

# DUNCAN ROAD CHURCH TRUST

Charity Registration Number : 1092876

## Trustees' Annual Report

The trustees present their report for the year ended 31 October 2023.

### Objectives and Activities

The Trust was constituted by a Declaration of Trust dated 31 May 2002. The object of the Trust is the furtherance of the religious and other charitable activities of the church fellowship known as Duncan Road Church.

During the year the Trust has supported the church fellowship which has met at the property occupied by the church, located in Duncan Road, Park Gate, Southampton, SO31 1BD.

The charitable aim of Duncan Road Church is the advancement of the Christian religion. The trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, particularly the guidance on charities for the advancement of religion. With its activities the church aims to both introduce individuals to the Christian faith and to support and encourage existing believers

The church has continued to welcome new visitors attending the Sunday morning All Age Service. Many of the visitors from previous years continue to attend Sunday services, some on a fairly frequent basis. We continue to be encouraged by new visitors attending the All Age Service and hope to see some of these visitors make the decision to become formal members of the church.

Our midweek meetings continue to be well received by the local community, with many regulars attending our children's activities on a weekly basis. A variety of midweek meetings cater to the needs of children, young people, carers with young children, parents & toddlers, as well as meetings for men and women of all ages. In September 2023, a new midweek meeting was launched (Welcome Wednesdays) to provide a warm space and companionship to those in the local community. This has got off to a slow start, as news of the event takes time to filter through the community, although we are seeing fairly consistent numbers in attendance.

During the year the All Age Service continued to be held each Sunday morning, with a live-stream available on YouTube. Services are also made available for on-demand viewing on YouTube after the event, to help meet the needs of those unable to join in for the livestream or those that wish to watch the service again at a later date. Our weekly house group for Bible study and prayer has also continued, although we now meet only in person as there is no longer a need for virtual meetings.

During this financial year, one of the trustees, Alistair McCann, has resigned from the Trust due to deteriorating health. Sadly, Alistair passed away in June 2023. We are grateful for the many years that Alistair has served as a faithful trustee and treasurer of the Duncan Road Church Trust.

### Administrative Information

The address of the Trust for correspondence is Duncan Road Church, Duncan Road, Park Gate, Southampton, SO31 1BD.

The current trustees of the Trust are:

Mr P Donaghy  
Mr S Gunter (Treasurer)  
Mr D McNeish

Under the Declaration of Trust, new trustees are appointed by a resolution of the existing Trustees.

### Financial Review

The Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 31 October 2023 is attached on page 3. The Account shows a surplus for the year of £7,566 (2022: a surplus of £4,993) and funds' balances carried forward of £94,558 represented by amounts held on bank current and deposit accounts as well as cash.

### Receipts

General receipts, such as from collections and donations, decreased by £2,953 over the previous year's amounts. Gift Aid tax recovered increased by £1,723 and other income decreased by £704.

### Payments

Overall costs have decreased by £1,686 compared to the previous year. The church building & equipment has continued to be maintained, with no significant works required over the year.

### Funds

Following the surplus for the year, funds balances have increased to £94,558 at year end. All funds are represented by a General Unrestricted Fund. There are no designated or restricted funds in place at year end.

### Reserves Policy and Future Plans under Consideration

Since the Trust's income is from voluntary donations which are variable, some level of general unrestricted reserves are needed to ensure that funds are available to meet expenditure commitments. The trustees' policy is to hold an amount equivalent to no more than 6 month's typical expenditure in the General Fund.

However the trustees are considering appointing a part/full time pastor to assist the church in its ministry. Any person appointed would be an employee of the church. The church is considering changing to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in the near future to prepare for this change. Such an appointment will need ongoing funding for several years to support the post, over and above the current level of income that is donated. As a result reserves are being retained to cover such potential ongoing additional costs.

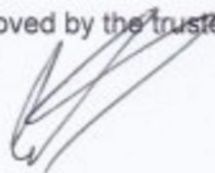
### Investment Policy

The trustees' policy on investing the funds of the Trust is that funds not needed to meet day to day expenses will be held on an interest earning deposit account.

### Thanks

The trustees would like to thank everyone who has supported the work of the church during the year.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf:



Mr S Gunter

Date : 8 Jan 2024



# DUNCAN ROAD CHURCH TRUST

Charity Registration Number : 1092876


## Receipts and Payments Account for the Year ended 31 October 2023

	2023	2022
	Total	Total
	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>		
Collections etc	21,640	24,593
Tax reclaimed under Gift Aid	6,640	4,917
Other Income	514	1,218
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>28,794</b>	<b>30,728</b>
<b>Payments</b>		
Gifts to speakers	10,949	11,422
Premises project expenditure	0	1,670
Combined operating costs	8,544	8,087
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>	<b>19,493</b>	<b>21,179</b>
<b>SURPLUS before Larger value donations</b>	<b>9,301</b>	<b>9,549</b>
Exceptional Costs : Donations to Christian Organisations	1,735	4,556
<b>NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>7,566</b>	<b>4,993</b>
Fund balances brought forward at start of year	86,994	82,001
<b>Fund Balances carried forward</b>	<b>94,560</b>	<b>86,994</b>

Assets	Monetary Assets	£
	Cash box	349
	Cash at Bank	18,620
	Kingdom Bank	75,591
	Current Account	
	Interest earning Account	
		<u>94,560</u>
	Other Assets	
	Gift Aid tax recoverable	2,722

Approved by the Trustees on 8 January 2024

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

  
Mr S J Gunter

### Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Duncan Road Church Trust

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ('the Trust') (Charity Number 1092876) for the year ended 31 October 2023, which are set out on page 3.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

The charity's trustees 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 Trust's accounts carried out under s 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under s 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 which cause me to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

Signed:



Name: Mrs L A Parry BSc ACA

Address: Langdowns DFK, Fleming Court, Leigh Road, Eastleigh SO50 9PD

Date :

26/02/2024