

Registered number: 04964286
Charity number: 1101080

THE FORGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A company limited by guarantee)

UNAUDITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

THE FORGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A company limited by guarantee)

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THE FORGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COMPANY, ITS DIRECTORS AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

Directors

Oliver Westmancott, Chair
Sarah Cobbold (appointed 15 July 2024)
Alison Colchester, Chair (resigned 15 July 2024)
Stephen Fenning
Stephen Urwin
Michael Walsh

Company registered number

04964286

Charity registered number

1101080

Registered office

The Old Chapel, Forward Green, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 5HP

Company secretary

Neil Serjeant

Independent examiners

Larking Gowen LLP, 1 Claydon Business Park, Great Blakenham, Ipswich, IP6 0NL

Bankers

Barclays Bank PLC, 14 Market Hill, Diss, Norfolk, IP22 4JU

THE FORGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The Directors present their Annual Report together with the Financial Statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The Annual Report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a Directors' report under company law. The Directors confirm that the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 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).

Since the company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulation 2013 has been omitted.

1. Governance & Constitution

The Forge Community Church ("The Forge") is Christian church operating in mid Suffolk. It is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. It is governed by its Articles of Association which were revised and approved by the Charity Commission on 9 December 2021 and formally adopted by members on 22 November 2022. The spiritual leadership of the church is provided by the Elders. The Elders are appointed by the Elders and also serve as Trustees of the charity and Directors of the limited company.

The Forge employs a staff team to which is delegated the day-to-day running of the church. The Senior Leader is appointed by the Directors. Other staff are appointed by the Senior Leader in consultation with the Directors. During 2024, the church employed 9 paid staff and 2 volunteer staff members. Not all of these were employed all the time, and several of these are part time, and the average Full Time Equivalent headcount was 6.0 paid and 0.8 unpaid, which is the same as 2023.

The Directors have established 4 teams to assist them in the exercise of their responsibilities. The Finance Team provides scrutiny, challenge and support in financial management and budgeting. The People Team scrutinises and supports on people issues, including recruitment and selection, performance reviews, pay scales, policies and procedures. The Compliance Team oversees statutory and legal compliance, for example Health & Safety and risk review. It is, in turn, supported by a dedicated Safeguarding Team who ensure children and vulnerable adults are kept safe. The Elders provide spiritual oversight. Each team provides a regular report to the board whenever it meets.

The charitable objects of The Forge are to:

A) Advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs appearing in the Schedule hereto in the county of Suffolk and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Directors of the Charity (herein called the Trustees) may from time-to-time think fit and to fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the law of England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the Charity.

B) Relieve persons who are in conditions of need or hardship or who are aged or sick and to relieve the distress caused thereby in the said location and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees may from time-to-time think fit.

THE FORGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2. Mission and Vision

The Forge seeks to fulfil its charitable objects through its mission to help people find and follow Jesus. Its vision is to be a church community that unchurched people love to be part of. It seeks to be known, involved and helpful in its local community.

With dedicated public activities for adults, young people and children, The Forge has continued to strive to create a loving and supportive community of people aligned with the person and teaching of Jesus Christ and encouraging people always to identify and take the next step in their journey of faith. It has continued to do this in a way that places no unnecessary hindrance to anyone of any background from participating in our activities and becoming part of the church. We constantly monitor our programme, language and approach to ensure we are accessible to anyone and everyone.

We intentionally gave away around 15% of our income to support those in need locally and internationally, operating in partnership with other agencies and charities.

The Forge works in partnership with other churches in the UK and Ireland with similar mission and vision. This partnership is demonstrated tangibly in our membership of the Further Faster Network. The Forge is also a member of the Evangelical Alliance.

3. Activities for Public Benefit, Achievements and Performance

People's adherence to the church continues to be more fluid and less attendance-focussed than it was 10 years ago. However, the Forge was pleased to see an increase in average Sunday attendance. The Forge is making a difference in people's lives. We believe a relationship with Jesus Christ makes a person's life better and makes them better at life. 17 people were baptised in 2024, publicly signifying that they had found and begun to follow Jesus. 39 people attended Alpha courses which provide an opportunity to explore Christianity and faith.

