Collective furthers the sharing of ideas and support for those running or setting up new evangelism and outreach projects via set up days, gatherings, consultancy, and accessible online resources.
- Core values** – support the vision, shape the culture, reflect our “DNA”:
- Practical evangelism encouraged in all staff
 - All associated with LCC are treated as our family in Christ
 - All are encouraged to develop their gifts, (including spiritual) as part of the body of Christ
 - Horizontal leadership structure as far as possible
 - Prayer for each other, for students and for The Light College and Collective recognised as a priority

Overview

Courses

The Light College has been running the following courses over this period.

1. Foundation degree of Arts in Theology, Mission and Evangelism
2. Bachelors degree of Arts in Theology, Mission and Evangelism

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Trustee's Annual Report

3. 1-year Professional Certificate in Pioneer chaplaincy and Mission



The 3 courses are now blended and are delivered with the following three key elements:

1. Weekly online college night (worship & lectures)



2. Residential and Virtual Lecture blocks – in-person meetings with lectures, practicals, meals, worship etc. These happen in various locations across the UK
3. Local placements

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Trustee's Annual Report

Doctorate Research

The current research project being sponsored by the charity continues approaching its final write-up. The data has been collected and analysed and is currently being prepared for the final write up before publication.

Team

We had some disruption in our Key Admin role, with Dr Ruth Empson leaving unexpectedly at the beginning of the year. Ali Boston and Pam Webb covered the vacancy initially before we made an internal appointment who then withdrew from the role and we went out to advert again; Ali Ussery was appointed in January 2024. Pam Webb retired later in the year and Lou Beamish took on her responsibilities as part of an enlarged role. Our Co-Principals both indicated that they would be stepping away from the College and we began planning for a new leadership – subsequent to the end of the year we appointed new Co-Principals who began in March 2024.

We once again give thanks to God for a wonderful year, still with its challenges and needing to be extra prudent in our budgeting. Yet we continue to be grateful and so pleased with how we are developing and growing both as a team and as a College.

Financial Review

The Statement of Financial Activities is set out on page 17. The charity's income for the financial year to 31st August 2024 across all funds was £159,314 – a reduction of £31,951 on the previous year – whilst expenditure was £159,659 – a reduction of £35,470 on the previous year – which resulted in a net deficit of £345. This contrasts with the deficits of £3,864 in the previous year, £8,513 in the year before, and surpluses of £4,232 and £33,207 in the two years before that.

The significant reduction in expenditure is due to careful stewardship of the resources including changing our rental arrangement with Foxhill, some other reductions in delivery costs, not paying for doctoral research in 2023-24 (a one-off year change, though only 1 year remains), with some of the reduction in staff costs are due to the changes made last year and a further reductions in staff hours, primarily through the Co-Principals reducing their hours as they looked to leave, 5 months without the Key Administrator and a retirement which was filled internally with a redistribution of duties and hours. However, although expenditure reduced by £35k, the reduction in Staff wages and salaries was less than £5k (see page 23). From a financial perspective this is a helpful reduction as we more or less balanced the books for the year, though operationally fewer hours

"a good student experience with varied and interesting resources available and a learning culture that stimulates and encourages curiosity. Assessment is supportive of all students. Student engagement with their practical tasks clearly gives room for less academic students to flourish".

Allison Fenton, External examiner

Meet the team at https://tlcc.uk/meettheteam_mar24



The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Trustee's Annual Report

mean priorities for time have had to be readjusted and there is little opportunity to reduce further, whilst our salaried staff (all part-time) had reduced to 8 by the end of August 2024, compared to 10 in August 2023 and 12 in August 2022.

The drop in income can be traced directly to a reduced course fees from students in 2023-24, with £112,469 (supported by bursaries of £2,820) in 2023-24, against £135,604 (supported by bursaries of £2,067) in 2022-23 and £151,121 (with bursaries of £1,209) in 2021-22. This is not as straightforward as simply less students, as we have largely moved to only having Part Time Students, which means that they stay with us for longer but pay less in a given year. The figures can be seen on pages 24 and 25 in the accounts.

In 2021-22, a generous split year grant of £20,000 had been received from the Baptist Insurance Company to support the Pioneer Chaplaincy course and the development of new courses, representing £10k income that year and £10k in 2022-23. Regrettably, we had to return £5k to the Baptist Insurance Company in this year from that 2021-22 grant due to the validation of the proposed course being withdrawn, with the remaining portion redistributed with their permission to support the work of the College. In 2022-23 the college had secured grant funding of £5k from Myriad to start delivering Illuminate, to be renewed for 2023-24; due to their internal processes, Myriad notified us they had decided not to renew the grant funding in 2023-24, though they did give an additional £1k to assist with delivery of the Illuminate course.

A minor transfer (£169.02) to the Pioneer Chaplaincy & course Development fund in order to close it, a major transfer from the General fund to the College fund clearing £15,601.98 at year end (a reduction against the £19,053 of the previous year that is related to where staff costs were focused rather than due to higher college income) and a further major transfer of £10,000 to reduce the Light Collective Fund Deficit to below 25% of general reserves.

The Bursary fund received one significant one-off gift of £2,500, with donations overall up in this area due to direct Student Sponsorship for one student. £1,320.50 was distributed as Bursaries directly from the Bursary fund via credit notes applied against the invoices, with a total of £4,085, including direct Student Sponsorship with commitments to pay £10k across the 5 years that the student will need support, and a balancing loan of £1382.50 from the fund.

The Light Project

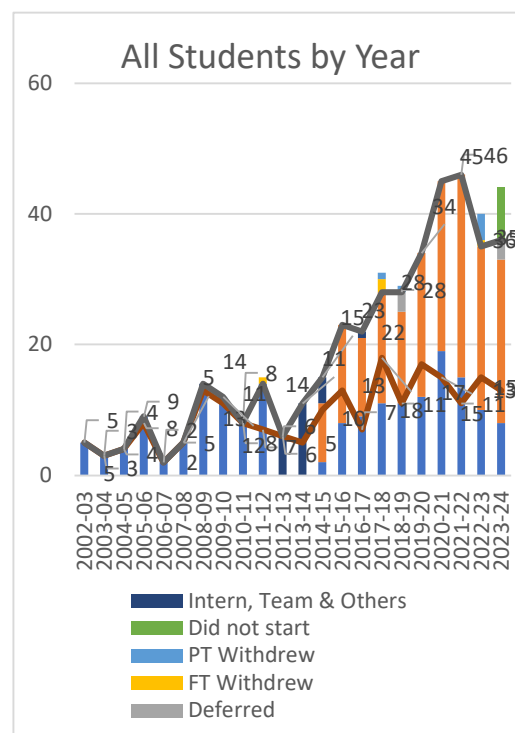
Year Ended 31st August 2024

Trustee's Annual Report

At the time of writing this report, the recruitment for the year 2024-2025 is finalised and shown in the table below:

Student numbers and fee income based on fee paying students												
Year	Full Time Students			Part Time Students ^a			Students Total		Non-Accredited	Bursaries given ^b £	Fee ^c £ Reduction	Gross fee £ income
	Yr Start	Interrupted/Deferred	With drawn ^d	Yr Start ^e	Interrupted / Deferred	With drawn ^f	New ^g	Yr end ^h				
2014-15	8			15			13	23		2,300		81,495
2015-16	9			13			8	22		1,400		81,059
2016-17	13			18		1	17	30		7,125		106,795
2017-18	11			18	3	1	11	28		4,280		99,771
2018-19	12			22			17	34		10,935		115,493
2019-20	19			26			15	45		5,185		183,314
2020-21	15			31			11	46		2,440	5,794	168,401
2021-22	11		1	29		4	15	35		3,834	6,330	145,332
2022-23	8			28	5		13	38		2,075	10,939	135,604
2023-24	5	1		25	2	1	11	29		2,703	6,563	112,469
2024-25	1 ⁱ			29 ^j	2	3	8	27	1	3,596	2,400	112,469

relatively small number of students can make all the difference to the income and viability of the College and we have attempted to maximise student fee income (both for the students' benefits and for the Colleges') including the course change last year for Part Time FdA from 3 to 4 years, increased fees, contributions towards Lecture Blocks (in 2022-23 Students paid £100 a night with a 50% discount for existing students) and encouraging previous students to progress onto the next course with us.



^a This could include students where their full/part time status is unknown; it doesn't include non-accredited

^b Fee reductions affect gross fee income, since 2020 bursaries do not affect Gross Fee Income, just the funding source.

^c Fee reductions can include both invoices that we have reduced by an amount, and also where amounts have had to be credited off due to a student withdrawal or interruption – this figure is not included in the Gross Fee Income

^d This could include students who have left, been removed, moved to part time or deceased before the end of the course

^e Non-accredited students, and any transfers from Full Time are *not* included in the Yr Start figures for part time

^f This could include students who have left, been removed, or deceased before the end of the course

^g New students are those who have never studied with the Light College before

^h Will not include any non-accredited students

ⁱ Full-time was closed to new entrants in 2024-25. Two students began; one switched to Part-Time shortly after beginning (included in Part-Time)

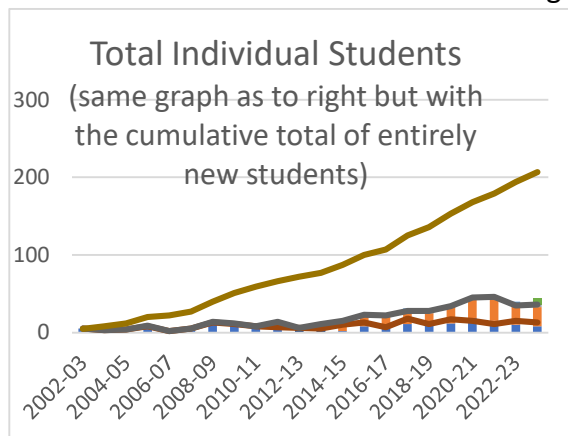
^j Includes one student who switched from Full-time shortly after the beginning

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Trustee's Annual Report

The table above and graph to the left show a relatively consistent number of new students joining us cumulatively, and the graph to the right demonstrates that largely we have been successful in students progressing onwards, and fairly consistent in terms of brand-new students starting (13.2 brand new students pa on average from 2015-2024, or 9.52 on average since the beginning), we need to ensure our retention remains high to increase overall student numbers whilst continuing



to recruit new ones.

In line with the previous year, Course fees were revised for 2024/25. The changes in 2022-23 of Part-Time becoming more consistently 0.5 instead of 0.67, and Pioneer Chaplaincy fees increasing last year to be the same as a 0.5 FdA first year, enable easier continuation onto the FdA. As of the time of writing, course fees for 2025-26 have been set and the fees from 2020-21 to 2025-26 can be see below; they now represent £1,400 per module in the 2025-26 year.

	<u>Cohort</u>	<u>Fees</u>
FD Theology and Evangelism - Full Time	2020/1	£6,250
	2021/2	£6,750
	2022/3	£6,900
	2023/4	£7,500
	2024/5	£7,800
	2025/6	£8,400
FD Theology and Evangelism - Part Time	2020/1	£3,500 (4 modules not 3)
	2021/2	£3,500 (4 modules not 3)
	2022/3	£3,500
	2023/4	£3,750
	2024/5	£3,900
	2025/6	£4,200
BA Theology, Mission and Evangelism (Top-Up) - Part Time	2020/1	£3,500
	2021/2	£3,500
	2022/3	£3,500
	2023/4	£3,750
	2024/5	£3,900
	2025/6	£4,200
BA Theology, Mission and Evangelism (Top-Up) - Full Time	2020/1	£6,750
	2021/2	£6,750
	2022/3	£6,900
	2023/4	£7,500
	2024/5	£7,800
	2025/6	£8,400

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Trustee's Annual Report

Prof Cert Pioneer Chaplaincy and Mission - Part Time	2020/1	£2,200
	2021/2	£3,500
	2022/3	£3,500
	2023/4	£3,750
	2024/5	£3,900
	2025/6	£4,200

The balance sheet on page 18 shows total funds of £34,447 – a marginal decrease of £345 against the previous year – with cash at bank and in hand of £34,005 – a decrease against the previous year of (£16,221). Part of the reason for the decrease is a reduction in Debtors, and a massive decrease in creditors.

The following funds were operated during the year:

General Fund: all unrestricted donations and other income plus expenditure not directly attributable to a specific activity are included in the unrestricted General Fund.

The Light College: this is an unrestricted fund that was set up for budgeting and management reporting purposes for the income and expenditure directly associated with the delivery of the college's degree courses. It also includes the income and expenditure associated with the Pioneer Chaplaincy qualification. It would not normally receive donations.

Student Welfare Fund: this unrestricted Designated fund was set up to administer gifts and support to Students. It can receive donations or income but largely holds monies designated from the College to facilitate Student Welfare.

Bursary Fund: this is a restricted fund for the granting of bursaries to self-funded students who would otherwise not be able to afford the tuition fee. Donations received for this purpose are applied against individual Student Fees.

Rolling Coffee Fund: this is a restricted fund administered by the College for the benefit of setting up and running a mobile coffee shop by a pioneer evangelist associated with the Light College and Collective. Rolling Coffee itself is independent of the College.

Light Collective Fund: this restricted was set up for budgeting and management reporting purposes, for subscriptions and other income and the expenditure directly associated with The Light Collective. It also administered the Light Festival and Illuminate (Myriad) scheme. Chris and Sally had time billed against this fund in 2023-24.

Pioneer Chaplaincy & Course Development Fund: this restricted fund was set up to administer the Baptist Insurance Company grant and to facilitate the delivery of the Pioneer Chaplaincy Course and development of new courses. It closed in this year.

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Trustee's Annual Report

Risk Management

The trustees recognise their responsibility with regard to risk management. The risks to which the trust may be exposed have been identified and documented in a risk register together with appropriate mitigation and control procedures. The risk register is monitored and updated regularly and reviewed by the trustees on an annual basis.

Reserves Policy

The Light College and Collective only holds reserves in restricted funds that are the unspent portion of restricted grants and donations. It is not the policy to build reserves up in restricted funds but to spend them in accordance with the restrictions placed upon them. Restricted reserves at 31st August 2024 were £6,132, an increase on last year (largely due to reducing the negative balance in the Light Collective Fund, with positive balances totalling £12,990 and negative balances of (£6,858) after a £17k transfer to reduce the deficit for the Light Collective fund. There are sufficient unrestricted funds to cover these negative balances should that prove necessary).

The trustees have aimed to build up reserves in unrestricted funds, with the purpose of these reserves being to enable the charity to operate day to day without cash flow problems and to ensure there would be enough in the General Fund to meet any likely outstanding commitments if they are obliged to close the charity. The Reserve Policy is reviewed annually as part of the budget making process, as are the risks of closure and associated costs. Unrestricted reserves at 31st August 2024 after negative restricted funds were taken into account was £20,484.

Going concern

The trustees recognize the risks associated with dependence for such a significant part of the charity's income on student numbers and the effect a decrease in numbers has on the ability of the charity to continue. In line with many other charities and the current economic climate, it is also increasingly difficult to maintain the donation income and to secure grants, especially for core costs. Due to some careful management, including a previous cut of core staff hours by a quarter, some large donations, and a change of policy with regards to Lecture Block fees, the Trustees are confident that we remain a going concern as of writing this report, though FTE student numbers and expenditure continue to be monitored closely.

Investment Policy

The charity has no long-term investments. Cash reserves are held in deposit accounts, when possible, but rates of interest remained low in the year.

Signed on behalf of the trustees

Phil Jump
Chair of the Trustees

30th June 2025

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Trustee's Annual Report

From the outgoing Co-Principal

What a year this has been for us as a charity. A year of celebration, achievements and goodbyes.

We said goodbye to our Co-principal Revd Glyn Jones as he revived a call to go and minister in the parish of Cricklewood in North West London.

His role will be a culmination of all that Glyn has taught and believed in. His call is to start from scratch and develop new worshipping communities within the parish that can be replicable and adaptable to other contexts.

As a team we celebrated all that Glyn had brought to the college and his enthusiasm for evangelism and pioneering new churches. Chris Duffett, his fellow Co-principal gave him a cherry tree to plant in London, a reminder of when they first met in France to talk about training and Glyn coming to work with him, as they planned and prayed they had sat under a large cherry tree! It was also a good illustration of the hope for the ministry in London, where we prayed that Glyn will see much fruit!

We also said goodbye to Pam Webb our Student Pastoral Worker. We were sad to see Pam go, yet we gladly sent her from our college knowing that she was moving nearer family to take time looking after grandchildren.

As a college we celebrated our students achieving so much throughout the year! Each completed assignment for our students is an achievement and we were particularly pleased to see the creative edge which our students seem to carry, particularly through the creative arts and media in mission and evangelism module where our students designed projects that connected with people in their particular contexts.

For example, one student was able to hold an art exhibition in her local church and engage with her community through the advent story. Another had created a piece of spoken word which they recorded and shared on social media and invited people to hear her story presented in creative ways.



The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Trustee's Annual Report

As a team we welcomed former student Charmaine Elkerton and her husband Robert as our new chaplains for lecture blocks. Their availability and pastoral support are so much appreciated as they come to serve the college in this new role and capacity. We strive to support our students lavishly and provide opportunities for them to engage with those who can help them practically as well as spiritually.

We celebrated at our third annual festival in rural Cambridgeshire with a gathering of people made up of past students, local church members and volunteers as well as current students. What a joy to gather together especially as we welcomed Revd John McGinley as he spoke at our festival, joined by Joshua and Florence Bishop-Hall leading us in exuberant worship and praise. We introduced a new item to the festival to encourage people to join a team going to do evangelism in the local town. They returned with stories of how they had met people, many of whom were grateful to have met the team.

Overall, we are grateful for all that God has done through us as a college and for our students that we have been able to train and encourage in their studies. Our graduation was a fantastic celebration all together and students had an opportunity to share their experiences of college life at our post-graduation party!



