

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05571316 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1111765

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024
FOR
SOLIHULL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

LDP Luckmans
1110 Elliott Court
Coventry Business Park
Herald Avenue
Coventry
West Midlands
CV5 6UB

SOLIHULL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The Charitable Objects of Solihull Christian Fellowship ("SCF") are:

1. the advancement of the Christian faith (in accordance with the statement of faith set out in Article 34 of the Articles) and the worship of God in the United Kingdom and around the world by any lawful means whatsoever;
 2. the relief of persons who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress or who are aged or sick;
 3. to promote the development of children and young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities;
 4. to promote public education in matters concerning marriage, parenting, family life and relationships with a view to strengthening and enriching family life; and
 5. the promotion of such other charitable purpose as the Board shall from time to time determine.
- Our aim is to be a church family and to achieve our Charitable Objects through our relationships with one another, the local community and further afield.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

The purpose of our charitable company is the advancement of the Christian faith and the support of those in need especially young people, families and the elderly. The vision of the Fellowship is to see transformation in the life of the local and wider community and to communicate the message that everyone can 'belong, believe and become' in Christ.

1.1 The advancement of the Christian faith (in accordance with the statement of faith set out in Article 34 of the Articles) and the worship of God in the United Kingdom and around the world by any lawful means whatsoever.

A key aspect of our advancement of the Christian faith takes place in our weekly Sunday morning gatherings where over 150 adults plus approximately 60 children gather together for public worship followed by the preaching of the Word of God for adults and age appropriate groups for children. During the early part of the year we looked at Christ's love and the different ways it compelled us, adopts us, grows us and brings freedom. We later began a teaching series on The Sermon on the Mount - Jesus pivotal teaching to His disciples which took us into 2024.

As well as morning gatherings, each month the church met fortnightly in the evenings for times of prayer and for times of prophetic worship, growing together in worship and ministry. Midweek groups, renamed "Life-groups" continued where as many members of the church as possible meet together in homes or at ~The Bridge in small groups, for prayer, fellowship and discipleship. Each group has its own distinct identity, one group being just for women, one with a focus on Bible study and another on those in their 20s. During the reporting period we launched 3 new Life-Groups and want to continue to see this number grow so that every new person to the church can be connected into a Life-group.

Other church meetings include our Wednesday service Love Acceptance and Healing, a weekly ladies prayer meeting and a monthly prayer for the persecuted church. We also have a craft group for women and a group specifically for the elderly to come and play games and socialise with each other. We also ran another Alpha course for those interested in exploring the Christian faith.

Another highlight from this year was to have a Women's conference which was held at Red Hill Christian Centre. We had a guest speaker and worship leader and the women enjoyed time together to look at the different seasons of their lives.

1.2 The relief of persons who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress or who are aged or sick;

Our Community Lunch continues to grow with new people coming each week to receive a free two-course lunch and spend time with others. People come from a variety of backgrounds, some in need of a hot meal and others more wanting the company and the opportunity to share a meal with others. We also support around a dozen families with additional food parcels and regularly have additional items to give away through our partnership with Fareshare and with Neighbourly, a scheme that also gives supermarket waste to charities. Whilst we are not a registered food bank, we do have several people in need who will regularly come and ask for help, sometimes help with paperwork or to use the telephone to speak to companies or the local council.

We have a monthly visit from the Citizens Advice Bureau who will come during the lunch to answer queries and give additional support. We also are visited weekly by the homeless support Team who are there to help anyone homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Before the lunch, we regularly run a Bereavement Support group to help those struggling with loss of grief. We have run this course numerous times and it has been a real help and support to many people, some doing the course more than once.