Sundays

Numbers at all gatherings – kids, youth and adults – were variable, but the trend over the year was, once again, of steady growth in numbers, confidence and enthusiasm. Adult numbers started at around 170 and regularly exceeded 180 by the end of the year. Our Christmas attendance was 550 people over 4 services held on 15 December. Kids and Youth saw attendance fluctuating between 30 and 50 per week. 60 young people attended youth residentials in February and October. The youth congregation in particular is rebuilding following the departure in October of a number of older teenagers to university or the adult congregation. We're really pleased to have a significant contingent of older teenagers present at Sunday services, serving and giving, and a midweek group for young adults is flourishing. A number of children with additional needs attend. We have modified our environments better to suit their needs and have recruited additional volunteers with the skills and experience needed to ensure we provide a safe and happy experience for everyone.

We continue to publish a podcast recorded in the live service of the adult Sunday service talk, and we continue to be active on social media.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Local Community

The Forge continued to support the local community in which it is based:

- During 2024 the Furniture Bank made almost 300 deliveries of furniture to households in need. This had a direct impact on more than 500 people.
- The Moses Project provided 248 Moses baskets, the financial value of which was around £20,000, providing vulnerable mothers with essential items for their new-born baby. The equivalent in 2023 was 193 baskets.
- Through our hardship fund we were able to give one off gifts totalling £20,000 to 101 households in need. This provided white goods, school uniform, heating oil, and transport costs.
- 1.9 tonnes of food was distributed to the Parish Pantry through our partnership with FareShare.
- The Away in a Hamper scheme at Christmas provided a full Christmas dinner to 479 people.
- In collaboration with Debenham High School, The Forge switched its community youth provision to after school activities for young people who would otherwise return to an empty home. We provide a safe environment, activities and food.
- The Forge continued to provide chaplaincy support for students at Debenham High School. 700 students engaged with our Prayer Space at the beginning of the Spring Term
- The Forge also engaged with Primary Schools in Stonham Aspal and Debenham, taking assemblies and reading with children.
- Our Holiday Club in August saw 80 youngsters attending, most of which are not otherwise associated with the church. Easter and Christmas activities for children were also well-supported by families in and around Debenham.

Groups

The church continues to believe that personal growth happens best in small groups. Around 180 people participated in a 10-week or 10-month group. Of these some were focussed on providing community for participants others more on practical learning or a shared interest such as creative writing. Groups meet in person and/or online. The church is encouraged by powerful stories of people finding support and friendship in groups as they have done life together, helping them to cope with the ups and downs of life.

Motion, our offering for teenagers, includes hangout groups as an integral part of their activity, providing young people with a safe place to build friendships and ask questions.

Volunteers

The church is heavily dependent on its volunteers. Group Leaders provide leadership and pastoral support. Our in-person gatherings rely on the willingness of our volunteers who have provided set up and pack down, hospitality, welcome, sound and light, music and have worked with our kids and youth. In so doing these volunteers provide public benefit, but also receive benefit, finding satisfaction, friendship, and support through serving.

Numbers

At the end of the year, in excess of 300 adults were registered on our church management system and would call The Forge their home.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

4. Financial Review

Surplus and Reserves

The Charity reported a deficit of £24,483 (2023: £23,203) on general funds and a surplus of £8,375 (2023: £37,002) on restricted funds, giving a net deficit for the year of £16,106 (2023: surplus of £13,799).

The Directors agreed a minimum reserves position for the year expressed as a minimum cash balance on general funds of £46,000. At year end the cash balance was £42,500. The Directors had approved this level of cash reserves having reviewed slower than expected growth in income, an agreed plan to recover income in 2025 and unbudgeted expenditure in respect of a planning application (see below).

The Charity carried forward total reserves of £243,879 (2023: £259,987) of which £187,549 (2023: £212,032) is unrestricted. However, of this £169,731 (2023: £177,678) is tied up in tangible fixed assets. Free reserves are £17,818 (2023: £34,354), with an additional £56,330 (2023: £47,955) in restricted funds.