Be the Light

Chris Duffett



The Light Project

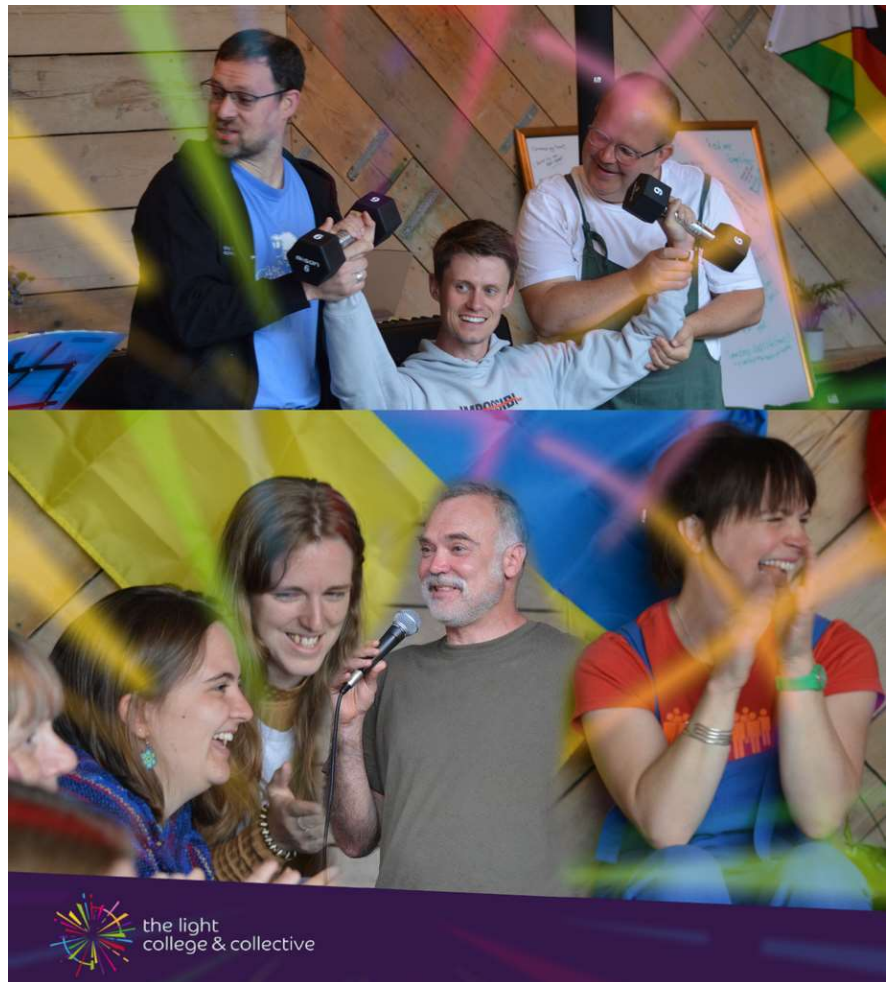
Year Ended 31st August 2024

Trustee's Annual Report

Above, Chris and Ali B at our student's graduation ceremony in Chester Cathedral

To the left, Chris previewed our 3rd Annual Light Festival which took place in June 2024. You can see that video at <https://tlcc.uk/lightfestival24preview>

Below, some shots from Light Festivals



The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Trustee's Annual Report

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements.

Approved by the trustees on 30th June 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Phil Jump
Chair of the Trustees

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Independent Examiners Report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Light Project ('the charity') for the year ended 31 August 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements 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 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), which is one of the listed bodies.

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 respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Nigel Wyatt BSC FCA
Independent Examiner
125 Main Street
Garforth
Leeds
LS25 1AF

Date:

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Statement of Financial Activities

		Unrestricted Funds	2024 Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2023 Total Funds
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income					
Donations and legacies		31,309	7,726	39,035	50,240
Charitable activities		112,469	7,439	119,908	140,916
Investment Income		371	-	371	109
Total Income	2	<u>144,149</u>	<u>15,165</u>	<u>159,314</u>	<u>191,265</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	3	134,907	24,752	159,659	195,126
Activities for generating income	4	-	-	-	3
Total Expenditure		<u>134,907</u>	<u>24,752</u>	<u>159,659</u>	<u>195,129</u>
Net income / (expenditure)		<u>9,242</u>	<u>(9,587)</u>	<u>(345)</u>	<u>(3,864)</u>
Net Income and Net Movement In Funds					
Total funds brought forward	10	36,242	(1,450)	34,792	38,656
Transfers	10	(17,169)	17,169	-	-
Total Funds Carried Forward	10	<u>28,315</u>	<u>6,132</u>	<u>34,447</u>	<u>34,792</u>

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Statement of Financial Position

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Current Assets			
Debtors	8	4,906	9,283
Cash at bank and in hand		34,005	50,226
		<u>38,911</u>	<u>59,509</u>
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	9	4,464	19,717
Net Current Assets		<u>34,447</u>	<u>39,792</u>
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		<u>34,447</u>	<u>39,792</u>
Net Assets	11	<u>34,447</u>	<u>39,792</u>
Funds of the Charity			
Restricted funds		6,132	(1,450)
Unrestricted funds		28,315	36,242
Total Charity Funds	10	<u>34,447</u>	<u>34,792</u>

Trustees' Responsibilities

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue :

Name of Trustee:

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

Date of approval:

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 Accounting Policies

Accounting convention

The Light Project is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The trust is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives. Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements

Income

Income is recognized in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. This policy applies to all types of income received by the charity, including course fees, donations and legacies, and grants for activities.

Course Fees

Income from course fees is recognized over the period of instruction. Where course fees are received in advance, the income is deferred and released to the SOFA over the period of the course.

Donations and Legacies

Donations and legacies are recognized when the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the funds will be received, and the amount can be reliably measured.

Grants for Activities

Grants are recognized in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to the income and where any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit 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.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements

Financial instruments

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

Financial instruments are recognised in the trust's balance sheet when the trust becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets: Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities: Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Retirement benefits

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

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the trust's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements

2 Analysis of Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Donations and Legacies			
Donations	28,417	3,726	32,143
Other voluntary income	2,892	-	2,892
Grants for activities	-	4,000	4,000
	<u>31,309</u>	<u>7,726</u>	<u>39,035</u>
 Charitable Activities			
Course fees	112,469	-	112,469
Speaking and Training	-	3,547	3,547
Light Festival	-	3,892	3,892
	<u>112,469</u>	<u>7,439</u>	<u>119,908</u>
 Investment Income			
Bank interest	371	-	371
	<u>371</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>371</u>
 Total	<u><u>144,149</u></u>	<u><u>15,165</u></u>	<u><u>159,314</u></u>

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements

Analysis of Income (*Continued*)

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations and Legacies			
Donations	26,333	5,425	31,758
Other voluntary income	1,982	-	1,982
Grants for activities	-	16,500	16,500
	<u>28,315</u>	<u>21,925</u>	<u>50,240</u>
 Charitable Activities			
Course fees	135,604	(2,067)	133,537
Speaking and Training	500	3,125	3,625
Light Festival	-	3,754	3,754
	<u>136,104</u>	<u>4,812</u>	<u>140,916</u>
 Investment Income			
Bank interest	109	-	109
	<u>109</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>109</u>
 Total	<u>164,528</u>	<u>26,737</u>	<u>191,265</u>

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements

3 Expenditure on Charitable Activities by Expenditure Type

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£
Accountancy and governance	1,966	-	1,966
Degree direct costs	39,416	664	40,080
Equipment and IT	4,625	-	4,625
Insurance and support	2,217	-	2,217
Light Festival	-	3,898	3,898
Office	820	-	820
Other Evangelism and Teaching costs	234	-	234
Premises	(2,467)	-	(2,467)
Publicity and marketing	1,585	-	1,585
Salary costs	83,682	20,072	103,754
Staff related costs (training, travel and expenses)	2,829	118	2,947
	<u>134,907</u>	<u>24,752</u>	<u>159,659</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Accountancy and governance	1,721	268	1,989
Degree direct costs	40,756	12,514	53,270
Equipment and IT	7,369	-	7,369
Insurance and support	1,356	750	2,106
Light Festival	-	4,442	4,442
Office	1,415	-	1,415
Other Evangelism and Teaching costs	166	-	166
Premises	4,992	-	4,992
Publicity and marketing	4,914	191	5,105
Salary costs	95,060	14,425	109,485
Staff related costs (training, travel and expenses)	2,919	1,868	4,787
	<u>160,668</u>	<u>34,458</u>	<u>195,126</u>

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements

4 Expenditure on Activities For Generating Income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024
	£	£	£
Fundraising costs	-	-	-
	-	-	-

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Fundraising costs	-	3	3
	-	3	3

5 Independent Examination Fees

Fees payable to the independent examiner for:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Independent examination and preparation of the financial statements	1,373	1,320
	1,373	1,320

6 Staff Costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	91,878	96,503
Social security costs	-	-
Employer contributions to pension plans	3,076	2,813
Contract Tutors / Guest Lecturers	8,800	9,825
	103,754	109,141

The average headcount of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Average headcount	9	11

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year was as follows:

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements

Key Management Personnel

The charity considers its key management personnel to be the Co-Principals, the Dean of Operations, and the Undergraduate Programme Manager. The total employee benefits received by key management were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Key management personnel employee benefit	72,043	56,075

7 Trustees' Remuneration, Expenses and Donations

During the year the trustees made donations to the charity totalling £400 (2023: £2,740). During the year 3 (2023: 0) trustees incurred out of pocket expenses for travel costs totaling £183 (2023: £0).

8 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other debtors	-	5,875
Prepayments and accrued income	4,906	3,408
	<u>4,906</u>	<u>9,283</u>

9 Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other creditors	548	9,383
Accruals and deferred income	3,916	10,334
	<u>4,464</u>	<u>19,717</u>

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements

10 Analysis of Charitable Funds

	1 Sep 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	31 Aug 2024 £
Unrestricted					
General Fund	29,702	28,788	(2,910)	(28,238)	27,342
The Light College Fund	5,419	114,372	(130,860)	11,069	-
Total	<u>35,121</u>	<u>143,160</u>	<u>(133,770)</u>	<u>(17,169)</u>	<u>27,342</u>
Designated					
Student Welfare	1,121	989	(1,137)	-	973
Total	<u>1,121</u>	<u>989</u>	<u>(1,137)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>973</u>
Total Unrestricted Funds	<u>36,242</u>	<u>144,149</u>	<u>(134,907)</u>	<u>(17,169)</u>	<u>28,315</u>
Restricted Funds					
Bursary Fund	8,110	2,750	-	-	10,860
Light House Café Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Light Collective Fund	(11,236)	12,415	(25,037)	17,000	(6,858)
Rolling Coffee	2,130	-	-	-	2,130
Pioneer Chaplaincy & Course Development Fund	(454)	-	285	169	-
Total	<u>(1,450)</u>	<u>15,165</u>	<u>(24,752)</u>	<u>17,169</u>	<u>6,132</u>
Total Funds	<u>34,792</u>	<u>159,314</u>	<u>(159,659)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,447</u>

Negative Fund Balances

At the year's end, the Light Collective Fund were in deficit. A longer-term plan is being assessed and implemented to bring the Light Collective Fund back to a positive fund balance over the coming two years. The fund is in deficit due to the Light Festival costing more to run than the restricted funding received during the year and insufficient speaker fees to cover salaried Co-Principal costs.

Material Fund Transfers

During the year a transfer took place from the general fund to the Light Collective fund to bring the year end balance carried forward to nil.

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements

	1 Sep 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	31 Aug 2023 £
Unrestricted					
General Fund	24,001	26,317	(1,563)	(19,053)	29,702
The Light College Fund	7,340	137,886	(158,860)	19,053	5,419
Total	<u>31,341</u>	<u>164,203</u>	<u>(160,423)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,121</u>
Designated					
Student Welfare	1,043	325	(247)	-	1,121
Total	<u>1,043</u>	<u>325</u>	<u>(247)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,121</u>
Total Unrestricted Funds	<u>32,384</u>	<u>164,528</u>	<u>(160,670)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,242</u>
Restricted Funds					
Bursary Fund	7,209	904	(3)	-	8,110
Light House Café Fund	344	240	(584)	-	-
Light Collective Fund	(4,196)	14,093	(21,133)	-	(11,236)
Rolling Coffee	855	1,500	(225)	-	2,130
Pioneer Chaplaincy & Course Development Fund	2,060	10,000	(12,514)	-	(454)
Total	<u>6,272</u>	<u>26,737</u>	<u>(34,459)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,450)</u>
Total Funds	<u>38,656</u>	<u>191,265</u>	<u>(195,129)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,792</u>

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements

Fund Descriptions

The Light College Fund	A unrestricted fund that was set up for budgeting and management reporting purposes for the income and expenditure directly associated with the delivery of the college's degree courses. It also includes the income and expenditure associated with the Pioneer Chaplaincy qualification. It would not normally receive donations.
Student Welfare	A unrestricted Designated fund was set up to administer gifts and support to Students. It can receive donations or income but largely holds monies designated from the College to facilitate Student Welfare.
Bursary Fund	A restricted fund for the granting of bursaries to self-funded students who would otherwise not be able to afford the tuition fee. Donations received for this purpose are applied against individual Student Fees.
Light House Café Fund	This is a restricted fund which continues to receive donations to finance the Lighthouse Café.
Light Collective Fund	A restricted was set up for budgeting and management reporting purposes, for subscriptions and other income and the expenditure directly associated with The Light Collective.
Rolling Coffee	A restricted fund administered by the College for the benefit of setting up and running a mobile coffee shop by a pioneer evangelist associated with the Light College and Collective. Rolling Coffee itself is independent of the College.
Pioneer Chaplaincy & Course Development Fund	A restricted fund was set up to administer the Baptist Insurance Company grant and to facilitate the delivery of the Pioneer Chaplaincy Course and development of new courses.

11 Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	2024
Current Assets	32,779	6,132	38,911
Creditors less than 1 year	(4,464)	-	(4,464)
	<u>28,315</u>	<u>6,132</u>	<u>34,447</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	2023
Current Assets	60,959	(1,450)	59,509
Creditors less than 1 year	(19,717)	-	(19,717)
	<u></u>	<u></u>	<u></u>

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2024

Notes to the Financial Statements

	<u>41,242</u>	<u>(1,450)</u>	<u>39,792</u>
12 Related Party Transactions			
No related party transactions took place during the year.			

THE LIGHT PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1084941

Accounts



the light
college & collective
formerly the light project

THE LIGHT PROJECT

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31st August 2023

Charity Number 1084941

Training, equipping, and connecting pioneers and evangelists to go and make countless followers of Jesus

The Light College and Collective is the working name for The Light Project:

The Light College, Foxhill House, Tarvin Road, FRODSHAM, WA6 6XB

T: 03333 446489 E: office@lightcollege.ac.uk W: www.lightcollege.org.uk

Registered charity (England & Wales) no: 1084941

CONTENTS

Charity information	3
Trustees Annual Report - Year Ended 31st August 2022	4
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	16
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Light Project	18
Statement of Financial Activities - Year Ended 31st August 2023	19
Balance Sheet at 31st August 2023	20
Notes to the Financial Statements – Year ended 31st August 2023.....	21

Charity information

Registered charity name

The Light Project

Registered working name

The Light College and Collective

Address

Foxhill House
Tarvin Road
FRODSHAM
WA6 6XB

Contact Information

Telephone: 03333 446489

Email: office@lightcollege.ac.uk

Website: www.lightcollege.ac.uk

Charity number

1084941

Trustees

Reverend P Jump (Chair)

Reverend A McWilliam

Ms A Roche

Reverend A Wearing

Mr L Maloney

Reverend A Glover (Resigned July 2023)

Mr B Askey (Resigned April 2024)

Key Management Personnel

Glyn Jones - Co-Principal

Chris Duffett - Co-Principal

Tim Cox - Dean of Operations

Ali Boston - Undergraduate Programme Manager

Independent examiners

Nigel Wyatt BSC FCA

Wyatt & Co Chartered Accountants

125 Main Street

Garforth

Leeds

LS25 1AF

Primary Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd

25 Kings Hill Avenue

Kings Hill

Kent

ME19 4JQ

Barclays Bank UK PLC

1 Churchill Place

E14 5HP

Trustees Annual Report - Year Ended 31st August 2023

The trustees present their report and the independently examined financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2023. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland effective 1st January 2019.

The Trustees

The trustees who served the charity during the year were as follows:

Reverend P Jump (Chair)
Reverend A McWilliam
Ms A Roche (Appointed 13 October 2022)
Reverend A Wearing (Appointed 5 December 2022)
Mr L Maloney (Appointed 5 December 2022)
Reverend A Glover (*Resigned July 2023*)
Mr B Askey (*Resigned April 2024*)

Structure, Governance and Management

The Light Project is constituted as a charitable trust registered with the Charity Commission under charity number 1084941. It is governed by an original trust deed dated 21st June 2000.

The charity trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. The trustees give their time freely and receive no remuneration or other financial benefits.

The existing trustees are responsible for the recruitment of new trustees as and when the need arises for specific skills, experience, and knowledge within the trustee body. Before appointment the trustees ensure that a prospective trustee understands the responsibilities they are taking on and can be relied on to carry them out responsibly. References are taken and the prospective trustee is invited to attend a trustee meeting and to meet with key members of staff.

On appointment, new trustees sign a model trustee eligibility and responsibility declaration and declaration of interest form. During the induction process, the new trustee is sent a copy of the governing trust deed, a copy of the Charity Commission's guidance 'The essential trustee: what you need to know, what you need to do', a copy of the latest Annual Report and Financial Statements and a copy of our safeguarding policy and other relevant policies. The trust is currently actively looking to recruit new trustees to broaden the range of skills available to the college.

Objectives and Activities

The purpose of the Charity is advancing the Christian religion in the area of benefit. Each year the trustees review our objectives and activities to ensure they continue to reflect our aims. In carrying out this review the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular its supplementary guidance on the advancement of religion for the public benefit.

During 2020 The Light Project underwent a rebranding with a new logo and a new working name of The Light College and Collective. This name more accurately reflects the activities of the charity and the increased emphasis on training, equipping and connecting pioneers and evangelists to go and make countless followers of Jesus.



the light college & collective

- Vision** – to train, resource and connect pioneers to go and make countless followers of Jesus.
- Mission** – to identify, support, equip and encourage pioneers via courses based on practical evangelism and current research as well as sound biblical teaching. To this end all lecturers should be practicing evangelists as far as possible. Innovative ideas for making disciples and the courage to share failures as well as successes are encouraged. The Collective furthers the sharing of ideas and support for those running or setting up new evangelism and outreach projects via set up days, gatherings, consultancy, and accessible online resources.
- Core values** – support the vision, shape the culture, reflect our “DNA”:
- Practical evangelism encouraged in all staff
 - All associated with LCC are treated as our family in Christ
 - All are encouraged to develop their gifts, (including spiritual) as part of the body of Christ
 - Horizontal leadership structure as far as possible
 - Prayer for each other, for students and for The Light College and Collective recognised as a priority

Overview

Courses

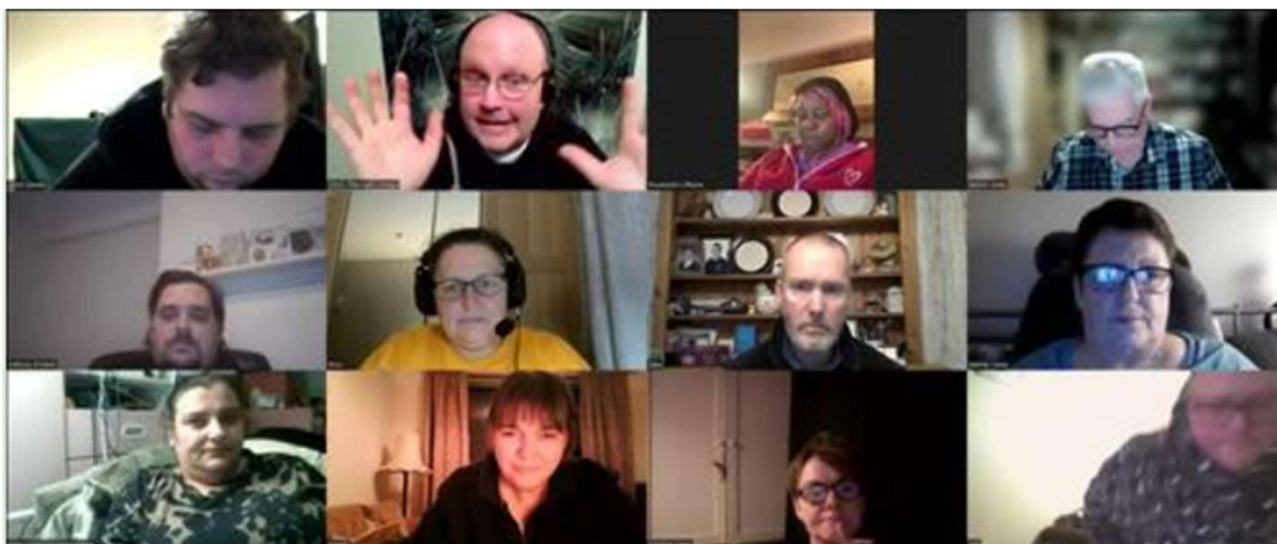
The Light College has been running the following courses over this period.