For the elderly our weekly Tuesday Club offers games, a quiz, friendship, and refreshments. Numbers of attendees are growing and it is great to see friendships develop and people support one another. Our life groups also offer that friendship and support especially when people need help with meals or lifts when illness or difficult circumstances arise.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The church continues to celebrate key events in the church calendar and take the opportunity to engage with the community. Over Easter, the Walk of witness engages all the church in Shirley as we carry a cross down the high street and read accounts of the Easter story. At Christmas our outdoor carols service attracts several hundred and we also provide Christmas lunch on Christmas Day to anyone who would otherwise be on their own.

Each year we set aside an amount to offer regular financial support to charities that align with our ethos as a Church and a charity, these charities include Open Doors, Gilgal, Care for the Family among others. During the reporting period we gave a total of £16,187.00. Alongside this, we also created a fund for individuals who are in need of financial assistance, this year we gave £7,189 to those who qualified.

We continue to support other local charities and statutory organisations who use our building weekly such as Family Equip, supporting young people with autism, Shine Youth, for young people needing additional support with their wellbeing, Narcotics UK and Solihull Integrated Addiction Services who provide counselling and support groups for those with addiction or their family members.

1.3 To promote the development of children and young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.

a) Birth to Reception

Solihull Christian Fellowship runs an extensive programme of groups and clubs for children from birth up to 18 throughout the week. As we move through the age range, we offer groups on Sundays for reception, infants, primary and senior school ages. Each group provides an age-appropriate environment where they receive love and care through their local church. As the children grow older, their times together are more focused on the Christian message and how to live as Christ Followers in our society.

To carry on our success from the past, we continue to run two sessions of Babies@thebridge every Wednesday afternoon. Babies@thebridge is a class for parents/carers and their babies to come and engage in movement sessions. This group helps mums/carers engage with their babies and supports the bonding process. Unlike other similar offerings, Babies@thebridge has an extended time so parents can socialise with one another and with the staff team. Through these relationships we have seen some parents engaging in other activities in the church.

Story Fun, which runs every Wednesday morning, is a similar group for pre-school children that help parents/carers engage with their children through age-appropriate literature. There is also opportunity to learn through play-based activities. Both these groups provide opportunities for babies and young children to bond with their adults, whether it is parent, grandparent, or carer. We see this as an important part of supporting family life.

We have also started to host a babies' group during our Sunday service which has attracted parents from our Wednesday programmes. We are hoping that with parents coming more often, a deeper relationship could be established and through that, they will have the opportunity to know Jesus more and receive God's gospel.

The number of babies attending Babies@thebridge has grown from an average of 12 to average of 20 while Story Fun maintained an average of mid 30s thanks to our social media news as well as organisations who have hired our venue who have helped spread the news of our events. Our Sunday school for babies has grown from 2-3 to an average of 12 babies and toddlers thanks to our Babies@thebridge on Wednesdays and word of mouth between friends.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

b) Primary aged children (Year 1 to 6)

Our groups are split into different age ranges, and our United group is for children in Primary School Years 3 to 6 - they meet every Friday during term time and the heart of the group is to provide a safe space for any child, regardless of church experience and faith, to meet with other children and adults in a warm, secure and fun environment. There is a real sense of family within this Friday group and children feel comfortable bringing their friends. The team work well together and are experienced in working with children from different backgrounds, with varying needs - and have built a strong relationship with the parents who bring their children to United. The group has some free time at the start, where children can spend time together, playing games, using our pool table, table football, various board games or colouring and then there is a teaching time where we cover varying topics to encourage the children to learn about themselves, those around them and form better relationships with their friends and wider society.

We also offer a range of other activities for the Primary and Youth age groups. We have a well-established singing group/choir called Making Melody, which consists of School Years 3 to 13 and is for children who want to learn to sing with a group. The group has become a popular feature for our All-Age services and various pivotal events throughout the Christian calendar, most obviously, Christmas and Easter. Due to the popularity of this group, we also now have a dance and movement group, called Making Movement, who also perform at regular intervals in our Sunday church services and includes adults as well as those in school years 3 to 13.