The Directors had approved a level below the minimum set having reviewed slower than expected growth in income, an agreed plan to recover income in 2025 and unbudgeted expenditure in respect of a planning application (see below).

The Directors approved a budget for 2025 which shows an £3,247 surplus. The Directors remain cognisant of some risks to income - for example budgeted growth in regular donations to the church, the targets for Gift Month and Fundraising income, and securing grant funding for some existing staff costs - and wish to have sufficient additional reserves temporarily to cover any shortfalls.


Income and Expenditure

At £439,746 (2023: £404,103) income was 9% higher than 2023. The church saw slower than expected growth in regular income, but saw a positive response to its Giving Month campaign. Further, it secured restricted funding to support its community projects, particularly Furniture Bank and the Moses Project.

Expenditure at £455,854 (2023: £390,304) rose faster than income and reflecting the costs of renting a small warehouse for the Moses Project and the Furniture Bank. The directors also decided to apply for planning permission to convert its 2 existing freehold buildings for residential use with a view subsequently to selling the premises. This increased in year costs by around £10,000.

This report has been prepared taking advantage of the small companies exemption of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:


.....
Oliver Westmancott
(Chair of Trustees and Directors)
Date: 20/8/2025

THE FORGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
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STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024


The Trustees (who are also the directors of the Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 Company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Oliver Westmancott
(Chair of Trustees and Directors)

Date: 20 / 8 / 2025

THE FORGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of The Forge Community Church ('the Company')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Trustees of the Company (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the Company's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.

THE FORGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
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INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

This report is made solely to the Company's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the Company's Trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's Trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed:



Dated: 28 August 2025

Christopher Yeates FCA DChA

Larking Gowen LLP

Chartered Accountants
Ipswich

THE FORGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
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**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	355,574	57,638	413,212	389,273
Charitable activities	4	7,739	17,600	25,339	14,007
Investments	5	1,195	-	1,195	823
Total income		364,508	75,238	439,746	404,103
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities		388,991	66,863	455,854	390,304
Total expenditure		388,991	66,863	455,854	390,304
Net movement in funds		(24,483)	8,375	(16,108)	13,799
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		212,032	47,955	259,987	246,188
Net movement in funds		(24,483)	8,375	(16,108)	13,799
Total funds carried forward		187,549	56,330	243,879	259,987

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

The notes on pages 12 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

THE FORGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 04964286

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	169,731	177,678
		<u>169,731</u>	<u>177,678</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	12	10,872	9,380
Cash at bank and in hand		99,782	115,485
		<u>110,654</u>	<u>124,865</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(36,506)	(42,556)
Net current assets		<u>74,148</u>	<u>82,309</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>243,879</u>	<u>259,987</u>
Total net assets		<u>243,879</u>	<u>259,987</u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	14	56,330	47,955
Unrestricted funds	14	187,549	212,032
Total funds		<u>243,879</u>	<u>259,987</u>

THE FORGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 04964286

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024


The Company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



.....
Oliver Westmancott
(Chair of Trustees and Directors)

Date: 20 / 8 / 2025

The notes on pages 12 to 24 form part of these financial statements.

THE FORGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. General information

The Forge Community Church is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales, registered number 04964286. The registered office is The Old Chapel, Forward Green, Earl Stonham, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 5HP.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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 Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The Forge Community Church 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.

2.2 Going concern

The Directors have considered the Charity's position at the time of signing the financial statements, and in particular the Charity's forecasts and projections alongside its current financial position and cash available.

Based on this, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Charity will have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and at least twelve months from the date of signing these financial statements, they therefore continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing these financial statements.

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the Company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

THE FORGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 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 allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the company and include project management carried out at Headquarters.

Costs of generating funds are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the company's operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the company apportioned to charitable activities.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

2.5 Government grants

Government grants relating to tangible fixed assets are treated as deferred income and released to the Statement of financial activities over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned. Other grants are credited to the Statement of financial activities as the related expenditure is incurred.

2.6 Interest receivable

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

THE FORGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year.