1. Foundation degree of Arts in Theology, Mission and Evangelism
2. Bachelors degree of Arts in Theology, Mission and Evangelism
3. 1-year Professional Certificate in Pioneer chaplaincy and Mission



The 3 courses are now blended and are delivered with the following three key elements:

1. Weekly online college night (worship & lectures)



2. Residential and Virtual Lecture blocks – in-person meetings with lectures, practicals, meals, worship etc. These happen in various locations across the UK
3. Local placements

We began the year with 34 students, 4 doing the Pioneer Chaplaincy Course, 23 doing the FDA and 7 BA students, and all students have grown in their abilities as academics but also clearly as evangelists. It has been especially pleasing to see at least 2 students accept the call to full-time ministry and others who started the FDA believing they could never do it finish with acceptable grades. Whilst there have been a few who have continued to learn slowly there are those who have exceeded expectations and gained 80's for their marks.

"a good student experience with varied and interesting resources available and a learning culture that stimulates and encourages curiosity. Assessment is supportive of all students. Student engagement with their practical tasks clearly gives room for less academic students to flourish".

Allison Fenton, External examiner

Our residential Lecture Blocks are always the highlight both for the team and students, our first one in September was wonderful with all the students there and new students starting to get to know each other. The way they all get on so well was more evident in our November LB, the new students were not noticed as being new and all supported each other. As a college, in conjunction with student consultation, we have explored a number of new venues this year at which to hold the residentials.



Student satisfaction remains high and feedback from existing students as well as the new cohort is good. It is really encouraging to see the students engaging in a rich variety of evangelism activities through their assignments, and placements – the courses and activities continue to be highly practical.

The year has seen the graduation of a variety of students, heralding from diverse backgrounds. Students have been involved in community outreach, children's work and the establishment of pioneering chaplaincies.

The Light Project

Alumni from the college have gone on to a variety of different secular and ministerial roles. Many alumni find work in third sector charity work, others go on into church work. Multiple former students have been ordained or are in the process of ordination training in both the Anglican and Baptist churches amongst others.

Overall, 2022-23 was a really encouraging year, many grew in their faith as well as their capacity to think academically.

Volunteer Opportunities

The college provides a variety of volunteer opportunities through its placement partners.

In addition, this year the college has invited an intern to learn the role of personal assistant to a director.

Recruiting

The college attracts most of its students from word of mouth. In 2022-23, we have explored exhibiting at various events, including Spring Harvest and the Big Church festival. As in previous years we will be attending the Big Church Day Out (now called Big Church Festival), we had Chris and Lou at Fresh Streams and Chris will be resident artist at Spring Harvest Skegness, whilst Tim is attending Spring Harvest Minehead (as a holiday, but with leaflets). The zap-banners continue to be used and new leaflets have been produced.



Joanne Bowles, a former student, has just been commissioned in the Church in Wales.



Above, the college exhibited at the Big Church Festival with a pop-up event to make fishers of men.

Doctorate Research

The current research project being sponsored by the charity is now approaching its final write-up. The data has been collected and analysed and is currently being prepared for the final write up before publication.



Partnerships

In 2023, The College will start to work with Myriad, a national church planting initiative. The college has secured grant funding

of £5k from Myriad (which will be renewed for the next year) towards leading a learning community and the first cohort of 6 planting teams has started. This work is an extension of the training that the college delivers, and it provides a framework for students to develop their skills in the establishment of new church communities.

MYRIAD



This led to the creation of Illuminate, our learning community (LC) for church planting teams, which will be a main focus of Glyn's work from September 2023. We have set up the architecture for Illuminate and will run a 2-3 year learning community meeting every 6 months in person, provide 'just-in-time' online training and assign mentors for each team.

To read more visit www.lightcollege.ac.uk/illuminate

Light Collective

Chris Duffett took up leadership of the Collective. Chris Writes:

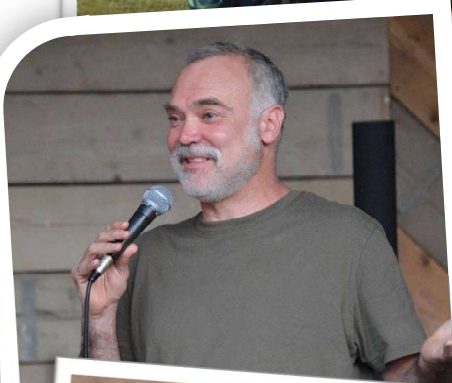
“In the academic year 2023-2024 I will be offering churches and groups of churches a training day on being ‘Everyday Evangelism in Exile.’ It will be a mix of training in understanding our culture and communication, getting out there and planning future activities too.”

The prayer and retreat days on most second Mondays of the month have been fairly well attended (average of 10 people) for those who can access them in the East (with some joining from Bolton!). As a Collective we also invite students and past students to join us on mission with a half dozen joining us in Frinton for street outreach this year.

A big highlight for the Collective was The Second Annual Light Festival in the middle of June at Mill Farm, Gamlingay. Over 60 people attended, with one of our trustees, Alan McWilliam as one of our speakers, worship and workshops taking place across the weekend. See <https://lightfestival.uk> for more details or to book for our latest Festival!



View the Light Festival highlights at <https://tlcc.uk/lightfestivalhighlights23>



Team

After 20 years with the Light Project, Deri Fabian retired just before the new year began, and Dr Ruth Empson took over her role as Key Admin, sadly leaving us just after the end of the year. Rosie Perkins, one of our graduating students, became a voluntary intern as a PA for Glyn Jones, working from our office in Foxhill House. Revd Dr Andy Hardy stepped down in December 2022, and Sally Dowell joined as Illuminate administrator.

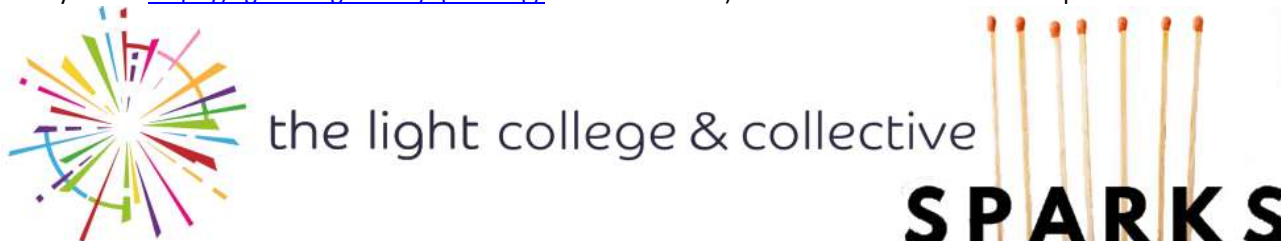
Meet the team at https://tlcc.uk/meettheteam_dec22



We once again give thanks to God for a wonderful year, still with its challenges and needing to be extra prudent in our budgeting. Yet we continue to be grateful and so pleased with how we are developing and growing both as a team and as a College.

Sparks!

Towards the end of the previous year, the College released **Sparks!** in July 2022 – a Light College EP of original songs from students, alumni and staff, produced by a former student and available via bandcamp (click on <http://tlcc.uk/ep> to buy or see <https://lightcollege.ac.uk/sparks-ep/> for more details). The EP remains available for purchase.



Operational

This has again been a busy year with lots of changes, both in terms of people and operations.

Due to his Myriad role, Glyn Jones reduced his hours in October to just over a day and a half, and budgetary pressures led to the majority of staff voluntarily reducing their hours from January, along with one change of role reduction for a member of staff taking place in March, and Andy Hardy offered to voluntarily cease working for the charity. As a result, hours overall reduced from 171.7 per month in September 2022 to 124.2 per month by March 2023, though by August 2023 overall hours had risen to 129.45, including 3.75 hours for the new Illuminate administrator. This incredible act of generosity on the part of staff reflects how strongly the team believes in the purpose and value of the continuation of the Light College and we give thanks to God for their valuable contributions. This has brought about a reduction of roughly a quarter of hours even after an additional role and some re-adjustments. This has naturally had an impact on the work that can be completed, though in some cases systems changes have increased the efficiency of staff to be able to deliver more in less time. Hours are monitored regularly, and remain annualised to allow staff flexibility to effectively use them as needed throughout the year.

In terms of operational changes, Tim Cox, our Dean of Operations, has continued to revolutionise our processes with a drive towards cloud-based, multi-user systems. Through Brightpay Cloud, staff can now access their payslips automatically without having to be individually emailed them, access P60s and other documents we share with them. Staff also now book their leave through BrightPay Cloud, giving a single calendar visibility with an authorisation/rejection point, which also brought our payroll in house. ExpensePlus (our finance system) continues to streamline our expenses and budget which has completely removed paper receipts.

Tim renewed the Perlego contract (our online resource library with over the 1 million books which has been widely acclaimed by students), ended the BT phone contract with home working allowances brought in instead of supplied mobile phones, and negotiated an extension to our hosted Moodle contract whilst a decision was made as to whether to stay with them or move elsewhere.



For the first time, we operated using Sum Up QR Codes for the Light Festival to take advantage of less credit card fees, and integrated Stripe as a payment method into Expenseplus, Charitiesuite and – through Tiltify – even onto TikTok!

Our website continues to be supported by a web of domain addresses which help drive traffic to us and provide options for expansion further down the line, and website improvements have been made as well as continuing the use of bl.ink as a redirector through <https://tlcc.uk> which allows us to shorten urls and monitor clicks.

Our previous contact form on the website was replaced by Tim with a new overlay form, simplifying the capture of contact details directly into CharitySuite, our online GDPR-compliant database.

Following the introduction of CharitySuite we started the process of rebuilding our application forms through it to make use of the integration and Ruth (with encouragement and help from Tim) completely revised the application form for students, changing it from a complicated and inconsistent word document to an online staged form through Churchsuite – this means that we capture student data directly into our GDPR compliant database, and a simple enquiry can then lead to moving them to the appropriate course application and through stages which includes preset emails and setting timeframes for specific phone calls and follow ups to be made. We have already had expressions of interest though process, with at least one leading to an interview and offer of a place – a first for the college and an excellent change. Through this system enquiries can also be turned into bookings for virtual open events.

As noted last year, one key change to our courses that Tim pushed for is that our part-time FdA will be delivered over a 4 year period instead of a 3 year period starting from 2022. This has enabled students studying the Pioneer Chaplaincy certificate to continue studying directly on the second part time year of the FdA, has the benefit for part time students of enabling them to concentrate on their studies when they may potentially work full time, reducing stress and crucially also providing additional financial surety of the college whilst allowing us to hold the same fee for an extended period against post-covid inflationary increases in costs. The first students to do the new part time year PT4 could theoretically be in the 2024-25 year (if following on from Pioneer Chaplaincy) though 2025-26 is the first year that cohorts would routinely do that additional year.

Financial Review

The Statement of Financial Activities is set out on page 19. The charity's income for the financial year to 31st August 2023 across all funds was £191,265 – a reduction of £25,736 on the previous year – whilst expenditure was £195,129 – a reduction of £30,385 on the previous year – which resulted in a net deficit of £3,864. This contrasts with the deficit of £8,513 in the previous year, and surpluses of £4,232 and £33,207 in the two years before that.

The significant reduction in expenditure is due to careful stewardship of the resources including – as noted above – the appeal to staff to consider voluntarily reducing their hours, which, together with role changes, brought about a reduction of roughly a quarter of hours even after an additional role and some re-adjustments. From a financial perspective this is a helpful reduction, though operationally fewer hours mean priorities for time have had to be readjusted and there is little opportunity to reduce further, whilst our salaried staff (all now part-time) had reduced to 10 by the end of August 2023 compared with 12 in August 2022.

The drop in income can be traced directly to a reduced course fees from students in 2022-23, with £135,604 (supported by bursaries of £2,067) in 2022-23 against £151,121 (with bursaries of £1,209) in 2021-22. This is not as straightforward as simply less students, as unfortunately a self-funding full time student had to be removed during the first term due to a lack of finance. The figures can be seen on pages 24 and 25 in the accounts.

As noted last year, the main reason for the surplus in 2020-21 – despite a much lower income than in 2019-20 – was due to Covid 19 having reduced expenditure significantly, especially on residential. Regrettably the impact of Covid (with a cohort of fewer students) continues to move through the College and affects multiple years, not just one; with the Lecture Blocks delivered in person in 2021-22 and 2022-23, this has been the greatest increase in expenditure (as was noted last year, degree direct costs increased by £19,930 or nearly 150%), though the costs have fallen by £10,316 this year. This is largely due to a combination of prudence in organising the Lecture Blocks as student numbers overall were not dissimilar in 2022-23 than in the previous year – indeed there were 3 more students overall at the end of the year (38 to 35 – see table on next page).

In 2021-2022, a generous split year grant of £20,000 was received from the Baptist Insurance Company to support the Pioneer Chaplaincy course and the development of new courses, representing £10k income that year and £10k in this year, and the Chaplaincy course got off to a successful start. As mentioned above, the college has secured grant funding of £5k from Myriad to start delivering Illuminate, which will be renewed for 2023-24.

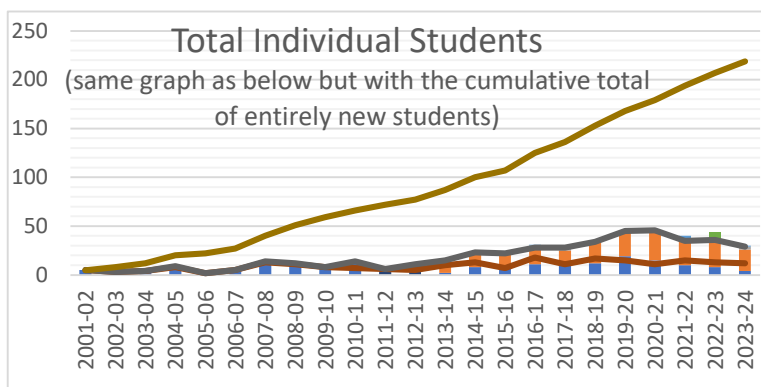
There was a minor transfer from the General fund at the end of 2022-23 to finalise the closure of the Lighthouse Café fund – the principal sources for funding for Chris' half day had both pulled out around the same time and it was thus

felt to be untenable, hence October 2022 saw the end of the College's administration of both that fund and Chris' hours for the café. A more major transfer was from the General fund to the College fund clearing £18,377 at year end.

19 students ceased studying with us in 2021-22, though this includes 5 withdrawals, and a further 19 ceased studying with us in 2022-23, the vast majority by graduating from one of our courses and by the time of writing some of these have subsequently returned to complete a higher-level course. The Bursary fund received one significant one-off gift of £2,500, but donations overall were down in this area (skewed by a couple of large one-off gifts in the previous year). £2,075 was distributed as Bursaries directly from the Bursary fund via credit notes applied against the invoices, representing up to a 50% reduction for some students due to a historic agreement; bursaries will normally be for no more than 25%.

At the time of writing this report, the recruitment for the year 2023-2024 is finalised and shown in the table below:

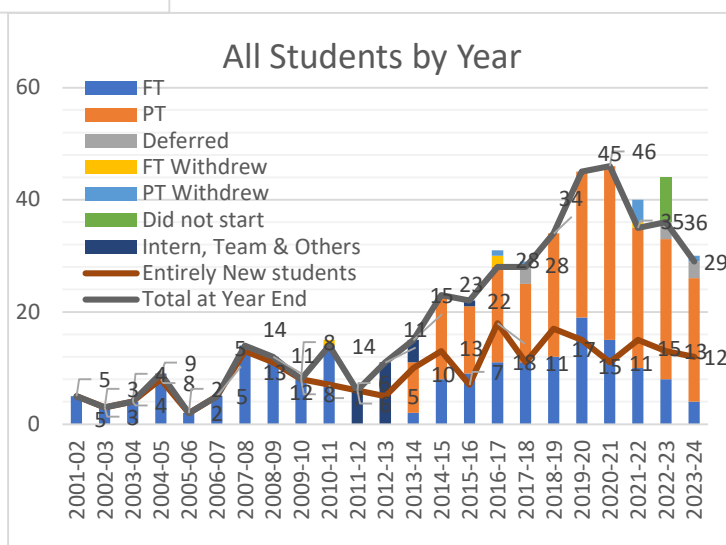
Student numbers and fee income based on fee paying students										
Year	Full Time Students			Part Time Students ¹			Students Total		Bursaries given ² £	Fee Reductions ³ £
	Yr Start	Deferred	Withdrawn ⁴	Yr Start	Deferred	Withdrawn ⁵	New ⁶	Yr end		
2014-15	8			15			13	23	2,300	81,495
2015-16	9			13			8	22	1,400	81,059
2016-17	13			18		1	17	30	7,125	106,795
2017-18	11			18	3	1	11	28	4,280	99,771
2018-19	12			22			17	34	10,935	115,493
2019-20	19			26			15	45	5,185	183,314
2020-21	15			31			11	46	2,440	168,401
2021-22	11		1	29		4	15	35	3,834	145,332
2022-23	8			28	5		13	38	2,075	135,604
2023-24	5	1		25	2	1	11	29	1,438	121,580



As can be seen, a relatively small number of students can make all the difference to the income and viability of the College and we have attempted to maximise student fee income (both for the students' benefits and for the Colleges') including the course change above for Part Time FdA from 3 to 4 years, increased fees and encouraging previous students to progress onto the next course with us. The table above and graph to the left show a relatively consistent number of new

students joining us cumulatively, and the graph to the right demonstrates that largely we have been successful in students progressing onwards, and fairly consistent in terms of brand-new students starting (13.1 brand new students pa on average from 2014-2023, or 9.51 on average since the beginning), though with the reduction in full time students we need to ensure our retention remains high to increase overall student numbers whilst continuing to recruit new ones.

