

Registered Charity No: 1092469

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

30 April 2024

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

30 April 2024

Contents	Pages
Trustees' Annual Report	1 - 3
Independent Examiner's Report	4
Statement of Financial Activities	5
Balance Sheet	6
Notes to the Accounts	7 - 12

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

**Trustees' Annual Report
for the year ended 30 April 2024**

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 30 April 2024.

Reference and Administrative Information

Living Stones Christian Life and Media Centre was constituted by a Trust Deed on the 4 April 2002 which was amended by a Deed of Variation on 20 May 2002 and by a further Deed of Variation on 29 October 2018.

The Trust is registered with the Charity Commissioners No. 1092469.

Living Stones Christian Life and Media Centre is also known as The Living Stones of Birmingham.

The main address for contacts is:-

Unit 1, Tamebridge Industrial Estate
Aldridge Road
Perry Barr
Birmingham
B42 2TX

Bankers:

Lloyds Bank
Walthamstow Branch
PO Box 1000
BX1 1LT

The Trustees at 30 April 2024 were:-

G du Plessis
J M Lennox
N Lennox
S Mutsanga (appointed on 1 May 2023)
J Adegoke (appointed on 1 May 2023)

G du Plessis is the Chair of the Charity.

Structure, Governance and Management

The governing document which also acts as the constitution is the Trust Deed dated 4 April 2002 as amended.

Trustees are appointed by resolution of the Trustees provided they sign a Declaration of Willingness to act as a Trustee and a statement that he or she will adhere to the faith for the time being promoted by the Charity.

Trustees are recruited from the congregation, other ministries or recommended by an existing Trustee. New Trustees must be practising Christians, of moral fibre and integrity and support strong family values.

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

**Trustees' Annual Report
for the year ended 30 April 2024
(Continued)**

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the Charity are:

- (i) the establishment of Christian fellowship meetings;
- (ii) the establishment of Christian teaching classes and to distribute Christian teaching material;
- (iii) the promotion of Christian evangelistic events and literature;
- (iv) the promotion and support of international Christian ministries and events;
- (v) the production and distribution of creative Christian media.

The Charity continued with its objectives, to gather under one roof for Sunday meetings as well as smaller weekly meetings and so, was able to advance with in person fellowship meetings as well as online social platform meetings to ensure that the objectives of the Charity could best be carried out.

Small group meetings operate during the week included a safe space for the congregation and the general public, to meet in a relaxed environment where they could receive support for grief, loneliness, anxiety and other emotional challenges.

Various other meetings continue, in person and via social media, with in-depth training for men, women, youth and families in general.

The Charity continued to partner with other like-minded organisations to assist with the provision and distribution of food and clothes into the local community.

The Charity was still accessible to assist with online awareness of community issues and able to use social media platforms to promote Christian lifestyle and to encourage harmony amongst diverse cultures found in Birmingham.

The Charity continued to support overseas missions as well as local charities.

Whilst undertaking the above-mentioned activities the Trustees had due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit issues.

Achievements and Performance

During the year the Charity has continued to achieve its objectives providing significant benefits to the congregation and within the local area.

In October 2023 the Charity opened a pantry to provide families and individuals with a choice of food and household items to purchase for a small donation.

Financial Review

The Charity receives donations which are then utilised in achieving the objects of the Charity.

During the year ended 30 April 2024, the Charity received donations and Gift Aid Claims amounting to £250,271 (2023 - £235,844) of which £262,478 (2023 - £258,353) was spent in pursuit of the Charity's objectives. At 30 April 2024, the Unrestricted Funds were £1,963 (2023 - £949). At 30 April 2024, the Restricted Funds held were £7,081 (2023 - £20,302).

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

**Trustees' Annual Report
for the year ended 30 April 2024
(Continued)**

Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider that the funds within the Charity should be at a level to cover operational costs for at least 4 months.

At present, the Charity's reserves are equivalent to less than 1 months operational costs. The Trustees are striving to increase the charity's reserve levels and the charity continues to operate during 2024.

The reserves are needed to bridge the funding gap between spending on the Charity's overheads and the receipt of new funds.

The reserves include cash at bank. The Trustees monitor the cash levels on a regular basis.

Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

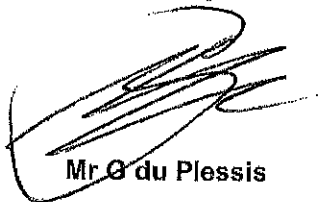
The law applicable to Charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements the Trustees are required to:-

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity Accounts and Reports Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Trust Deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for 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.