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of any fixed asset may not be recoverable. Shortfalls between the carrying value of fixed assets and their recoverable amounts are recognised as impairments. Impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account.

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures and fittings	-	25% Reducing balance
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No depreciation is charged on the land and freehold property.

2.8 Debtors

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

2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and 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.

2.10 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.11 Financial instruments

The Company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

THE FORGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.12 Pensions

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the company to the fund in respect of the year.

2.13 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
Donations	331,968	54,594	386,562	387,289
Contribution to mission trips and activities	23,606	3,044	26,650	1,984
	<u>355,574</u>	<u>57,638</u>	<u>413,212</u>	<u>389,273</u>
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u>335,266</u>	<u>54,007</u>	<u>389,273</u>	

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Church activities	7,739	-	7,739	1,407
Other grants	-	17,600	17,600	12,600
	<u>7,739</u>	<u>17,600</u>	<u>25,339</u>	<u>14,007</u>
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u>1,407</u>	<u>12,600</u>	<u>14,007</u>	

5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Investment income	1,195	1,195	823
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u>823</u>	<u>823</u>	

6. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Grant funding of activities 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Church activities	262,746	18,000	123,542	404,288	356,044
Mission payments	-	48,998	2,568	51,566	34,260
	<u>262,746</u>	<u>66,998</u>	<u>126,110</u>	<u>455,854</u>	<u>390,304</u>
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u>229,139</u>	<u>52,216</u>	<u>108,949</u>	<u>390,304</u>	

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

6. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Church activities 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
Staff costs	220,912	220,912	206,032
Volunteer costs	677	677	1,164
Motor and travel	20,081	20,081	16,617
Staff development and recruitment	6,239	6,239	2,007
Bank interest and charges	1,001	1,001	1,110
Other direct costs	13,836	13,836	2,209
	<hr/> 262,746 <hr/>	<hr/> 262,746 <hr/>	<hr/> 229,139 <hr/>
<i>Total 2023</i>	<hr/> 229,139 <hr/>	<hr/> 229,139 <hr/>	

THE FORGE COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

6. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Church activities 2024 £	Mission Payments 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Depreciation	12,597	-	12,597	11,763
Books and materials	4,150	-	4,150	5,094
Refreshments	12,060	-	12,060	4,032
Equipment	6,953	-	6,953	6,733
Mission trip support costs	-	2,568	2,568	44
Hall hire	37,882	-	37,882	29,948
Water	321	-	321	129
Insurance	5,816	-	5,816	3,509
Light and heat	3,843	-	3,843	812
Telephone	2,284	-	2,284	2,000
Repairs and maintenance	4,893	-	4,893	6,614
Subscriptions	4,514	-	4,514	5,989
Advertising	680	-	680	292
Independent examiner's fee	3,360	-	3,360	3,180
Legal and professional fees	8,903	-	8,903	3,500
Charity donations	-	-	-	2,676
Visiting speakers	250	-	250	1,150
Events and outings	2,147	-	2,147	3,004
Services bought in	8,712	-	8,712	8,690
Office expenses	4,177	-	4,177	9,511
Bad debt	-	-	-	279
	<u>123,542</u>	<u>2,568</u>	<u>126,110</u>	<u>108,949</u>
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u>108,905</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>108,949</u>	

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

7. Analysis of grants

	Grants to Institutions 2024 £	Grants to Individuals 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Church activities	18,000	-	18,000	18,000
Mission Payments	16,930	32,068	48,998	34,216
	<u>34,930</u>	<u>32,068</u>	<u>66,998</u>	<u>52,216</u>
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u>30,112</u>	<u>22,104</u>	<u>52,216</u>	

8. Independent examiner's remuneration

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees payable to the Company's independent examiner for the independent examination of the Company's annual accounts	<u>3,360</u>	<u>3,180</u>

9. Staff costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	202,136	189,272
Social security costs	12,972	11,179
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	5,804	5,581
	<u>220,912</u>	<u>206,032</u>

The average number of persons employed by the Company during the year was as follows:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Employees	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

Total key management personnel compensation for the year (including employer pension contributions) was £33,581 (2023 - £31,689), plus the related National Insurance amounting to £3,225 (2023 - £2,971).