Donations and associated gift aid fell against the previous year which had included some significant fundraising. Including Gift Aid unrestricted donations totalled £26,332, a decrease of £5,358 against 2021-22, and including one significant



1 This could include students where their full/part time status is unknown

2 Fee reductions affect gross fee income, since 2020 bursaries do not affect Gross Fee Income, just the funding source.

3 Fee reductions can include both invoices that we have reduced by an amount, and also where amounts have had to be credited off due to a student withdrawal or interruption – this figure is not included in the Gross Fee Income

4 This could include students who have left, been removed, or deceased before the end of the course

5 This could include students who have left, been removed, or deceased before the end of the course

6 New students are those who have never studied with the Light College before

(restricted) Bursary donation of between £500 and £3k, the total donations were £31,766 – a decrease of £17,642 over 2021/22; it should be noted that donations in 2021-22 showed an increase of £12,088 over 2020/21, but this still represents a reduction of £5,554 over 2020/21. The Light College and Collective remain very grateful for their many faithful and generous regular standing order donors and a decline in regular standing order income was planned for and built into the budget and the five-year plan, though more fundraising is required as a result. Donations were lower than budgeted nearly across the board. Fundraising was worse than the previous year at £795 out of a budgeted £5k. From Fundraising, the General Fund received £555 and the Light Collective Fund received £240. Whilst there have been some regular standing orders that have ended, there have been some new donors and hence standing orders remained fairly steady in 2022-23.

Overall expenditure decreased significantly from £225,514 to £195,129 – a reduction of £30,385 on the previous year as discussed above, which resulted in a net deficit of £3,864. This contrasts with the deficit of £8,513 in the previous year, and surpluses of £4,232 and £33,207 in the two years before that. Despite a wage increase in April, a cut in staff costs through the loss of a quarter of hours overall was the main driver for this.

In line with the previous year, Course fees were revised for 2023/24. The changes in the previous year of Part-Time becoming more consistently 0.5 instead of 0.67, and Pioneer Chaplaincy fees increasing to be the same as a 0.5 FdA first year, enable easier continuation onto the FdA. As of the time of writing, course fees for 2024-25 have been set and the fees from 2020-21 to 2024-25 can be see below.

	<u>Cohort</u>	<u>Fees</u>	
FD Theology and Evangelism - Full Time	2020/1	£6,250	
	2021/2	£6,750	
	2022/3	£6,900	
	2023/4	£7,500	
	2024/5	£7,800	
FD Theology and Evangelism - Part Time	2020/1	£3,500	(4 modules not 3)
	2021/2	£3,500	(4 modules not 3)
	2022/3	£3,500	
	2023/4	£3,750	
	2024/5	£3,900	
BA Theology, Mission and Evangelism (Top-Up) - Part Time	2020/1	£3,500	
	2021/2	£3,500	
	2022/3	£3,500	
	2023/4	£3,750	
	2024/5	£3,900	
BA Theology, Mission and Evangelism (Top-Up) - Full Time	2020/1	£6,750	
	2021/2	£6,750	
	2022/3	£6,900	
	2023/4	£7,500	
	2024/5	£7,800	
Prof Cert Pioneer Chaplaincy and Mission - Part Time	2020/1	£2,200	
	2021/2	£3,500	
	2022/3	£3,500	
	2023/4	£3,750	
	2024/5	£3,900	

The balance sheet on page 29 shows total reserves of £34,792 with a decrease of (£3,864) against the previous year – this was comprised of £36,242 in unrestricted funds, an increase of £3,858, and a negative (£1,450) restricted fund total which had decreased by £7,722 against the previous year. There was cash at bank and in hand of £50,225 – a decrease against the previous year of (£9,536).

The following funds were operated during the year:

General Fund: *all unrestricted donations and other income plus expenditure not directly attributable to a specific activity are included in the unrestricted General Fund.*

The Light College: *this is an unrestricted fund that was set up for budgeting and management reporting purposes for the income and expenditure directly associated with the delivery of the college's degree courses. It also includes the income and expenditure associated with the Pioneer Chaplaincy qualification. It would not normally receive donations.*

Student Welfare Fund: *this unrestricted Designated fund was set up to administer gifts and support to Students. It can receive donations or income but largely holds monies designated from the College to facilitate Student Welfare.*

Lighthouse Café Fund: *this was a restricted fund which received donations to finance Chris Duffett's time with the Lighthouse Café; 0.5 days of Chris's time in 2021-22 was billed against this fund, but the College ceased facilitating at the start of the year due to a drop off in donors, and the fund was wound up at the end of this year.*

Bursary Fund: *this is a restricted fund for the granting of bursaries to self-funded students who would otherwise not be able to afford the tuition fee. Donations received for this purpose are applied against individual Student Fees.*

Rolling Coffee Fund: *this is a restricted fund administered by the College for the benefit of setting up and running a mobile coffee shop by a pioneer evangelist associated with the Light College and Collective. Rolling Coffee itself is independent of the College.*

Light Collective Fund: *this restricted was set up for budgeting and management reporting purposes, for subscriptions and other income and the expenditure directly associated with The Light Collective. Chris and Gaz both had time billed against this fund in 2022-23.*

Pioneer Chaplaincy & Course Development Fund: *this restricted fund was set up to administer the Baptist Insurance Company grant and to facilitate the delivery of the Pioneer Chaplaincy Course and development of new courses.*

Risk Management

The trustees recognise their responsibility with regard to risk management. The risks to which the trust may be exposed have been identified and documented in a risk register together with appropriate mitigation and control procedures. The risk register is monitored and updated regularly and reviewed by the trustees on an annual basis.

Reserves Policy

The Light College and Collective only holds reserves in restricted funds that are the unspent portion of restricted grants and donations. It is not the policy to build reserves up in restricted funds but to spend them in accordance with the restrictions placed upon them. Restricted reserves at 31st August 2023 were negative (£1,450), a decrease of £7,722, with positive balances totalling £10,240 (up slightly from last year) and negative balances of (£11,236) – the Light Collective fund deficit increasing by £7,040 – this is largely due to one of the Co-principals having increased hours within this fund. There are sufficient unrestricted funds to cover these negative balances should that prove necessary.

The trustees have aimed to build up reserves in unrestricted funds, with the purpose of these reserves being to enable the charity to operate day to day without cash flow problems and to ensure there would be enough in the General Fund to meet any likely outstanding commitments if they are obliged to close the charity. The Reserve Policy is reviewed annually as part of the budget making process, as are the risks of closure and associated costs. Unrestricted reserves at 31st August 2023 were £36,242. After taking account of the restricted funds in deficit the available unrestricted reserves are £24,552. At just under 2 months of total annual expenditure these are considered adequate but not excessive.

Going concern

The trustees recognize the risks associated with dependence for such a significant part of the charity's income on student numbers and the effect a decrease in numbers has on the ability of the charity to continue. In line with many other charities and the current economic climate, it is also increasingly difficult to maintain the donation income and to secure grants, especially for core costs. As outlined in the Financial Review, recruitment in the year to 31st August 2023 was slightly down on the previous year, though the main difference from a financial perspective is the reduction in full-time students. Recruitment for 2020/21 was lower than budgeted due to the Covid 19 pandemic and this affects income over the following 3 years. The surplus generated in the year ended 31st August 2020 (and to some extent the year ending 31st August 2021) provided a much-needed breathing space for the College to concentrate on online marketing and the refinement of the online delivery of the courses. The lower recruitment, and the loss of 4 students in 2021/2022 put greater pressure on those reserves (as reflected in the reduction of Course Fee income by £23,069 in that year) which led to a further deficit budget being set in 2022/2023. Due to some careful management, including a cut of core staff hours by a quarter, and some large donations, we remain a going concern as of writing this report, though FTE student numbers and expenditure continue to be monitored closely.

Investment Policy

The charity has no long-term investments. Cash reserves are held in deposit accounts, when possible, but rates of interest remained low in the year.

Signed on behalf of the trustees

Phil Jump
Chair of the Trustees

Date:

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Phil Jump
Chair of the Trustees

Date:

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2023

Independent Examiners Report

Prepared by Wyatt and Co Ltd

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2023

Independent Examiners Report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Light Project ('the charity') for the year ended 31 August 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements 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 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), which is one of the listed bodies.

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 respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Nigel Wyatt BSC FCA
Independent Examiner
125 Main Street
Garforth
Leeds
LS25 1AF

Date:

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2023

Statement of Financial Activities

		Unrestricted Funds	2023 Restricted Funds	Total Funds	2022 Total Funds
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income					
Donations and legacies		28,315	21,925	50,240	62,569
Charitable activities		136,104	4,812	140,916	154,423
Investment Income		109	-	109	9
Total Income	2	<u>164,528</u>	<u>26,737</u>	<u>191,265</u>	<u>217,001</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	3	160,668	34,458	195,126	224,151
Activities for generating income	4	-	3	3	1,363
Total Expenditure		<u>160,668</u>	<u>34,461</u>	<u>195,129</u>	<u>225,514</u>
Net income / (expenditure)		<u>3,860</u>	<u>(7,724)</u>	<u>(3,864)</u>	<u>(8,513)</u>
Net Income and Net Movement In Funds					
Total funds brought forward	10	32,384	6,272	38,656	47,169
Transfers	10	-	-	-	-
Total Funds Carried Forward	10	<u>36,244</u>	<u>(1,452)</u>	<u>34,792</u>	<u>38,656</u>

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2023

Statement of Financial Position

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Current Assets			
Debtors	8	9,283	-
Cash at bank and in hand		50,226	59,757
		<u>59,509</u>	<u>59,757</u>
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	9	19,717	21,101
Net Current Assets		<u>39,792</u>	<u>38,656</u>
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		39,792	38,656
Net Assets	11	<u>39,792</u>	<u>38,656</u>
Funds of the Charity			
Restricted funds		(1,450)	6,272
Unrestricted funds		36,242	32,384
Total Charity Funds	10	<u>34,792</u>	<u>38,656</u>

Directors Responsibilities

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue :

Name of Trustee:

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:

Date of approval:

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 Accounting Policies

Accounting convention

The Light Project is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The trust is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives. Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

Income

Income is recognized in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income, receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. This policy applies to all types of income received by the charity, including course fees, donations and legacies, and grants for activities.

Course Fees

Income from course fees is recognized over the period of instruction. Where course fees are received in advance, the income is deferred and released to the SOFA over the period of the course.

Donations and Legacies

Donations and legacies are recognized when the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the funds will be received, and the amount can be reliably measured.

Grants for Activities

Grants are recognized in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to the income and where any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit 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.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

Financial instruments

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

Financial instruments are recognised in the trust's balance sheet when the trust becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets: Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities: Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Retirement benefits

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

Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the trust's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

2 Analysis of Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations and Legacies			
Donations	26,333	5,425	31,758
Other voluntary income	1,982	-	1,982
Grants for activities	-	16,500	16,500
	<u>28,315</u>	<u>21,925</u>	<u>50,240</u>
Charitable Activities			
Course fees	135,604	(2,067)	133,537
Speaking and Training	500	3,125	3,625
Light Festival	-	3,754	3,754
	<u>136,104</u>	<u>4,812</u>	<u>140,916</u>
Investment Income			
Bank interest	109	-	109
	<u>109</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>109</u>
Total	<u>164,528</u>	<u>26,737</u>	<u>191,265</u>

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

Analysis of Income (*Continued*)

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
Donations and Legacies			
Donations	31,690	17,718	49,408
Other voluntary income	-	-	-
Grants for activities	-	13,161	13,161
	<u>31,690</u>	<u>30,879</u>	<u>62,569</u>
Charitable Activities			
Course fees	151,121	(1,209)	149,912
Speaking and Training	1,138	-	1,138
Light Festival	-	3,373	3,373
	<u>152,259</u>	<u>2,164</u>	<u>154,423</u>
Investment Income			
Bank interest	9	-	9
	<u>9</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9</u>
Total	<u>183,958</u>	<u>33,043</u>	<u>217,001</u>

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

3 Expenditure on Charitable Activities by Expenditure Type

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Accountancy and governance	1,721	268	1,989
Degree direct costs	40,756	12,514	53,270
Equipment and IT	7,369	-	7,369
Insurance and support	1,356	750	2,106
Light Festival	-	4,442	4,442
Office	1,415	-	1,415
Other Evangelism and Teaching costs	166	-	166
Premises	4,992	-	4,992
Publicity and marketing	4,914	191	5,105
Salary costs	95,060	14,425	109,485
Staff related costs (training, travel and expe	2,919	1,868	4,787
	<u>160,668</u>	<u>34,458</u>	<u>195,126</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£
Accountancy and governance	(2,927)	3,610	683
Degree direct costs	59,743	3,843	63,586
Equipment and IT	6,084	515	6,599
Insurance and support	2,449	127	2,576
Light Festival	-	2,799	2,799
Office	346	-	346
Other Evangelism and Teaching costs	331	50	381
Premises	2,301	-	2,301
Publicity and marketing	3,502	-	3,502
Salary costs	130,714	10,664	141,378
	<u>202,543</u>	<u>21,608</u>	<u>224,151</u>

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

4 Expenditure on Activities For Generating Income

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Fundraising costs	-	3	3
	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£
Fundraising costs	792	571	1,363
	<u>1,250</u>	<u>3,740</u>	<u>1,363</u>

5 Independent Examination Fees

Fees payable to the independent examiner for:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Independent examination and preparation of the financial statements	1,320	900
	<u>1,320</u>	<u>900</u>

6 Staff Costs

The total staff costs and employee benefits for the reporting period are analysed as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	96,503	126,507
Social security costs	-	4,495
Employer contributions to pension plans	2,813	3,576
Contract Tutors / Guest Lecturers	9,825	6,800
	<u>109,141</u>	<u>141,378</u>

The average headcount of employees during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
Average headcount	11	12

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year was as follows:

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

Key Management Personnel

The charity considers its key management personnel to be the Co-Principals, the Dean of Operations, and the Undergraduate Programme Manager. The total employee benefits received by key management were as follows:

	2023
	£
Key management personnel employee benefit	56,075

7 Trustee Remuneration, Expenses and Donations

During the year the trustees made donations to the charity totalling £2,740.

8 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other debtors	5,875	-
Prepayments and accrued income	3,408	-
	<u>9,283</u>	<u>-</u>

9 Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other creditors	9,383	10,201
Accruals and deferred income	10,334	10,900
	<u>19,717</u>	<u>21,101</u>

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

10 Analysis of Charitable Funds

	1 Jan 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	31 Dec 2023 £
Unrestricted					
General Fund	24,001	26,317	(1,563)	(19,053)	29,702
The Light College Fund	7,340	137,886	(158,860)	19,053	5,419
Total	31,341	164,203	(160,423)	-	35,121
Designated					
Student Welfare	1,043	325	(247)	-	1,121
Total	1,043	325	(247)	-	1,121
Total Unrestricted Funds	32,384	164,528	(160,670)	-	36,242
Restricted Funds					
Bursary Fund	7,209	904	(3)	-	8,110
Light House Café Fund	344	240	(584)	-	-
Light Collective Fund	(4,196)	14,093	(21,133)	-	(11,236)
Rolling Coffee	855	1,500	(225)	-	2,130
Pioneer Chaplaincy & Course Development Fund	2,060	10,000	(12,514)	-	(454)
Total	6,272	26,737	(34,459)	-	(1,450)
Total Funds	38,656	191,265	(195,129)	-	34,792

Negative Fund Balances

At the year's end, the Pioneer Chaplaincy & Course Development Fund and Light Collective Fund were in deficit. Active plans in 2023/24 financial year so that the Pioneer Chaplaincy & Course Development Fund will be nil or have a positive balance carried forward. A longer-term plan is being assessed and implemented to bring the Light Collective Fund back to a positive fund balance over the coming two years. The fund is in deficit due to the Light Festival costing more to run than the restricted funding received during the year and insufficient speaker fees to cover salaried Co-Principal costs.

The Light Project

Year Ended 31st August 2023

Notes to the Financial Statements

Fund Descriptions

Please see page 14

11 Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£
Current Assets	60,959	(1,450)	59,509
Creditors less than 1 year	(19,717)	-	(19,717)
	41,242	(1,450)	39,792

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2022
	£	£	£
Current Assets	53,485	6,272	59,757
Creditors less than 1 year	(21,101)	-	(21,101)
	32,384	6,272	38,656

12 Related Party Transactions

No related party transactions took place during the year.

THE LIGHT PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1084941

Accounts



the light
college & collective
formerly the light project

THE LIGHT PROJECT

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31st August 2022

Charity Number 1084941

Training, equipping, and connecting pioneers and evangelists to go and make countless followers of Jesus

The Light College and Collective is the working name for The Light Project:

The Light College, Foxhill House, Tarvin Road, FRODSHAM, WA6 6XB

T: 03333 446489 E: office@lightcollege.ac.uk W: www.lightcollege.org.uk

Registered charity (England & Wales) no: 1084941

CONTENTS

Charity information	3
Trustees Annual Report - Year Ended 31st August 2022	4
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	12
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Light project	13
Statement of Financial Activities - Year Ended 31st August 2022	14
Balance Sheet at 31 st August 2022	15
Notes to the accounts.....	16

Charity information

Registered charity name

The Light Project

Registered working name

The Light College and Collective

Address

Foxhill House
Tarvin Road
FRODSHAM
WA6 6XB

Contact Information

Telephone: 03333 446489

Email: office@lightcollege.ac.uk

Website: www.lightcollege.ac.uk

Charity number

1084941

Trustees

Reverend P Jump

Mr B Askey

Reverend A Glover

Reverend A McWilliam (*Appointed 26 January 2022*)

Ms A Roche (Appointed 13 October 2022)

Reverend A Wearing (Appointed 5 December 2022)

Mr L Maloney (Appointed 5 December 2022)

Independent examiners

Jerroms GCN Limited

West Point, Second Floor

Mucklow Office Park

Mucklow Hill

Halesowen

B62 8DY

Trustees Annual Report - Year Ended 31st August 2022

The trustees present their report and the independently examined financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2022. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland effective 1st January 2019.

The Trustees

The trustees who served the charity during the year were as follows:

Reverend. P Jump

Mr B Askey

Reverend A Glover

D Chirgwin (Resigned 26 January 2022)

S Hatton (Resigned 14 June 2022)

Reverend Dr A Hardy (Appointed 26 January 2022, resigned 24 May 2022 due to taking on a role as an employee)

Reverend A McWilliam (Appointed 26 January 2022)

Structure, Governance and Management

The Light Project is constituted as a charitable trust registered with the Charity Commission under charity number 1084941. It is governed by an original trust deed dated 21st June 2000

The charity trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. The trustees give their time freely and receive no remuneration or other financial benefits.

The existing trustees are responsible for the recruitment of new trustees as and when the need arises for specific skills, experience, and knowledge within the trustee body. Before appointment the trustees ensure that a prospective trustee understands the responsibilities they are taking on and can be relied on to carry them out responsibly. References are taken and the prospective trustee is invited to attend a trustee meeting and to meet with key members of staff.