Approved by the Trustees on 29 January 2025 signed by:



Mr G du Plessis

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Living Stones Christian Life and Media Centre**

I report to the Charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 30 April 2024 which are set out on pages 5 to 12.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity's Trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

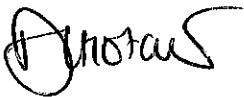
I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts 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 matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Mr D I Hotchkiss
Chartered Accountant

Brook House
Moss Grove
Kingswinford
West Midlands
DY6 9HS

29 January 2025

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

**Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 30 April 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Incoming Resources					
Voluntary income					
Donations		151,589	5,581	157,170	163,548
Gift Aid		26,412	-	26,412	25,472
Grants received		-	13,291	13,291	-
Activities for generating funds	2	53,173	225	53,398	46,824
Total Incoming Resources		231,174	19,097	250,271	235,844
Resources Expended					
Cost of generating voluntary income					
Activity costs		6,784	8,893	15,677	10,600
Charitable Expenditure					
Charitable donations		6,359	3,811	10,170	16,445
Rent		91,231	5,550	96,781	98,652
Rates		7,786	-	7,786	6,893
Heat, light and water		22,736	-	22,736	14,221
Printing, postage and stationery		4,755	-	4,755	5,198
Insurance		839	-	839	3,389
Telephone		634	-	634	750
Depreciation		2,458	-	2,458	2,213
Loss on disposal of assets		1,962	-	1,962	-
Bank charges		-	-	-	15
Repairs and renewals		7,152	120	7,272	7,082
Governance Costs					
Wages	5	80,516	3,094	83,610	82,954
Pension costs		1,631	-	1,631	1,511
Sundry costs		204	-	204	266
Legal and professional costs		5,963	-	5,963	8,164
Total Resources Expended		241,010	21,468	262,478	258,353
Net (expenditure)/incoming resources before transfers		(9,836)	(2,371)	(12,207)	(22,509)
Transfers between funds	6	10,850	(10,850)	-	-
Net movements in funds for the year		1,014	(13,221)	(12,207)	(22,509)
Total funds brought forward		949	20,302	21,251	43,760
Total funds carried forward		1,963	7,081	9,044	21,251

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

Balance Sheet - 30 April 2024

	Notes	£	2024	£	£	2023	£
Fixed Assets							
Tangible fixed assets	7			13,928			12,539
Current Assets							
Debtors and prepayments	8		10,078			10,365	
Cash at bank and in hand			12,708			32,296	
			<u>22,786</u>			<u>42,661</u>	
Liabilities: (amounts falling due within one year)	9		<u>(27,670)</u>			<u>(33,949)</u>	
Net current assets				<u>(4,884)</u>			<u>8,712</u>
Net Assets				<u>9,044</u>			<u>21,251</u>
Funds of the Charity:							
Unrestricted Funds	10			1,963			949
Restricted Funds	10			7,081			20,302
Total Funds	11			<u>9,044</u>			<u>21,251</u>

The financial statements on pages 5 to 12 were approved by the Trustees on 29 January 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Mr G du Plessis

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

Notes to the Accounts - 30 April 2024

1 Accounting Policies

- (a) The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with applicable accounting standards and follow the recommendations in Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2019 (FRS 102)) and comply with these Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulation 2005 issued under the Charities Act 2011.
- (b) Voluntary income received by way of donations and gifts to the Charity is included in full, in the Statement of Financial Activities when received.
- (c) Intangible income is valued and included in income to the extent that it represents goods or services which would otherwise be purchased. Where it is not possible to value the goods or services, such as volunteer time, the accounts do not include this value.
- (d) Investment income is accounted for in the year in which the Charity is entitled to receipt.
- (e) Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.
- (f) Unrestricted Funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for the objects of the Charity without further specified purposes and are available as General Funds.
- (g) Restricted Funds are to be used for specified purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is identified to the Fund.
- (h) As a Registered Charity, no liability to taxation arises.
- (i) Tangible fixed assets are valued at cost.
- (j) Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life:

Leasehold improvements	- 20% straight line
Equipment	- 15% reducing balance
- (k) Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the Charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.
- (l) Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to pay out resources, and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

Notes to the Accounts - 30 April 2024

2 Activities for Generating Funds

	2024	2023
	£	£
Rent received	33,522	33,859
Venue hire	15,226	9,320
Events	1,032	145
Pantry	2,932	-
Other fund-raising activities	686	3,500
	<u>53,398</u>	<u>46,824</u>
	=====	=====

3 Resources Expended

	2024	2023
	£	£
Resources expended are stated after charging:		
Independent Examiner's fee	4,000	4,000
Depreciation	2,458	2,213
	<u>6,458</u>	<u>6,213</u>
	=====	=====

4 Trustees

None of the Trustees were reimbursed for expenses throughout the current and previous year.