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10. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, one Director has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Company. Remuneration has been paid to the Director in the role as Senior Leader. The Director has been paid under the provision included in the the governing document of the charity.

		2024 £	2023 £
Stephen Fenning	Remuneration	32,607	30,770
	Pension contributions paid	974	919

During the year ended 31 December 2024, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2023 - £NIL).

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 January 2024	140,000	215,647	355,647
Additions	-	4,650	4,650
At 31 December 2024	140,000	220,297	360,297
Depreciation			
At 1 January 2024	-	177,969	177,969
Charge for the year	-	12,597	12,597
At 31 December 2024	-	190,566	190,566
Net book value			
At 31 December 2024	140,000	29,731	169,731
At 31 December 2023	140,000	37,678	177,678

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

12. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	400	-
Other debtors	6,521	5,115
Prepayments and accrued income	3,951	4,265
	<u>10,872</u>	<u>9,380</u>

13. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	11,129	8,467
Other taxation and social security	4,305	3,955
Other creditors	17,262	17,020
Accruals and deferred income	3,810	13,114
	<u>36,506</u>	<u>42,556</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

14. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
Unrestricted funds				
General Funds	212,032	364,508	(388,991)	187,549
Restricted funds				
Restricted Fund	47,955	75,238	(66,863)	56,330
Total of funds	259,987	439,746	(455,854)	243,879

Restricted funds are held for the following purposes:

- Away in a Hamper - annual Christmas appeal to provide families in need with Christmas dinner
- Postbox Project - addressing rural isolation through regular correspondence
- Child Sponsorship - ensuring the poorest children in Maposa, Zambia receive one good meal a day
- Hardship Fund - making grants for essential expenditure to families in need
- Storage Facilities - for the Moses Project and the Furniture Bank
- The Base - open access youth provision in Debenham
- Benevity - Kids work at The Forge
- Volunteer Support - providing ID lanyards and official T-shirts for public-facing volunteers
- Guatemala - for the 2025 mission trip to Guatemala
- Ukraine - funds held from the 2022 appeal for supporting Ukrainian refugees in Suffolk
- David & Jill Simpson Grant - grant towards costs of the Lunch Club for older residents held monthly in Debenham.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

14. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	<i>Balance at 1 January 2023 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 December 2023 £</i>
Unrestricted funds					
General Funds	235,235	337,496	(357,609)	(3,090)	212,032
Restricted funds					
Restricted Fund	10,953	66,607	(32,695)	3,090	47,955
Total of funds	<u>246,188</u>	<u>404,103</u>	<u>(390,304)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>259,987</u>

Restricted funds as at the end of 2023 were held for the following purposes:

- Away in a Hamper - annual Christmas appeal to provide families in need with Christmas dinner
- Postbox Project - addressing rural isolation through regular correspondence
- Child Sponsorship - ensuring the poorest children in Maposa, Zambia, receive one good meal a day
- Storage Facilities - for the Moses Project and the Furniture Bank
- The Base - open access youth provision in Debenham
- Benevity - Kids work at The Forge
- Volunteer Support - providing ID lanyards and official T-shirts for public-facing volunteers

15. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	169,731	-	169,731
Current assets	54,324	56,330	110,654
Creditors due within one year	(36,506)	-	(36,506)
Total	<u>187,549</u>	<u>56,330</u>	<u>243,879</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

15. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2023 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2023 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	177,678	-	177,678
Current assets	76,910	47,955	124,865
Creditors due within one year	(42,556)	-	(42,556)
Total	212,032	47,955	259,987

16. Pension commitments

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amounted to £5,804 (2023 - £5,581). Contributions totalling £1,092 (2023 - £1,065) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

17. Operating lease commitments

At 31 December 2024 the Company had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Not later than 1 year	28,204	21,700
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	2,106	4,050
	30,310	25,750

18. Related party transactions

During the year £744 (2023 - £NIL) was paid to close family members of Trustee Michael Walsh for cleaning services.

There are no further related party transactions in the year that require disclosure (2023 - £NIL), other than those disclosed in note 10.