On appointment, new trustees sign a model trustee eligibility and responsibility declaration and declaration of interest form. During the induction process, the new trustee is sent a copy of the governing trust deed, a copy of the Charity Commission's guidance 'The essential trustee: what you need to know, what you need to do', a copy of the latest Annual Report and Financial Statements and a copy of our safeguarding policy and other relevant policies. The trust is currently actively looking to recruit new trustees to broaden the range of skills available to the college.

Objectives and Activities

The purpose of the Charity is advancing the Christian religion in the area of benefit. Each year the trustees review our objectives and activities to ensure they continue to reflect our aims. In carrying out this review the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular its supplementary guidance on the advancement of religion for the public benefit.

During 2020 The Light Project underwent a rebranding with a new logo and a new working name of The Light College and Collective. This name more accurately reflects the activities of the charity and the increased emphasis on training, equipping and connecting pioneers and evangelists to go and make countless followers of Jesus.



the light college & collective

- Vision** – to train, resource and connect pioneers to go and make countless followers of Jesus.
- Mission** – to identify, support, equip and encourage pioneers via courses based on practical evangelism and current research as well as sound biblical teaching. To this end all lecturers should be practicing evangelists as far as possible. Innovative ideas for making disciples and the courage to share failures as well as successes are encouraged. The Collective furthers the sharing of ideas and support for those running or setting up new evangelism and outreach projects via set up days, gatherings, consultancy, and accessible online resources.
- Core values** – support the vision, shape the culture, reflect our “DNA”:
- Practical evangelism encouraged in all staff
 - All associated with LCC are treated as our family in Christ
 - All are encouraged to develop their gifts, (including spiritual) as part of the body of Christ
 - Horizontal leadership structure as far as possible
 - Prayer for each other, for students and for The Light College and Collective recognised as a priority

Achievements and Performance

Overview

This year has been characterised by activity and action as we emerged out of the pandemic and enjoyed being able to do more as a college team ‘out there’ away from zoom meetings and online learning!

Glyn had the privilege of baptising a new believer who he met the previous year and had been discipling as part of The Net, one of our placements and also 2 people who were confirmed.

Chris led a mission in Kent called ‘Known and Loved’ and had a student join him for 8 days. It was a wonderful opportunity to work with a group of churches and help them engage with their community.



Courses

Most of our attention this year was delivering our courses:

- Foundation degree of Arts in Theology, Mission and Evangelism
- Bachelors degree of Arts in Theology, Mission and Evangelism
- 1-year Professional Certificate in Pioneer chaplaincy and Mission

We had a good cohort of students join us this year and it was refreshing to meet in person and deliver training and lectures in person, rather than all online.

One of the post-Covid consequences which was reflected last year was that we have moved to a hybrid delivery, adapting to having multiple digital open days and, weekly online College meetings and residential Lecture Blocks. We have continued to maximize the use of other digital systems and platforms to enhance delivery in a post pandemic scenario, including Moodle usage continuing and introducing Perlego – an online library of over 1 million books that all our students have access to which has been so well received that some departing students have continued to pay for licences afterwards. Good review systems have also highlighted that students have continued to appreciate the regular weekly online groups which is a feature that will continue in 2022-23.



The cohort this year have done an amazing job led by Ali Boston and Gaz Thomas. Students have achieved some excellent work, including some first-class honours. The varied topics of the work and the practical application of the degrees was commended by the external examiner Dr Allison Fenton from Queens in Birmingham. Graduations took place in spring with over 25 students graduating.

Partnerships

The university renewed our partnership this year meaning that we are assured accreditation for the coming years. It is a cause of thanks to God and also a recognition of the good relations that we have with the university.

We appointed Andy Hardy on team to develop the new MA and submitted an initial proposal for the development of an MA in Prophetic Leadership and Public Theology. If accepted, the development process will take place of the coming year with a view to offer places in September 2024.



Dr Andrew Hardy

Alongside Glyn's role in Myriad, he explored whether we could partner in offering a non-accredited church planting programme with funding from the Anglican Church.

With our partnership with Northern Baptist College, Rob beamish stepped back from his Hub Tutor role. We currently have 5 ministers in Training as part of the college.

Light Collective

The Collective continues to operate well, a big highlight was The Light Festival in the middle of June. Other than that, we've met bi-monthly on Zoom for prayer, worship and teaching, with a combination of in-house and external speakers and input.

The bi-monthly 24-hour prayer meetings are reasonably well attended and offer a good opportunity for people to pray for whatever feels right, but also for the college and collective.

It was such a joy to facilitate our first proper Light College and Collective gathering with



the instigation of the First Annual Light Festival taking place at Mill Farm, Gamlingay. Over 50 people attended, with worship and workshops taking place across the weekend and we began planning the Second Annual Light Festival (<https://lightfestival.uk>)



In line with the vision of the charity, The Light Collective will be exploring the possibility of developing a non-accredited programme for church planting. There is strong evidence that the church in the UK is both a mix of dramatic decline in traditional and ageing congregation but also, remarkable growth, particularly in more vibrant and urban communities. It is recognized that new forms of church will be crucial to this connection with new and emerging people groups. As such, the light Collective will be seeing to train, equip and connect pioneers and evangelists to form new church communities. The charity is in conversation with some key ecumenical partners to explore how this may be achieved in the coming years.

Doctorate Research

The current research project being sponsored by the charity is now approaching its final write-up. The data has been collected and analysed and is currently being prepared for the final write up before publication.

Team

We were joined by Ruth, the new administrator who shadowed Deri for one day per week. She has been a great asset already to the team and fits in well. Ruth replaced Deri at the end of this year. We celebrated the phenomenal work of Deri Fabian as we marked her retirement after 21 years of working for the charity.

Abi Lycett who has been leading The Net, a Chester based placement for full-time students will be stopping this summer. Abi has been a great member of the team and will continue to lecture with us.



Rosie Perkins, one of our graduating students has become an intern and is doing a PA role for Glyn, working from Foxhill.

We give thanks to God for a wonderful year, still with its challenges and needing to be extra prudent in our budgeting. Yet we are grateful and so pleased with how we are developing and growing,

Be the light,

Chris Duffett and Glyn Jones.

Operational

This has again been a busy year with lots of changes, both in terms of people and operations. For a small organisation of less than 15 employees, we had a large number of personnel changes: Abi Lycett finished with us as a Pioneer Evangelist but remained as a contract Lecturer, Deri Fabian our Course Administrator retired after over 20 years with the organisation, Dr Ruth Empson began as our Key Administrator, Rev Dr Rob Beamish stepped back as Hub Tutor but continued with us as a contract lecturer, Dr Karl Möller joined us as a contract lecturer & Carolyn Skinner joined us as a lecturer on the Pioneer Chaplaincy course, Rosie Perkins became an intern acting as PA for Glyn, and - having been our external examiner the year before and then joining us for a short time as a Trustee during the year - Rev Dr Andy Hardy began with us as an Academic Programme Manager developing the new MA. During the year our last remaining full time staff member reduced his hours, meaning all staff are now part time.

In terms of operational changes, Tim has continued to revolutionise our systems with ExpensePlus streamlining how our expenses are handled, the introduction of the online resource

Perlego

library Perlego creeping over the 1 million book mark (and has been widely acclaimed by students), the introduction of



ExpensePlus

CharitySuite as an online GDPR-compliant database, and also brought our payroll in house with the introduction of



BrightPay, maintained our insurance costs, continued the website overhaul, increased our social media presence and setup new payment methods for donations. Following the introduction of CharitySuite we



started the process of rebuilding our application forms through it to make use of the integration

and as of the time of writing all our applications are now done through this, with other forms on our website feeding directly in as well.

One key change to our courses that Tim pursued was for our part-time FdA to be delivered over a 4 year period instead of a 3 year period starting from 2022; this has the benefit for part time students of enabling them to concentrate on their studies when they may potentially work full time, reducing stress and aligning them exactly with the alternate years of the full time course. Administratively, whilst it has introduced challenges for timetabling this year, it will make timetabling and lecture blocks easier to arrange in the future and increases the financial surety of the college.

Financial Review

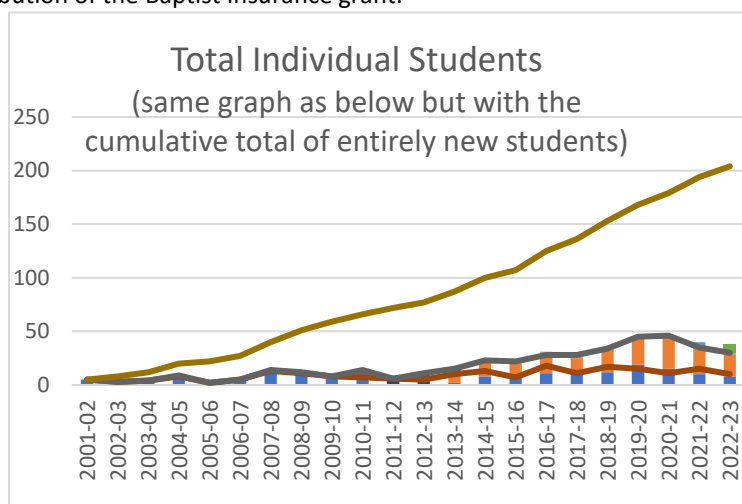
The Statement of Financial Activities is set out on page 14. The charity's income for the financial year to 31st August 2022 across all funds was £217,001 – a reduction of £3,755 on the previous year – whilst expenditure was £225,514 – an increase of £8,990 on the previous year – which resulted in a net deficit of £8,513. This contrasts with the small surplus of £4,232 in the previous year, and the large surplus of £33,207 in the year before that. The main reason for the surplus in 2020-21 – despite a much lower income than in 2019-20 – was due to Covid 19 having reduced expenditure significantly, especially on residential. Regrettably the impact of Covid (with a cohort of fewer students) continues to move through the College and affects multiple not just one year; with the Lecture Blocks delivered in person this year this has been the greatest increase in expenditure (as can be seen on page 19, degree direct costs increased by £19,930 or nearly 150%).

A generous split year grant of £20,000 was received from the Baptist Insurance Company to support the Pioneer Chaplaincy course and the development of new courses income, representing £10k income this year and £10k in the following year. The only other grant was a Northern Baptist College grant (£2,160.50) which was immediately

redistributed to the students as bursaries so didn't directly benefit the College. There were minor transfers from the General fund in 2020-21 to finalise the closures of the Drop In and Network funds. The Pioneer Chaplaincy & Course Development fund was started to enable the distribution of the Baptist Insurance grant.

25 students completed their studies with us. The Bursary fund received some generous one-off gifts totalling £10,640 as well as portions of fundraising from a meal and the Sparks! Album which the College produced. £3,833.75 was distributed as Bursaries directly from the Bursary fund (in addition to the aforementioned £2,440 Northern Baptist Grant) but we also granted Fee reductions of up to 25% to 7 students totalling £6,140. This meant bursaries distributed or reducing fees totalled £12,413.75.

At the time of writing this report, the recruitment for the year 2022-2023 is finalized and shown in the table below:

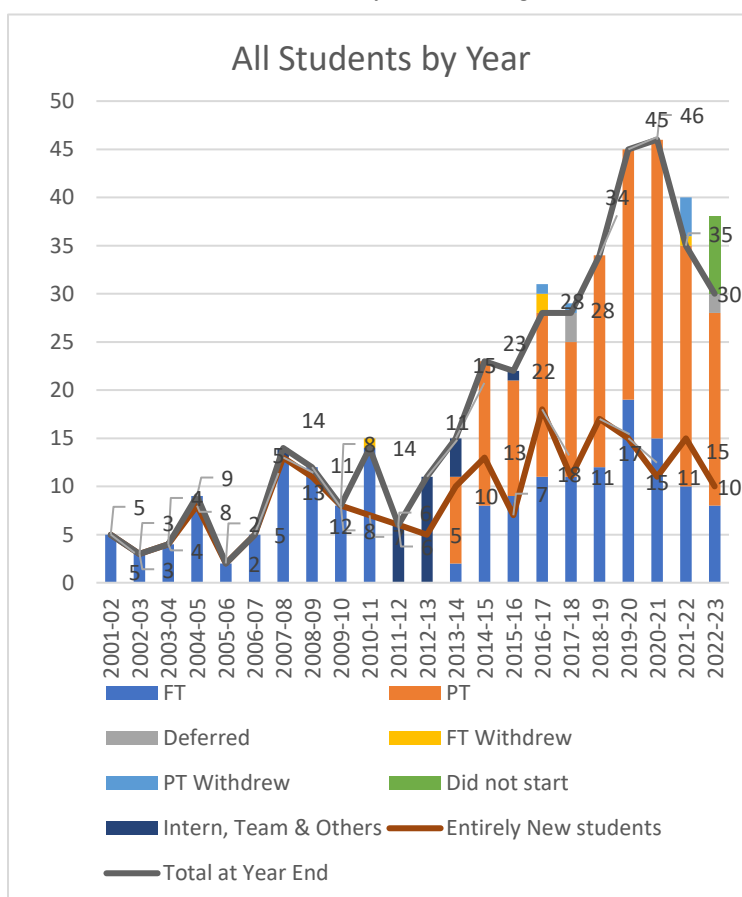


Year	Full time students	Part time students	Deferred students	Withdrawn		Total students at end of year	Bursaries given £ *	Fee Reductions £	Gross fee income £
				FT	PT				
2014-15	8	15		0	0	23	2,300		81,495
2015-16	9	12		0	0	22	1,400		81,059
2016-17	15	17		2	1	28	7,125		106,795
2017-18	11	14	3	0	1	28	4,280		99,771
2018-19	12	22		0	0	34	10,935		115,493
2019-20	19	26		0	0	45	5,185		183,314
2020-21	15	31		0	0	46	2,440	5,794	168,401
2021-22	11	25	0	1	4	35	3,834	6,330	145,332
2022-23	8	20	2	0	0	30	1,475	10,939	139,694

* Fee reductions affect gross fee income, since 2020 bursaries do not affect Gross Fee Income, just the funding source.

As can be seen, a relatively small number of students can make all the difference to the income and viability of the College and we have attempted to maximise student fee income (both for the students' benefits and for the Colleges') including the course change above for Part Time FdA from 3 to 4 years, increased fees and encouraging previous students to progress onto the next course with us. The graph above shows a relatively consistent number of new students joining us cumulatively, and the graph to the right demonstrates that largely we have been successful in students progressing onwards, and fairly consistent in terms of brand-new students starting (12.7 brand new students pa on average from 2013-2022, or 9.27 on average since the beginning), though we need to increase both new and overall student numbers.

Donations and associated gift aid, increased for the second year in a row; including Gift Aid unrestricted donations totalled £31,690 an increase of £1,964 unrestricted against 2020-21, and including five significant (restricted) Bursary donations of between £500 and £3k, the total donations were £49,408 – an increase of £12,088 over 2020/21. The Light College and Collective remain very grateful for their many



faithful and generous regular standing order donors and a decline in regular standing order income was planned for and built into the budget and the five-year plan. Fundraising was better than the previous year at £4,217, though still much lower than against budget. From Fundraising, the General Fund received £1,944, the Bursary Fund received £1,186, the Light Collective Fund received £1,043, Student Welfare received £44. This included some of the delayed London Marathon (some fell into the next year), a Biblical Dress-Up Day (~£2k against a £5k target) and some other fundraising activities. Whilst there have been some regular standing orders that have ended, there have been some new donors and hence standing orders are so far holding steady in 2022.

Overall expenditure increased from £216,524 to £225,514 – still slightly below 2019-20, though as highlighted above this was largely due to the return of the residential Lecture Blocks. A breakdown of costs is given in note 7, but staff costs actually reduced despite a wage increase in April as everyone has moved part time and premises costs have reduced dramatically due to changing office and a delay in starting the new office rent – premise costs will normally be £5k and this will be reflected next year. The main increase was in Degree and Placement direct costs which increased by a combined £22,774.

In line with the previous year, Course fees were revised for 2022/23 with Part-Time becoming more consistently 0.5 instead of 0.67, and with Pioneer Chaplaincy fees increasing to be the same as a 0.5 FdA first year, enabling easier continuation onto the FdA.

The balance sheet on page 15 shows total reserves of £38,655 – a decrease of £8,513 against the previous year – with cash at bank and in hand of £59,761 – a marginal decrease of against the previous year of £123.

The following funds were operated during the year:

General Fund: all unrestricted donations and other income plus expenditure not directly attributable to a specific activity are included in the unrestricted General Fund.

The Light College: this is an unrestricted fund that was set up for budgeting and management reporting purposes for the income and expenditure directly associated with the delivery of the college's degree courses. It also includes the income and expenditure associated with the Pioneer Chaplaincy qualification. It would not normally receive donations.

Student Welfare Fund: this unrestricted Designated fund was set up to administer gifts and support to Students. It can receive donations or income but largely holds monies designated from the College to facilitate Student Welfare.

Lighthouse Café Fund: this is a restricted fund which continues to receive donations to finance Chris Duffett's time with the Lighthouse Café; 0.5 days of Chris's time in 2021-22 was billed against this fund.

Bursary Fund: this is a restricted fund for the granting of bursaries to self-funded students who would otherwise not be able to afford the tuition fee. Donations received for this purpose are applied against individual Student Fees.

Rolling Coffee Fund: this is a restricted fund administered by the College for the benefit of setting up and running a mobile coffee shop by a pioneer evangelist associated with the Light College and Collective. Rolling Coffee itself is independent of the College.

Light Collective Fund: this restricted was set up for budgeting and management reporting purposes, for subscriptions and other income and the expenditure directly associated with The Light Collective. Chris and Gaz both had time billed against this fund in 2021-22.

Pioneer Chaplaincy & Course Development Fund: this restricted fund was set up to administer the Baptist Insurance Company grant and to facilitate the delivery of the Pioneer Chaplaincy Course and development of new courses.



Tim Cox as Jonah with his daughter, Maayana as Esther, for the Biblical Dress Up day

Risk Management

The trustees recognise their responsibility with regard to risk management. The risks to which the trust may be exposed have been identified and documented in a risk register together with appropriate mitigation and control procedures. The risk register is monitored and updated regularly and reviewed by the trustees on an annual basis.

Reserves Policy

The Light College and Collective only holds reserves in restricted funds that are the unspent portion of restricted grants and donations. It is not the policy to build reserves up in restricted funds but to spend them in accordance with the restrictions placed upon them. Restricted reserves at 31st August 2022 were £6,271 – an increase of £10,864 (as can be seen at note 11), with positive balances totalling £10,468 and negative balances of (£4,196)– the Light Collective fund deficit reducing by £1,161. There are sufficient unrestricted funds to cover these negative balances should that prove necessary.

The trustees have aim to build up reserves in unrestricted funds, with the purpose of these reserves being to enable the charity to operate day to day without cash flow problems and to ensure there would be enough in the General Fund to meet any likely outstanding commitments if they are obliged to close the charity. The Reserve Policy is reviewed annually as part of the budget making process, as are the risks of closure and associated costs. Unrestricted reserves at 31st August 2022 were £32,384. At just under 2 months of total annual expenditure these are considered adequate but not excessive.