5 Salaries

	2024	2023
	£	£
This is analysed as follows:		
Salaries and wages	82,319	81,348
Social Security costs	1,291	1,606
Pension costs	1,631	1,511
	<u>85,241</u>	<u>84,465</u>
	=====	=====
Number of employees earning in excess of £60,000	-	-
	=====	=====
Average number of employees	5	4
	=====	=====
Trustees' remuneration for their pastoral work carried out on behalf of the trust, including Employer's NIC	19,229	21,357
	=====	=====

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

Notes to the Accounts - 30 April 2024

6 Transfers between Funds

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2024 £	2023 £
Net movements in funds for year	(9,836)	(2,371)	(12,207)	(22,509)
Resources used for the acquisition of tangible fixed assets	5,550	(5,550)	-	-
Transfers between funds	5,300	(5,300)	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net movement in funds for the year	1,014	(13,221)	(12,207)	(22,509)
	=====	=====	=====	=====

7 Fixed Assets

	Leasehold Improvements £	Equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 May 2023	63,449	76,433	139,882
Additions	-	5,809	5,809
Disposals	-	(12,839)	(12,839)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 30 April 2024	63,449	69,403	132,852
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Depreciation			
At 1 May 2023	63,449	63,894	127,343
Charge for the year	-	2,458	2,458
Eliminated on disposal	-	(10,877)	(10,877)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 30 April 2024	63,449	55,475	118,924
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net Book Value			
At 30 April 2024	-	13,928	13,928
	=====	=====	=====
At 30 April 2023	-	12,539	12,539
	=====	=====	=====

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

Notes to the Accounts - 30 April 2024

8 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Tax refund	3,718	6,369
Prepayments	6,360	3,996
	10,078	10,365
	=====	=====

9 Liabilities (amounts falling due within one year)

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other taxes and social security costs	1,008	1,401
Accruals and deferred income	26,662	32,548
	27,670	33,949
	=====	=====

10 Statement of Funds

	At 1 May 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers Between Funds	At 30 April 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	949	231,174	(241,010)	10,850	1,963
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
<u>Restricted Funds</u>					
Building Fund	-	120	(120)	-	-
Youth Fund	1,946	225	-	-	2,171
Safe House Fund	5,300	-	-	(5,300)	-
Youth Community Project	9,980	-	(7,650)	(2,330)	-
Ezra & Esther Project	-	3,811	(3,811)	-	-
Family Fund	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Hope Alive Fund	240	-	-	(240)	-
Benevolent Fund	712	-	-	-	712
Cost of living Fund	120	1,360	-	(6)	1,474
Widows and Orphans	1,004	290	-	-	1,294
Pantry	-	13,291	(9,887)	(2,974)	430
	20,302	19,097	(21,468)	(10,850)	7,081
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Total Funds	21,251	250,271	(262,478)	-	9,044
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

Notes to the Accounts - 30 April 2024

10 Statement of Funds (Continued)

Unrestricted Funds represents free funds of the Charity which are not designated for particular purposes.

The Building Fund represents monies donated towards improvements made to the leasehold premises at Tamebridge Industrial Estate.

The Youth Fund represents monies donated for youth meetings to teach life skills and for fun events.

Youth Community Project is a grant awarded to provide creative workshop activities for youth and provide a safe place for the young to share concerns, express aims, ambitions and gain mentoring support in areas of particular interest.

Ezra Project represents monies donated specifically for the use in funding a rural school in Nigeria, the Charity support includes the provision of literacy and teaching aids plus funds donated towards building a perimeter wall around the school.

Esther Projects represents monies donated to educate and practically support young ladies in remote and rural areas of the world. The support covers issues related to feminine hygiene and adolescence, schooling relationships and early marriage. The project also fights against genital mutilation and other customs which are detrimental to the physical and emotional well-being of young ladies.

Family Fund represents monies donated which is to be used by families who require a small, short term loan. The loans will be on an interest free basis. Additional monies have also been donated to families in need and on the discretion of the Trustees, those monies are not due for repayment

Benevolent Fund represents monies donated towards assisting families financially when they have lost loved ones.

Cost of Living Fund represents monies donated towards basic living essentials which are distributed as needed. The Charity have found that as there are specific cost of living or health needs of some people, it is best to then provide them with a tailored support to meet those needs. Recipients in need of support are assessed, an agreed plan put in place and where possible, an appropriate voucher or gift card is provided.

Widows and Orphans Fund represents monies donated to help support widows and orphans in the Church as well as those who we locate in the local community. This can be by purchasing food or any item that they may need or can be giving them vouchers or cash.

The Pantry Fund represents monies received in the form of grants and donations to cover the pantry running costs and to purchase essential household supplies to support people in all walks of life in our local community.

**Living Stones Christian Life
and Media Centre**

Notes to the Accounts - 30 April 2024

10 Statement of Funds (Continued)

The Trustees have confirmed that the following funds no longer form part of the restricted funds and can be released into the unrestricted funds in order to fund other charitable activities.

Hope Alive Fund
Safe House Fund

11 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	2024 Total Funds	2023 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	13,928	13,928	12,539
Debtors and prepayments	-	10,078	10,078	10,365
Cash at bank and in hand	7,081	5,627	12,708	32,296
Current liabilities	-	(27,670)	(27,670)	(33,949)
Total assets	7,081	1,963	9,044	21,251
	=====	=====	=====	=====

12 Related Party Transactions

During the year the Charity received donations from the Trustees amounting to £19,669 (2023 - £21,103).

13 Control

The Charity was under the control of the Trustees throughout the current and previous year.