Going concern

The trustees recognize the risks associated with dependence for such a significant part of the charity's income on student numbers and the effect a decrease in numbers has on the ability of the charity to continue. In line with many other charities and the current economic climate, it is also increasingly difficult to maintain the donation income and to secure grants, especially for core costs. As outlined in the Financial Review, recruitment in the year to 31st August 2022 was not as good as in the previous year, despite the range of courses having expanded to include a BA and a Professional Certificate in Pioneer Chaplaincy and Mission. Recruitment for 2020/21 was lower than budgeted due to the Covid 19 pandemic and this affects income over the next 3 years. The surplus generated in the year ended 31st August 2020 (and to some extent the year ending 31st August 2021) provided a much-needed breathing space for the College to concentrate on online marketing and the refinement of the online delivery of the courses. The lower recruitment, and the loss of 4 students in 2021/2022 put greater pressure on those reserves (as reflected in the reduction of Course Fee income by £23,069) and has led to a further deficit budget being set in 2022/2023. Due to some careful management and large donations, we remain a going concern as of writing this report.

Investment Policy

The charity has no long-term investments. Cash reserves are held in deposit accounts, when possible, but rates of interest remained low in the year.

Signed on behalf of the trustees

Andy Glover
Chair of the Trustees

28th June 2023

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements.

Approved by the trustees on 28th June 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Andy Glover
Chair of the Trustees

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Light project for the year ended 31 August 2022

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Light Project (the trust) for the year ended 31 August 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the trust's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. 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

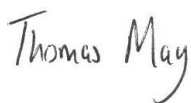
Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 respect of the trust as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Thomas May FCCA
Jerroms GCN Limited
West Point, Second Floor
Mucklow Office Park
Mucklow Hill
Halesowen
B62 8DY

Dated: 28th June 2023

Statement of Financial Activities - Year Ended 31st August 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total 2021 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	31,690	30,879	62,569	48,223
Income from charitable activities	4	152,259	2,164	154,423	172,530
Investments – bank interest	5	9	-	9	3
Total income		183,958	33,043	217,001	220,756
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	792	571	1,363	305
Expenditure on charitable activities	7	202,543	21,608	224,151	216,219
Total expenditure		203,335	22,179	225,514	216,524
Net income / (expenditure) before transfers		(19,377)	10,864	(8,513)	4,232
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(19,377)	10,864	(8,513)	4,232
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward at 1 st September 2021		51,761	(4,593)	47,168	42,936
Total funds carried forward		32,384	6,271	38,655	47,168

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Balance Sheet at 31st August 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Current assets			
Debtors	9	-	10,103
Cash at bank and in hand		59,756	59,852
		<u>59,756</u>	<u>69,955</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	10	(21,101)	(22,787)
Net current assets less current liabilities		<u>38,655</u>	<u>47,168</u>
Total net assets less liabilities		<u>38,655</u>	<u>47,168</u>
Represented by			
Unrestricted: General Fund		24,001	45,046
The Light College		7,340	6,715
Student Welfare Fund		1,043	-
Restricted: Light House Café Fund		344	1,036
Bursary Fund		7,209	(383)
Rolling Coffee Fund		855	111
Light Collective Fund		(4,196)	(5,357)
Pioneer Chaplaincy & Course Development Fund		2,060	-
Total funds of the charity	11	<u>38,655</u>	<u>47,168</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 24th June 2023

Andy Glover

Chair of the Trustees

Notes to the accounts

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with trust the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The trust is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

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

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

1.4 Income

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

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

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the trust has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit 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.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.7 Financial instruments

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

Financial instruments are recognised in the trust's balance sheet when the trust becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the trust's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.8 Retirement benefits

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the trust's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donation and legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Donations	31,690	17,718	49,408	37,320
Grants for activities	-	13,161	13,161	2,440
Coronavirus JRS grants received	-	-	-	1,033
Other voluntary income	-	-	-	7,430
Total donations and legacies	31,690	30,879	62,569	48,223

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Course fees	151,121	(1,209)	149,912	171,365
Training and speaking	1,138	3,373	4,511	1,165
Total income from charitable activities	152,259	2,164	154,423	172,530

5 Investments

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Interest receivable	9	-	9	3

6 Raising funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Other fundraising costs	792	571	1,363	305
	792	571	1,363	305

7 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	130,714	10,664	141,378	143,324
Premises	2,301	-	2,301	14,906
Office	346	-	346	2,072
Equipment and IT	6,084	515	6,599	5,715
Insurance and support	2,449	127	2,576	2,723
Publicity and marketing	3,502	-	3,502	2,312
Degree direct costs	59,743	-	59,743	39,813
Full time placement direct costs	-	6,642	6,642	3,498
Other Evangelism and Teaching costs	331	50	381	461
Accountancy and governance	(2,927)	3,610	683	1,395
Total	202,543	21,608	224,151	216,219

8 Employees

	2022	2021
	£	£
Staff costs comprise:		
Wages and salaries	133,307	136,626
Social security costs	4,495	2,974
Pension costs	3,576	3,724
	141,378	143,324
Average number of employees in the year:		
Co-Principals	2	2
National Evangelist	-	1
Support and Administration	10	9
	12	12

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

9 Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	-	7,792
Prepayments and accrued income	-	2,311
	-	10,103

10 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	-	1,439
Other creditors	10,201	5,783
Accruals and deferred income	10,900	15,565
	21,101	22,787

11 Funds movement

	Opening £	Incoming £	(Outgoing) £	Transfers £	Closing £
Unrestricted General Fund	45,046	31,155	(635)	(51,565)	24,001
Unrestricted The Light College Fund	6,715	151,572	(201,912)	50,965	7,340
Unrestricted Student Welfare	-	1,231	(788)	600	1,043
Restricted Bursary Fund	(383)	10,323	(2,731)	-	7,209
Restricted Light House Café Fund	1,036	2,890	(3,582)	-	344
Restricted Light Collective Fund	(5,357)	8,805	(7,644)	-	(4,196)
Restricted Rolling Coffee	111	1,025	(281)	-	855
Restricted Pioneer Chaplaincy & Course Development Fund	-	10,000	(7,940)	-	2,060
	47,168	217,001	(225,514)	-	38,655

12 Related party transactions

	2022 £	2021 £
Payments by Chester Software Ltd for use of a room in Abbey House	-	3,900
Employment of Tonya Chirgwin as Supporter Relations Co-ordinator	-	1,491

There have been no related party transactions this year due to Chester Software Ltd dissolving in June 2021.

THE LIGHT PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1084941

Accounts



the light
college & collective
formerly the light project

THE LIGHT PROJECT

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31st August 2021

Charity Number 1084941

Training, equipping, and connecting pioneers and evangelists to go and make countless followers of Jesus

The Light College and Collective is the working name for The Light Project:

The Light College, Foxhill House, Tarvin Road, FRODSHAM, WA6 6XB

T: 03333 446489 E: office@lightcollege.ac.uk W: www.lightcollege.org.uk

Registered charity (England & Wales) no: 1084941

CONTENTS

Charity information	3
Trustees Annual Report - Year Ended 31st August 2021	4
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	10
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Light Project	11
Statement of Financial Activities - Year Ended 31 st August 2021	12
Balance Sheet at 31 st August 2021	13
Notes to the Financial Statements – Year ended 31 st August 2021	14

Charity information

Registered charity name

The Light Project

Registered working name

The Light College and Collective

Address

Foxhill House
Tarvin Road
FRODSHAM
WA6 6XB

Contact Information

Telephone: 03333 446489
Email: office@lightcollege.ac.uk
Website: www.lightcollege.ac.uk

Charity number

1084941

Trustees

Reverend P Jump
Reverend A Glover
S Hatton
D Chirgwin
R Askey

Independent examiners

Jerroms Bromsgrove Limited
Five Mile House
128 Hanbury Road
Stoke Prior
Bromsgrove
B60 4JZ

Trustees Annual Report - Year Ended 31st August 2021

The trustees present their report and the independently examined financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2021. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland effective 1st January 2019.

The Trustees

The trustees who served the charity during the year were as follows:

Reverend P Jump
Reverend A Glover
S Hatton
D Chirgwin
R Askey

Structure, Governance and Management

The Light Project is constituted as a charitable trust registered with the Charity Commission under charity number 1084941. It is governed by an original trust deed dated 21st June 2000

The charity trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. The trustees give their time freely and receive no remuneration or other financial benefits.

The existing trustees are responsible for the recruitment of new trustees as and when the need arises for specific skills, experience and knowledge within the trustee body. Before appointment the trustees ensure that a prospective trustee understands the responsibilities they are taking on and can be relied on to carry them out responsibly. References are taken and the prospective trustee is invited to attend a trustee meeting and to meet with key members of staff.

On appointment, new trustees sign a model trustee eligibility and responsibility declaration and declaration of interest form. During the induction process, the new trustee is sent a copy of the governing trust deed, a copy of the Charity Commission's guidance 'The essential trustee: what you need to know, what you need to do', a copy of the latest Annual Report and Financial Statements and a copy of our safeguarding policy and other relevant policies. The trust is currently actively looking to recruit new trustees to broaden the range of skills available to the college.

Objectives and Activities

The purpose of the Charity is advancing the Christian religion in the area of benefit. Each year the trustees review our objectives and activities to ensure they continue to reflect our aims. In carrying out this review the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular its supplementary guidance on the advancement of religion for the public benefit.

During 2020 The Light Project underwent a rebranding with a new logo and a new working name of The Light College and Collective. This name more accurately reflects the activities of the charity and the increased emphasis on training, equipping and connecting pioneers and evangelists to go and make countless followers of Jesus.

The Light College & Collective

- Vision** – to train, resource and connect pioneers to go and make countless followers of Jesus
- Mission** – to identify, support, equip and encourage pioneers via courses based on practical evangelism and current research as well as sound biblical teaching. To this end all lecturers should be practicing evangelists as far as possible. Innovative ideas for making disciples and the courage to share failures as well as successes are encouraged. The Collective furthers the sharing of ideas and support for those running or setting up new evangelism and outreach projects via set up days, gatherings, consultancy, and accessible online resources.
- Core values** – support the vision, shape the culture, reflect our “DNA”:
- Practical evangelism encouraged in all staff
 - All associated with LCC are treated as our family in Christ
 - All are encouraged to develop their gifts, (including spiritual) as part of the body of Christ
 - Horizontal leadership structure as far as possible
 - Prayer for each other, for students and for The Light College and Collective recognised as a priority

Abi, then our intern, now a Pioneer Evangelist and Lecturer with us, doing doorstep evangelism during Lockdown



Achievements and Performance

Courses

The Light Project delivers three accredited courses under the working name The Light College: A Foundation degree of Arts in Theology, Mission and Evangelism, a Bachelor of Arts in in Theology, Mission and Evangelism and a Professional Certificate in Pioneer Chaplaincy. During 2020-21 one of the biggest challenges facing the charity was the impact of the COVID pandemic both in terms of recruitment and delivery. The Light Project managed to adapt to a digital format for open days and capitalize on the increased interaction with social media to attract new students to its courses. In terms of delivery, the College aspect of the charity has always pioneered with digital platforms and this year, we have maximized the use of Moodle and other platforms to enhance delivery in a pandemic scenario. Good review systems have also highlighted that the students have appreciated the regular weekly online groups which is a feature that will be kept in 2021-22. While the challenge of COVID has stretched the capacity of people, there have been some gains in terms of accessibility to our courses and these will serve to strengthen the courses in the future.



‘Based on my experience, and expertise in the field of missiology and leadership studies, this programme represents some leading-edge dimensions. For example, the focus on mission and media has very real currency - particularly in the changing world of the global pandemic. A missional leadership MA might prove very popular in terms of mission in the public square (especially for experienced Christian leaders).

Dr Andrew Hardy, External Examiner

Professional Certificate in Pioneer Chaplaincy

The addition of this new course has seen a new cohort of students studying with the college. This course is the first in a series of courses which will be developed in the coming years seeking to express the vision of the charity and also enhance recruitment and reach.

Student Satisfaction

Reviews indicate that despite the challenges of Covid 19, the students are responding positively to staff, the courses, and, more importantly, are applying their studies in context. However, while hybrid learning has been developed, the lack of human interaction is still missed, and all students express a keen desire to resume meeting together in 2021/22

Light Collective

During the pandemic, the Light Project has experimented with digital forms of placements and a group called The Net has developed within the Light collective - a hybrid form of church planting. This has seen new people exploring Christianity online and a small cluster become Christians with its first baptism in May 2021

(<https://tlcc.uk/netbaptism>).



The Collective also hosted regular online gatherings which served as an opportunity for Collective members to hear teaching, share ideas and stories, worship and pray together. We also held occasional 24-hour prayer events where member could sign-up to pray for hour-long slots over the course of 24 hours. Our Facebook group was especially important during the pandemic and became a source of sharing requests for prayer as well as evangelism stories.



Doctorate Research

The Light Project continues to sponsor the doctorate research of its staff into how unchurched people come to faith. This research will enhance strategies for churches looking to connect with people who have not grown up in faith

Residentials

As a college we learnt to quickly adapt and change how we delivered our training over the pandemic. While it started off with a huge learning curve we quickly settled into a good routine and pattern for how to offer our students the best training experience we could. This included bringing in guests and worship leaders who taught and led us online. What was remarkable was the ways the students engaged in the practicals online, from making bread to going out prayer walking at Easter time. The feedback from those attending was encouraging!



Light Festival

Chris has been working on next year's end of year "Light Festival" (to be held at Mill Farm), with worship, prayer, and inspirational teaching, to encourage and mark the end of the year for our leavers by 'sending them off!'

Operational

This has been a busy year with lots of changes, both in terms of people and operations. For a small organisation of less than 15 employees, we had a large number of personnel changes: Lou Beamish started with us organising Residentials, Tim Cox was appointed as Dean of Operations (covering Finance, Budget, Governance, Policies, ICT, HR, and a number of other areas) and Jane Kite retired as Finance Manager (but has continued to support us as a volunteer), Gaz moved into a new role as an Academic Manager whilst keeping



ExpensePlus

some of his existing operational duties, Matt Banks left as a part time Lecturer, one of our former students Abi Lycett joined us as a Pioneer

Evangelist and part time Lecturer, Jacky Bone was appointed as a Pioneer Chaplaincy lead (taking up post with us in the new financial year), and Tonya Chirgwin our supporter link left. We ended the year with only one full time staff member (Glyn, who was planning to reduce his hours in the new financial year); by the time of writing, every staff member is part time.

In terms of operational changes, Tim replaced our stand-alone single user financial system in-year with a new cloud-based multi-user one called *ExpensePlus* (which has revolutionised how our expenses are handled), reduced our insurance costs with a change of insurer, brought in a new auditor, overhauled our website, increased our social media presence (setting up *LinkedIn*, *TikTok* and *Youtube* pages, consolidating our *Twitter* accounts to a renamed one,

@thelightcollege and increasing the followers from 20 to over 300), sourced a new online resource library *Perlego* (which will enable students to access hundreds of thousands of resources online rather than relying on our paper books), and expanded our web domain frontage (from 3 to 50+), securing many of the domains which people might go to instead of our main one and enabling our main domain to receive more traffic as well as setting up tlcc.uk as a link shortener.

We took the operational decision to move from Abbey House – our home for many years – and, after an extensive search, reached an agreement with Foxhill House and Woodlands (the Chester Diocesan Retreat and Conference Centre in Frodsham) for us to rent a room within their premises, with the new office set up before the year ended. Foxhill is both a beautiful place to be and promises opportunities to encounter other Christians and build new links for the College.

Financial Review

The Statement of Financial Activities is set out on page 12. The charity's income for the financial year to 31st August 2021 across all funds was £208,294 and expenditure was £196,858 resulting in a healthy surplus of £11,436. This contrasts with the large surplus of £33,207 in the previous year. The main reason for the surplus in this year – despite a much lower income – was due to Covid 19 having reduced expenditure significantly, especially on residential.

Grant income massively decreased, from £25,000 in the previous year to £1,033 from the Job Retention Scheme and a grant of £2,440 which was purely for redistribution as grants to support Northern Baptist Students and didn't therefore directly help the College. The Chester Light Community, Drop In and Network funds were closed; the Chester Light Community had one outstanding liability which was taken on by the General Fund, Drop In funds were spent within the area on evangelistic activities with the remaining deficit paid off by the General Fund, the Network had a higher expenditure than income and the deficit was paid off by the General Fund, with remaining donors being contacted and moved to the Light Collective Fund. Rolling Coffee Fund was started to enable a pioneer evangelist to access funding, with the College administering.

Chris teaching at New Life:



22 students completed their studies with us. The Bursary fund was partially relaunched this year (having only had £65 left in it last year) and received one-off gifts £3,690, of which £3,333.75 were distributed as Bursaries directly from the Bursary fund (in addition to the aforementioned £2,440 Northern Baptist Grant) but we also granted Fee reductions of up to 25% to 5 students totalling £4,390. This meant bursaries distributed or reducing fees totalled £10,163.75.

At the time of writing this report, the recruitment for the year to 31st August 2022 is finalized and shown in the table below. Please note this will differ to actual students registered on the course (not least due to 4 in-year withdrawals), and 2022 income is not all guaranteed, due to deferrals, suspended studies etc. but does show the financial impact of growth in student numbers – and in decline of the same:

Student numbers and fee income based on fee paying students						
Year ended	Full time students	Part time students	Pioneer Chaplaincy	Total students	Bursaries given £	Net fee income £
31 st August 2015	9	13	—	22	2,300	81,495
31 st August 2016	7	12	—	19	1,400	81,059
31 st August 2017	11	16	—	27	7,125	106,795
31 st August 2018	10	15	—	25	4,280	99,771
31 st August 2019	10	21	—	31	10,935	115,493
31 st August 2020	18	25	—	43	5,185	183,314
31 st August 2021	14	28	3	45	8,234	171,365
31 st August 2022	10	25	3	39	10,164	138,100

Donations and associated gift aid, surprisingly, held fairly steady and even increased; including Gift Aid and a significant Bursary donation of £3k, donations totalled £37,339.29 against £29,543 in 2020/21. The Light College and Collective remain very grateful for their many faithful and generous regular standing order donors and a decline in regular standing order income was planned for and built into the budget and the five-year plan. However, the fundraising element of voluntary income included in donations was very low at £50 against a reduced budget of £3,000. With the London Marathon and other fundraising activities still postponed due to Coronavirus it is hoped fundraising efforts in 2021/22 will be more successful. Whilst there have been some regular standing orders that have ended, there have been some new donors and hence standing orders are so far holding steady in 2022.

Overall expenditure decreased from £225,710 to £196,858, though as highlighted above this was largely due to Covid 19 preventing meeting in person. A breakdown of costs is given in note 8, but the main increase was in salary and related costs which increased by £16,277 – this is the second year of increased staff costs, with an additional £31,740 against 2019 figures. The reasons for this were: more lecturers needed for delivery of the level 6, increased hours of some existing staff due to more students (2019/2020) & workload (2020/21), and also due to a salary review in 2019/20 which resulted in pay increases being awarded to all staff from February 2020. For most staff, including the directors, this was the first pay increase in a number of years and a gradual increase of salaries was built into the five-year plan to try to bring them more into line with similar roles in similar charitable organisations. Applied again in February 2021, it was noted that all future increases would be made in April from 2022 onwards.

Despite an increase in degree direct costs individually, collectively they reduced by £19,215 (excluding salary costs). Sadly, this is due to having less students in 2020/21. All residential weekends had to be held via “Zoom” rather than at a residential setting, this reduced costs for this year and directly led to the surplus. One resulting consequence of this was a re-jigging of the course delivery to include regular online College sessions in addition to virtual residentials. Course fees were revised for 2021/22 with Part-Time becoming more consistently 0.5 instead of 0.67, and with Pioneer Chaplaincy fees increasing to be the same as a 0.5 FdA first year, enabling easier continuation onto the FdA.

The balance sheet on page 13 shows total reserves of £47,168 with cash at bank and in hand of £59,852, an increase of £10,345 from last year.

The following funds were operated during the year:

General Fund: *all unrestricted donations and other income plus expenditure not directly attributable to a specific activity are included in the unrestricted General Fund.*

The Light College: *this is an unrestricted designated fund that was set up for budgeting and management reporting purposes for the income and expenditure directly associated with the delivery of the college’s degree courses. It also includes the income and expenditure associated with the Pioneer Chaplaincy qualification.*

Network Fund: *this was a restricted fund set up because Chris Duffett received grants and donations restricted to funding his work specifically. As Chris works both more directly for the College and less directly through the Light Collective, donors have moved to support him through the Light Collective, and this fund is now closed.*

Drop In Fund: *this was a restricted fund for evangelism in the Chester Area. This fund is now closed.*

Lighthouse Café Fund: *this is a restricted fund which continues to receive donations to finance Chris Duffett’s time with the Lighthouse Café; 0.5 days of Chris’s time is billed against this fund.*

Chester Light Community Fund: *this was a restricted fund for mission and evangelism in Chester. It had no outstanding funds and one liability which was taken on by the General fund. This fund is now closed.*

Bursary Fund: *this is a restricted fund for the granting of bursaries to self-funded students who would otherwise not be able to afford the tuition fee. Donations received for this purpose are applied against individual Student Fees.*

Light Collective Fund: *this changed to a restricted fund during the year, and Light Collective members were converted into donors as the membership fee was abolished. It was set up for budgeting and management reporting purposes, for subscriptions and other income and the expenditure directly associated with The Light Collective. Chris and Gaz both have time billed against this fund.*

Rolling Coffee Fund: *this is a restricted fund administered by the College for the benefit of setting up and running a mobile coffee shop by a pioneer evangelist associated with the Light College and Collective. Rolling Coffee itself is independent of the College.*

Risk Management

The trustees recognise their responsibility with regard to risk management. The risks to which the trust may be exposed have been identified and documented in a risk register together with appropriate mitigation and control procedures. The risk register is monitored and updated regularly and reviewed by the trustees on an annual basis.

Reserves Policy

The Light College and Collective only holds reserves in restricted funds that are the unspent portion of restricted grants and donations. It is not the policy to build reserves up in restricted funds but to spend them in accordance with the restrictions placed upon them. Restricted reserves at 31st August 2021 were -4592.83 (as can be seen at note 12), with positive balances totalling £1,147 and negative balances of (£5740). There is sufficient unrestricted funds to cover these negative balances should that prove necessary.

The trustees have continued their aim of building up reserves in unrestricted funds. The purpose of these reserves is to enable the charity to operate day to day without cash flow problems and to ensure there would be enough in the General Fund to meet any likely outstanding commitments if they are obliged to close the charity. The Reserve Policy is reviewed annually as part of the budget making process, as are the risks of closure and associated costs. Unrestricted reserves at 31st August 2021 were £45,046. At just over 2 months of total annual expenditure these are considered adequate but not excessive.

Going concern

The trustees recognize the risks associated with dependence for such a significant part of the charity's income on student numbers and the effect a decrease in numbers has on the ability of the charity to continue. In line with many other charities and the current economic climate, it is also increasingly difficult to maintain the donation income and to secure grants, especially for core costs. As outlined in the Financial Review, recruitment in the year to 31st August 2021 was not as good as in the previous year, despite the range of courses having expanded to include a BA and a Professional Certificate in Pioneer Chaplaincy and Mission. Recruitment for 2020/21 was lower than budgeted due to the Covid 19 pandemic and this affect income over the next 3 years. The surplus generated in the year ended 31st August 2020 (and to some extent the year ending 31st August 2021) provided a much-needed breathing space for the College to concentrate on online marketing and the refinement of the online delivery of the courses. The lower recruitment, and the loss of 4 students in 2021/2022 by the time of writing this report puts greater pressure on those reserves (as reflected in the reduction of Course Fee income by £33,265) and has led to a deficit budget being set in 2021/2022. The crunch will be in September 2022; increased student fee income will retain viability, whilst similar or decreased will require external support (donations, grants etc) to remain a going concern.

Investment Policy

The charity has no long-term investments. Cash reserves are held in deposit accounts when possible, but rates of interest remain low.

Signed on behalf of the trustees



Andy Glover
Chair of the Trustees

24th March 2022

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements.

Approved by the trustees on 24th March 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Andy Glover
Chair of the Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE LIGHT PROJECT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Light Project (the trust) for the year ended 31 August 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the trust's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. 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

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 respect of the trust as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

Thomas May

Thomas May FCCA
Jerroms Bromsgrove Limited
Five Mile House
128 Hanbury Road
Stoke Prior
Bromsgrove
B60 4JZ

Dated: 24th March 2022

Statement of Financial Activities - Year Ended 31st August 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total 2020 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	37,156	11,067	48,223	70,511
Income from charitable activities	4	171,135	1,395	172,530	187,697
Other trading activities	5	-	-	-	697
Investments – bank interest	6	3	-	3	12
Total income		208,294	12,462	220,756	258,917
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	206	99	305	1,120
Expenditure on charitable activities	8	196,652	19,567	216,219	224,590
Total expenditure		196,858	19,666	216,524	225,710
Net income / (expenditure) before transfers		11,436	(7,204)	4,232	33,207
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds		(34)	34	-	-
Net movement in funds		11,402	(7,170)	4,232	33,207
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward at 1 st September 2020		40,359	2,577	42,936	9,729
Total funds carried forward		51,761	(4,593)	47,168	42,936

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

Balance Sheet at 31st August 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Current assets			
Debtors	10	10,103	4,813
Cash at bank and in hand		59,852	49,597
		69,955	54,410
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	11	(22,787)	(11,474)
Net current assets less current liabilities		47,168	42,936
Total net assets less liabilities		47,168	42,936
Represented by			
Unrestricted: General fund		45,046	18,335
The Light College		6,715	22,024
Restricted: Network Fund		-	1,023
Drop-In Fund		-	418
Light House Café Fund		1,036	1,071
Bursary Fund		(383)	65
Rolling Coffee Fund		111	-
Light Collective Fund		(5,357)	-
Total funds of the charity	12	47,168	42,936

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 24th March 2022



Andy Glover

Chair of the Trustees

Notes to the accounts

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with trust the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The trust is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

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

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

1.4 Income

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

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

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the trust has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit 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.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.7 Financial instruments

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

Financial instruments are recognised in the trust's balance sheet when the trust becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the trust's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.8 Retirement benefits

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the trust's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donation and legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Donations	29,726	7,594	37,320	34,571
Grants for activities	-	2,440	2,440	25,000
Coronavirus JRS grants received	-	1,033	1,033	-
Other voluntary income	7,430	-	7,430	10,940
Total donations and legacies	37,156	11,067	48,223	70,511

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Course fees	169,990	1,375	171,365	183,314
Collective subscriptions	-	-	-	720
Training and speaking	1,145	20	1,165	3,663
Total income from charitable activities	171,135	1,395	172,530	187,697

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Sale of hoodies	-	-	-	512
Other activities for raising funds	-	-	-	185
Total other trading activities	-	-	-	697

6 Investments

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Interest receivable	3	-	3	12

7 Raising funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Other fundraising costs	206	99	305	1,120
	206	99	305	1,120

8 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	130,652	12,672	143,324	127,047
Premises	14,395	511	14,906	14,215
Office	1,299	773	2,072	3,247
Equipment and IT	5,498	217	5,715	1,418
Insurance and support	2,033	690	2,723	1,866
Publicity and marketing	2,312	—	2,312	5,273
Degree direct costs	39,813	—	39,813	59,028
Full time placement direct costs	—	3,498	3,498	1,407
Great Gransden Light House Café	—	—	—	2,870
The Collective direct costs	—	—	—	75
Other Evangelism and Teaching costs	11	450	461	873
Charitable donations	—	—	—	6,043
Conferences	—	—	—	92
Trustee meeting expenses	—	—	—	26
Accountancy and governance	639	756	1,395	1,110
Total	196,652	19,567	216,219	224,590

9 Employees

	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs comprise:		
Wages and salaries	136,626	120,516
Social security costs	2,974	3,204
Pension costs	3,724	3,327
	143,324	127,047
Average number of employees in the year:		
Co-Principals	2	2
National Evangelist	1	1
Support and Administration	9	8
	12	11

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

10 Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	7,792	4,813
Prepayments and accrued income	2,311	-
	10,103	4,813

11 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	1,439	1,173
Other creditors	5,783	3,919
Accruals and deferred income	15,565	6,382
	22,787	11,474

12 Funds movement

	Opening £	Incoming £	(Outgoing) £	Transfers £	Closing £
Unrestricted General Fund	18,335	29,405	(2,660)	(34)	45,046
Unrestricted The Light College Fund	22,024	177,855	(193,164)	-	6,715
Unrestricted Light Collective Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted Network Fund	1,023	3,650	(4,691)	18	-
Restricted Drop-In Fund	418	-	(434)	16	-
Restricted Chester Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted BA Development Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted Bursary Fund	65	2,090	(2,538)	-	(383)
Restricted Light House Café Fund	1,071	3,513	(3,548)	-	1,036
Restricted Light Collective Fund	-	376	(5,733)	-	(5,357)
Restricted Rolling Coffee	-	1,800	(1,688)	-	111
Restricted Coronavirus Receipts	-	1,033	(1,033)	-	-
	42,936	219,722	(215,489)	-	47,168

13 Related party transactions

	2021	2020
	£	£
Payments by Chester Software Ltd for use of a room in Abbey House	3,900	3,800
Employment of Tonya Chirgwin as Supporter Relations Co-ordinator	1,491	1,908

David Chirgwin, a trustee, is the sole director of Chester Software Ltd. The contribution asked by The Light Project for Chester Software Ltd.'s use of room as an office, was based on the size of the room and the contribution paid by another, non-related, organisation.

Tonya has been employed part time by The Light Project since September 2016. Her remuneration is in line with The Light Project salary scale used for all employees.

THE LIGHT PROJECT

England & Wales - Charity number 1084941

Accounts



the light
college & collective
formerly the light project

THE LIGHT PROJECT

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31st August 2020

Charity Number 1084941

Training, equipping, and connecting pioneers and evangelists to go and make countless followers of Jesus
The Light College and Collective is the working name for The Light Project, Abbey House, Abbey Green, Chester, CH1 2JH
T: 01244 400221 E: office@lightcollege.ac.uk W: www.lightcollege.ac.uk
Registered charity (England & Wales) no: 1084941

CONTENTS

Charity information	3
Trustees Annual Report - Year Ended 31st August 2020	4
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	10
Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Light Project	11
Statement of Financial Activities - Year Ended 31 st August 2020.....	12
Balance Sheet at 31 st August 2020	13
Notes to the Financial Statements – Year ended 31 st August 2020	14

Charity information

Registered charity name

The Light Project

Registered working name

The Light College and Collective

Address

Abbey House
Abbey Green
CHESTER
CH1 2JH

Contact Information

Telephone: 01244 400221
Email: office@lightcollege.ac.uk
Website: www.lightcollege.ac.uk

Charity number

1084941

Trustees

Reverend P Jump
Reverend A Glover
S Hatton
D Chirgwin
R Askey

Independent examiners

McIntocks (NW) Limited
Chartered Accountants
2 Hilliards Court
Chester Business Park
Chester
Cheshire
CH4 9PX

Trustees Annual Report - Year Ended 31st August 2020

The trustees present their report and the independently examined financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2020. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in the notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland effective 1st January 2019.

The Trustees

The trustees who served the charity during the year were as follows:

Reverend P Jump
Reverend A Glover
S Hatton
D Chirgwin
R Askey

Structure, Governance and Management

The Light Project is constituted as a charitable trust registered with the Charity Commission under charity number 1084941. It is governed by an original trust deed dated 21st June 2000

The charity trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the charity. The trustees give their time freely and receive no remuneration or other financial benefits.

The existing trustees are responsible for the recruitment of new trustees as and when the need arises for specific skills, experience and knowledge within the trustee body. Before appointment the trustees ensure that a prospective trustee understands the responsibilities they are taking on and can be relied on to carry them out responsibly. References are taken and the prospective trustee is invited to attend a trustee meeting and to meet with key members of staff.

On appointment, new trustees sign a model trustee eligibility and responsibility declaration and declaration of interest form. During the induction process, the new trustee is sent a copy of the governing trust deed, a copy of the Charity Commission's guidance 'The essential trustee: what you need to know, what you need to do', a copy of the latest Annual Report and Financial Statements and a copy of our safeguarding policy and other relevant policies. The trust is currently actively looking to recruit new trustees to broaden the range of skills available to the college.

Objectives and Activities

The purpose of the Charity is advancing the Christian religion in the area of benefit. Each year the trustees review our objectives and activities to ensure they continue to reflect our aims. In carrying out this review the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular its supplementary guidance on the advancement of religion for the public benefit.

During 2020 The Light Project underwent a rebranding with a new logo and a new working name of The Light College and Collective. This name more accurately reflects the activities of the charity and the increased emphasis on training, equipping and connecting pioneers and evangelists to go and make countless followers of Jesus.

Achievements and Performance

Developments

2019 has been the first year that the Bachelor of Arts (BA) level 6 course has been delivered and it has been a successful start with several students undertaking the new course. As with all new developments, the BA was reviewed throughout the course of the year and adjustments made.

In addition to the new BA level 6, in 2020, we have developed and validated a new course: The Professional Certificate in Pioneer Chaplaincy and Mission. This new course is a cutting-edge certificate, and the first of its kind, in the country. The course accepted students from September 2020, and it will be possible for students to graduate from the new course into the existing FDA, which means it is a new path for recruitment. Chaplaincies have mushroomed in the past 10 years and now form a key part of the missional arm of the church. Despite this, there have been few courses training chaplains outside of the traditional chaplaincy courses offered in Cardiff and York. In doing this, The Light College are pushing forward the missional capability of the church and training and equipping pioneers.

Academic Courses

The Light College is currently delivering a Foundation degree of Arts and a Bachelor of Arts in 'Theology, Mission and Evangelism'. These courses have historically been delivered through a blend of online learning and residential teaching. As the pandemic arrived, HE moved to online delivery of university courses. As The Light College already has experience of this kind of delivery, the courses have moved over relatively well, and the charity has been robust in its ability to shift with the challenges.

External Training & Resourcing

Light College staff have been actively delivering theological and missiological training with the Diocese of Chester. This enables staff to retain links to key stakeholders and deliver the practical training we have developed elsewhere.

Research & Publishing

Over the past few years, The Light College has sponsored Doctoral research by a staff member with The University of Chester. This research is entitled 'Finding Faith in the 21st century' and seeks to understand the processes by which non-churched people are finding faith.

The field work is now complete, and the research is in the analysis stage. The research is due to be written up and reviewed in 2022 before being presented through a conferences and publications.

Staff at the college have been active in publishing articles and several academic pieces are in preparation for review and publishing.

The Light College is starting to consider questions around developing a journal of mission, evangelism and pioneering.

The Collective

The Light Collective was launched in 2018 as a co-operative community for pioneers and evangelists. It was created with a vision to resource and connect current and former students of The Light College, as well as individuals and groups who share a similar vision to 'make countless followers' of Jesus. Primarily, it was (and is) intended to be a community which shares stories, ideas, encouragement, and resources in relation to mission and evangelism. By summer 2020 it had 35 members (we now have 60 official members), including 3 group members (The Light Community in Chester, Lighthouse Café and Arts Centre near Cambridge and Shepherds Stream Prayer Retreat in Wales), all engaged in pioneering mission and evangelism. An active private Facebook group became more established where people could share freely about what they're involved in.



The advent of lockdown early in 2020 afforded the opportunity for us to meet online to pray and hear teaching, and in February and March we held an online '#BeTheLight' campaign to help people to bring hope into the difficult circumstances arising from COVID.

As the 'practical arm' of our organisation, the Collective has enabled (and continues to enable) pioneers and evangelists to connect and share ideas which facilitate creative sharing of the Gospel.

Chester Light Community

Some students have historically been on placement with The Light Community in Chester. In collaboration with local churches and the diocese of Chester, this group of students will move to form part of a new Fresh Expression of church in Chester called The Net from 2021. It will give our students a new experience of not only missional community, but the added aspect of pioneering new forms of church.



Lighthouse Cafe

In February 2020 the activities of the Lighthouse Café were transferred to the Mrs Anne Dutton Trust so that the café could be run locally and yet remain as part of The Light Collective. Soon after, the café needed to close due to the pandemic but will seek to open again to serve the village of Great Gransden. Prior to closing, numbers to the café were growing and people were starting to engage with our Tuesday at 2, a short time of meditation and prayer.

Sadly, in August one of our key volunteers Richard Sewell died. Not only did we lose a good friend and the best washer upper in the café, but the Chairperson of the Mrs Anne Dutton Trust. We wanted to make special mention of him as he was a friend and support to The Light College and Collective and his hard work has ensured that the café is now in safe hands under the local trust.



One of the highlights for us in 2019 was the Christmas concert with Nigel Cameron and Julie Cameron-Hall with beautiful renditions of well-known Carols and songs as well as a winsome presentation of the reason for the season.

Baptist Leadership Training

This year we worked hard towards our first year to pilot in partnership with Northern Baptist College a route to train Baptist ministers with a call to pioneer. We were pleased to work in partnership to appoint Dr Revd Robert Beamish as our Hub Tutor employed by Northern Baptist College from September 2020. We hope to have a cohort of students joining us for this initiative partnership where students may engage in Practical Theology with us and Baptist Leadership Training with Northern alongside the Hub Tutor.

Mission and Evangelism

We recognise that much of our evangelism happens through our students, and our residential weekends offer a great opportunity to participate in mission together. Prior to the first lockdown, this would involve many of our students going out onto the streets of Birmingham (where we gathered for residentials during much of 2019-20) to creatively engage with locals. This included (for example) doing giveaways, offering to pray for people or giving 'free hugs', all as means of actively demonstrating the Good News of Jesus and the love of God in practical ways. During lockdown, students were given evangelism tasks to do while at home for our 'virtual residentials', blessing their local neighbourhoods in



various ways.

One of the principal ways that we, as both staff and students, seek to convey the Christian message, and bring people into contact with God, is through art. This has been through creating art installations both in the public square and at churches, and our street evangelism often involved prophetic art and painting. Chris, one of our Co-Principals, regularly painted on the streets as a way to creatively engage with passers-by.



The Light Community in Chester, during 2019-20, spent much of their time out and about in the city experimenting with ways to engage others and share their faith. Placement students with the community would often be set a small budget to plan and carry out some creative form of outreach, enabling them both to develop in creativity and to grow in leadership of others in mission and evangelism. Often this resulted in some really wonderful conversations with locals about life and faith, and many of the experiments yielded evangelistic activities which worked really well and could readily be adapted for other contexts and used again.

Financial Review

The Statement of Financial Activities is set out on page 12. The charity's income for the financial year to 31st August 2020 across all funds was £258,917 and expenditure was £225,710 resulting in a surplus of £33,207. This contrasts with the small deficit of £178 in the previous year. The main reason for this turnaround was the growth in student numbers, both those starting the FdA and a number of former students returning for the level 6 BA. Degree fee income increased by £67,822 to £183,314.

Grant income also increased, by almost £5,000, to £25,000 with a £10,000 grant from The Lady Hewley Trust for the final BA development and also towards establishing Baptist leadership training, £10,000 from Baptist Insurance for further development of The Light College and a further £5,000 from Baptist Insurance for bursaries for self-funded students who may not otherwise be able to afford the fees. The BA Development fund is now closed and there is only £65 left in the Bursary fund after transferring out the bursaries awarded in the year to 31st August 2020. It is hoped additional fundraising for the Bursary fund will be possible in the future.

Donations and associated gift aid have continued to decline, with donations, including fundraising, down £10,319 to £29,543. The Light College and Collective remain very grateful for their many faithful and generous regular standing order donors and the decline in regular standing order income was planned for and built into the budget and the five-year plan. However, the fundraising element of voluntary income included in donations was very low at £600 against a budget of £5,000. With the London Marathon and other fundraising activities postponed due to Coronavirus it is hoped fundraising efforts in 2021 will be more successful. Regular standing orders are so far holding steady in 2021.

At the time of writing this report, the recruitment for the year to 31st August 2021 is finalized and shown in the table below. Please note this will differ to actual students registered on the course, and 2021 income is not all guaranteed, due to deferrals, suspended studies etc. but does show the financial impact of the growth in student numbers:

Student numbers and fee income based on fee paying students						
Year ended	Full time students	Part time students	Pioneer Chaplaincy	Total students	Bursaries given £	Net fee income £
31 st August 2015	9	13	—	22	2,300	81,495
31 st August 2016	7	12	—	19	1,400	81,059
31 st August 2017	11	16	—	27	7,125	106,795
31 st August 2018	10	15	—	25	4,280	99,771
31 st August 2019	10	21	—	31	10,935	115,493
31 st August 2020	18	25	—	43	5,185	183,314
31 st August 2021	14	28	3	45	8,234	177,754

Overall expenditure increased by £20,115 to £225,710. A breakdown of costs is given in note 3b, but the main increase was in salary and related costs which increased £15,463. The reasons for this were increased lecturers needed for delivery of the level 6, increased hours of some existing staff due to more students and also due to a salary review which resulted in pay increases being awarded to all staff from February 2020. For most staff, including the directors, this was the first pay increase in a number of years and a gradual increase of salaries has been built into the five year plan to try to bring them more into line with similar roles in similar charitable organisations.

Degree direct costs increased by only £3,262 (excluding salary costs). As the last 3 residential weekends had to be held via “Zoom” rather than at a residential setting, this reduced costs for this year and also for most of 2021.

The transfer of the activities of the Great Gransden Lighthouse Café to The Anne Dutton Trust was agreed by the trustees with effect from 6th February 2020. The direct café expenses and the income from the café operated through a separate Nat West bank account and ownership of this account was passed to The Anne Dutton Trust. The coffee machine and other fixed assets were transferred at net book value. This resulted in £5,843 of assets being transferred out of The Light College and Collective and is included in charitable donations in the financial statements. The Lighthouse café fund still receives restricted donations for Chris Duffett’s time at the café. These continue to be paid into the main Barclays current account. The 2 charities have no trustees in common, the income from the café is less than £10,000pa and the objectives of the 2 charities of advancement of the Christian religion are closely aligned.

The balance sheet on page 13 shows total reserves of £42,936 with cash at bank and in hand of £49,597, an increase of £23,096 from last year.

The following funds were operated during the year:

General Fund: all unrestricted donations and other income plus expenditure not directly attributable to a specific activity are included in the unrestricted General Fund.

The Light College (formerly called the FdA): this is an unrestricted designated fund, and was set up for budgeting and management reporting purposes for the income and expenditure directly associated with the delivery of the college’s Degree. It also includes the income and expenditure associated with the Pioneer Chaplaincy qualification.

Network Fund: this is a restricted fund and was set up as Chris Duffett receives grants and donations which are restricted to funding his work specifically.

Drop In Fund: this is a restricted fund and was set up as the Garden Lane Drop In received grants and donations that were restricted to funding this project.

Lighthouse Café Fund: this is a restricted fund for the running and development of a community café and arts venue in the village of Great Gransden near Cambridge. During 2020 the separate bank account and fixed assets from this fund

were transferred into the Mrs Anne Dutton Trust. This fund continues for the donations received to finance Chris Duffett's time with the Lighthouse Café.

Chester Light Community Fund: this is a restricted fund for the development of the Chester Light Project hub and mission and evangelism in Chester.

BA Development Fund: this is a restricted fund for the development of the BA (Hons) in Theology, Mission and Evangelism. This fund is now closed.

Bursary Fund: this is a restricted fund for the granting of bursaries to self-funded students who would otherwise not be able to afford the tuition fee. Donations have been received for this purpose and transferred into the Light College fund to the maximum of bursaries granted in the year.

Light Collective Fund: this is a new unrestricted fund and was set up for budgeting and management reporting purposes for the subscription and other income and the expenditure directly associated with The Light Collective.

Risk Management

The trustees recognise their responsibility with regard to risk management. The risks to which the trust may be exposed have been identified and documented in a risk register together with appropriate mitigation and control procedures. The risk register is monitored and updated regularly and reviewed by the trustees on an annual basis.

Reserves Policy

The Light College and Collective only holds reserves in restricted funds that are the unspent portion of restricted grants and donations. It is not the policy to build reserves up in restricted funds but to spend them in accordance with the restrictions placed upon them. Restricted reserves at 31st August 2020 were £2,577

The trustees have continued their aim of building up reserves in unrestricted funds. The purpose of these reserves is to enable the charity to operate day to day without cash flow problems and to ensure there would be enough in the General Fund to meet any likely outstanding commitments if they are obliged to close the charity. The Reserve Policy is reviewed annually as part of the budget making process, as are the risks of closure and associated costs. Unrestricted reserves at 31st August 2020 were £40,359. At just over 2 months of total annual expenditure these are considered adequate but not excessive.

Going concern

The trustees recognize the risks associated with dependence for such a significant part of the charity's income on student numbers and the effect a decrease in numbers has on the ability of the charity to continue. In line with many other charities and the current economic climate, it is also increasingly difficult to maintain donations income and to secure grants, especially for core costs. As outlined in the Financial Review, recruitment in the year to 31st August 2020 was very good and the range of courses has expanded to include a BA and, starting in September 2020, a Professional Certificate in Pioneer Chaplaincy and Mission. However, recruitment for 2020/21 was lower than budgeted due to the coronavirus pandemic and this will have an effect on income over the next 3 years. The surplus generated in the year ended 31st August 2020 is providing a much-needed breathing space for the College to concentrate on online marketing and the refinement of the online delivery of the courses.

Investment Policy

The charity has no long-term investments. Cash reserves are held in deposit accounts when possible, but rates of interest remain low.

Signed on behalf of the trustees



Andy Glover
Chair of the Trustees

25th March 2020

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements, and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements.

Approved by the trustees on 25th March 2020 and signed on their behalf by:



Andy Glover
Chair of the Trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE LIGHT PROJECT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2020, which are set out on pages 12 to 18.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the 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 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



**Michael Caputo FCA
McLintocks (NW) Limited
Chartered Accountants
2 Hilliards Court
Chester Business Park
CHESTER
CH4 9PX**

Date 26/03/2021

Statement of Financial Activities - Year Ended 31st August 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total 2019 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2a	53,134	17,377	70,511	82,117
Income from charitable activities	2b	185,857	1,840	187,697	120,734
Other trading activities	2c	522	175	697	2,532
Investments – bank interest		12	—	12	34
Total income		239,525	19,392	258,917	205,417
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	3a	870	250	1,120	745
Expenditure on charitable activities	3b	194,624	29,966	224,590	204,850
Total expenditure		195,494	30,216	225,710	205,595
Net income / (expenditure) before transfers		44,031	(10,824)	33,207	(178)
Transfers					
Gross transfers between funds - in		8,155	15,478	23,633	24,540
Gross transfers between funds - out		(18,448)	(5,185)	(23,633)	(24,540)
Other recognised gains / losses					
Net movement in funds	10	33,738	(531)	33,207	(178)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward at 1 st September 2019		6,621	3,108	9,729	9,907
Total funds carried forward		40,359	2,577	42,936	9,729

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

Balance Sheet at 31st August 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total 2019 £
Fixed Assets					
Equipment	7	—	—	—	1,537
Current assets					
Debtors	8	3,146	1,667	4,813	1,036
Cash at bank and in hand		47,887	1,710	49,597	26,501
		51,033	3,377	54,410	27,537
Liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts falling due in one year	9	10,674	800	11,474	19,345
		10,674	800	11,474	19,345
Net current assets less current liabilities		40,359	2,577	42,936	8,192
Total net assets less liabilities		40,359	2,577	42,936	9,729
Represented by					
Unrestricted: General fund		18,335	—	18,335	10,054
The Light College		22,024	—	22,024	(3,433)
Restricted: Network Fund		—	1,023	1,023	—
Chester Light Community		—	—	—	—
Drop-In Fund		—	418	418	418
BA Development Fund		—	—	—	(2,990)
Light House Café Fund		—	1,071	1,071	5,680
Bursary Fund		—	65	65	—
Total funds of the charity	10	40,359	2,577	42,936	9,729

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 25th March 2021.

Signed on behalf of the Trust by:



Andy Glover (Chair of the trustees)

Notes to the accounts

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of preparation

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 UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

b) Preparation of the accounts is on a going concern basis:

The charity made a surplus in the year with strong recruitment and closing cash of £49,597. The charity has a plan to weather the coronavirus storm and sufficient reserves to deliver the degree.

c) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations and grants are recognised when received by or on the behalf of the charity.

Income tax recoverable (Gift Aid) is accounted for once the donation to which it relates has been received by the charity.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

d) Interest receivable

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

e) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose or for budgeting and reporting accuracy. Restricted funds are donations which the donor, or grant maker, has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's activities

f) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. The charity is not registered for VAT and all VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

g) Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include administration and other office costs, and governance costs. The bases on which support and other overhead costs have been apportioned are set out in note 6.

h) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible assets costing more than £1,000 are included at cost less depreciation and impairment. Depreciation has been computed to write off the cost of tangible fixed assets over their expected useful lives as follows:

Equipment – 4 years on a straight-line basis with a full charge in year of purchase and none in the year of disposal.

i) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

j) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

k) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured

or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Fund accounting

General Fund: all unrestricted donations and other income plus expenditure not directly attributable to a specific activity are included in the unrestricted General Fund.

At the start of the year, and during the year when needed, a number of other funds were set up. Income and direct expenses, including the apportionment of salary and related costs of project workers, are now also accounted for within the following funds:

The Light College (formerly called Foundation Degree Arts): this is an unrestricted fund, and was set up for budgeting and management reporting purposes for the income and expenditure directly associated with the delivery of the Foundation and Bachelor of Arts Degrees with University of Chester.

Light Collective Fund: this is an unrestricted fund and was set up for budgeting and management reporting purposes for the subscription and other income and the expenditure directly associated with The Light Collective.

Network Fund: this is a restricted fund and was set up as Chris Duffett received grants and donations which are restricted to funding his work specifically. Chris's teaching and training income and related expenditure is also allocated to this fund.

Drop In Fund: this is a restricted fund and was set up as the Garden Lane Drop In received grants and donations that were restricted to funding this project. Plans to use up the balance of this fund were put on hold due to coronavirus.

Light House Café Fund: this is a restricted fund for the running and development of a community café and arts venue in the village of Great Gransden near Cambridge.

Chester Light Community Fund: this is a restricted fund for the development of the Chester Light Project hub and mission and evangelism in Chester

BA Development Fund: this is a restricted fund for the development of the BA (Hons) in Theology, Mission and Evangelism. This fund is now closed.

Bursary Fund: this is a restricted fund for the granting of bursaries to self-funded students who would otherwise not be able to afford the tuition fee. Donations have been received for this purpose and transferred into the FdA fund to the maximum of bursaries granted in the year.

2a Donation and legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
Donations	24,413	5,130	29,543	39,862
Gift aid	4,611	417	5,028	6,644
Grants for activities	17,010	7,990	25,000	20,517
Other voluntary income	7,100	3,840	10,940	15,094
Total donations and legacies	53,134	17,377	70,511	82,117

2b Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
Course fees	183,314	—	183,314	115,492
Placement churches	—	—	—	2,400
Collective subscriptions	720	—	720	812
Training and speaking	1,823	1,840	3,663	2,030
Total income from charitable activities	185,857	1,840	187,697	120,734

2c Other trading activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
Sale of hoodies	512		512	370
Other activities for raising funds	10	175	185	2,162
Total other trading activities	522	175	697	2,532

3a Raising funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
Supporter relations costs	—	—	—	4
Other fundraising costs	870	250	1,120	741
	870	250	1,120	745

3b Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
People (salaries etc.)	108,280	18,767	127,047	111,584
Premises	14,215	—	14,215	14,375
Office	2,390	857	3,247	3,257
Equipment and IT	1,418	—	1,418	1,283
Insurance and support	1,866	—	1,866	2,012
Publicity and marketing	5,273	—	5,273	2,490
Degree direct costs	59,028	—	59,028	55,766
Full time placement direct costs	—	1,407	1,407	2,209
Drop In direct costs	—	—	—	—
Great Gransden Light House Café	—	2,870	2,870	6,084
The Collective direct costs	75	—	75	917
Community Garden direct costs	—	—	—	509
Other Evangelism and Teaching costs	851	22	873	742
Charitable donations	—	6,043	6,043	1,359
Conferences	92	—	92	572
Depreciation	—	—	—	513
Trustee meeting expenses	26	—	26	18
Accountancy and governance (note 5)	1,110	—	1,110	1,160
Total	194,624	29,966	224,590	204,850

4. Staff Costs

	2020	2019
	£	£
Staff costs comprise:		
Wages and salaries	116,561	102,365
Social security costs	3,204	2,829
Pension costs	3,327	2,375
	123,092	107,569

Average number of employees in the year:

Directors	2 (FTE 1.6)	2 (FTE 1.4)
National Evangelist	1 (FTE 0.7)	1 (FTE 0.8)
Support and Administration	8 (FTE 2.5)	6 (FTE 2.1)
	11 (FTE 4.8)	9 (FTE 4.3)

No employees receive emoluments in excess of £60,000.

As the charity is small and only employs 9 people, most employees can be viewed as “key” so no separate disclosure has been made of the total remuneration paid to key management personnel.

5. Accountancy and Governance Costs

	2020	2019
	£	£
Accountants' remuneration for Independent Examination	960	960
Trustee Meeting Secretary and GDPR training	150	200
Total	1,110	1,160

Trustees are reimbursed for their expenses which are necessarily incurred in attending meetings and in performing their duties as Trustees. Trustee benefits: none

6. Support costs

Over **62%** of total costs in the year ended 31st August 2020 (61% in 2019) relate to people and premises:

- Salary costs are allocated directly to the fund to which they relate based on the proportion of hours worked.
- Premises costs, including utilities, relate to Abbey House and are now all allocated to The Light College.

Where possible all other costs have been allocated directly to the fund or activity for which they were incurred.

Support costs left unallocated are accountancy and governance costs, professional fees and general fundraising which were all taken against the General Fund.

7. Fixed Assets

	Equipment £	Total £
Cost at 1 st September 2019	2,050	2,050
Additions	—	—
Disposals	(2,050)	(2,050)
Cost at 31 st August 2020	—	—
Depreciation at 1 st September 2019	513	513
Charge for the year	—	—
Disposals	(513)	(513)
Depreciation at 31 st August 2020	—	—
Net book value at 31 st August 2019	1,537	1,537
Net book value at 31st August 2020	—	—

8. Debtors

	2020	2019
	£	£
Sundry debtors	1,551	—
Director expenses float	100	100
Gift aid	312	936
Mentoring and teaching	2,850	—
Total	4,813	1,036

9. Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year	2020	2019
	£	£
Sundry Creditors and accruals	6,382	5,326
University of Chester for BA validation	—	12,990
Wallis House for degree residential weekend	3,919	—
Tax and National Insurance	1,173	1,029
Total	11,474	19,345

10. Fund movement by type

	Opening £	Incoming £	(Outgoing) £	Transfers £	Closing £
Unrestricted General Fund	10,054	28,535	(1,806)	(18,448)	18,335
Unrestricted The Light College Fund	(3,433)	210,269	(189,997)	5,185	22,024
Unrestricted Light Collective Fund	—	720	(3,690)	2,970	—
Restricted Network Fund	—	3,335	(2,312)	—	1,023
Restricted Drop-In Fund	418	—	—	—	418
Restricted Chester Fund	—	263	(15,741)	15,478	—
Restricted BA Development Fund	(2,990)	2,990	—	—	—
Restricted Bursary Fund	—	5,250	—	(5,185)	65
Restricted Light House Café Fund	5,680	7,555	(12,164)	—	1,071
	9,729	258,917	(225,710)	—	42,936

Transfers from unrestricted funds are made into restricted funds to cover deficits made in the year. Transfers out of restricted funds to the unrestricted General Fund are made from grants and donations where an overhead amount or contribution to core costs has been agreed.

11. Related Party Transactions

	2020	2019
	£	£
Payments by Chester Software Ltd for use of a room in Abbey House e	3,800	3,600
Employment of Tonya Chirgwin as Supporter Relations Co-ordinator	1,908	1,813

David Chirgwin, a trustee, is the sole director of Chester Software Ltd. The contribution asked by The Light Project for Chester Software Ltd.'s use of room as an office, was based on the size of the room and the contribution paid by another, non-related, organization.

Tonya has been employed part time by The Light Project since September 2016. Her remuneration is in line with The Light Project salary scale used for all employees.