Our United group teaches the children about the importance of community and their responsibilities as citizens, not only of their local area, but as citizens of God's kingdom on earth. We have had a number of sessions whereby we have invited different members of the church to come and do a craft activity with the children and have also made Christmas gifts and cards for the more mature members of our church, namely the Tuesday Club. In addition to having a number of children with additional needs in our groups, this also contributes to them learning to respect our individual differences regardless of background.

In addition to mid-week activities for Years 3 - 6, we also have a number of events throughout the year, which are opportunities for the children to meet together. Every other month, we hold a teddy bears picnic for the children (but any age is welcome) which takes place during the church picnic (first Sunday of each month). We also have an annual retreat weekend for the United group and hold events like a Light Party, Christmas crafts, movie nights, school holiday drop in sessions etc which are a great way to provide opportunities to welcome children from the community into our group activities.

Once the children reach Year 6, we support them to transition into our youth group, Surround.

c) Youth (Year 7 - 13)

Throughout the reporting period we continued to see strong numbers attend our Sunday discipleship group and our midweek youth group, with approx. 25-30 in attendance at each event each week. In total we engage with over 50 young people on a weekly basis.

At the end of July, the Youth Pastor stepped down from their employed role in the organisation. We underwent two rounds of recruiting, however, did not receive a suitable applicant to fill the position. Our Lead Pastor took overall responsibility for the age group and supported the team of volunteers. From September we were able to employ a Youth Support Worker on a smaller number of hours. The successful candidate was from within the SCF church family and on a GAP year.

For our Sunday discipleship group where the focus is on building and equipping young people in their relationship with Jesus, we have moved on to the Energise curriculum. This has greatly enhanced our teaching and discipleship of the young people while still allowing us the freedom to structure the sessions in a way that supports the spiritual demographic of the group. We have also seen an increase in young people serving in different areas of the church on a Sunday and during the week. Serving in the church grows character and skills as well as connecting them into the wider church family. We will continue to encourage this in the youth group.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

In addition to this, a youth band was started that enabled a group of young people to lead worship on a Sunday morning at an All-Aged Service, as well as Easter Sunday. We also launched a monthly worship meeting during the Sunday youth group where the youth band has also been used.

Our midweek youth group's main purpose is creating a social space for fun, games and building relationships with one another. Most young people who regularly attend, are from: local schools, small local churches where the youth only number a few, along-side several young people from SCF church families. During the year, we introduced a regular 'God slot' where we seek to introduce God and how He is active and interested in our everyday lives. We looked at themes such as: anxiety, friendships, justice, war, the planet, as well as sharing the Gospel message with them.

As we move forward into the next year, we will need to look at how we best support our young people's discipleship journey given the numbers we have and the wider age range we cater for. This will likely need us to grow and strengthen the team who serve the young people.

1.4 To promote public education in matters concerning marriage, parenting, family life and relationships with a view to strengthening and enriching family life.

To further support parents, we started a new parenting group every Friday from February 2024 where parents come to share the difficulties and challenges they are facing when raising their children. Together we then share our knowledge on how to raise children with God's Kingdom in mind, hoping to establish a deeper relationship between parents and our team members. Positive feedback has been received from parents so far. Our new Friday parenting group currently has attracted on average 6 parents and we hope to grow into a sizable number in the future.

Public benefit

The trustees have had due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Volunteers

The charitable company continues to use volunteers in virtually all its activities and wishes to thank them all for their hard work and contributions in the last year.

Safeguarding Update

Over the past 12 months, we have successfully completed 15 Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks. Among these, 7 were for new volunteers. Currently, 2 DBS checks are awaiting the final steps to be completed by ThirtyOneEight and are expected to return within 14 days of this report.

Training is up to date with signed copies of the current SCF Safeguarding Code of Conduct.

Our ongoing efforts include encouraging all volunteers to sign up for the DBS Update Service. By doing so, they can keep their DBS certificates up-to-date and easily transfer them between roles. This not only streamlines the renewal process but also reduces costs.

Regarding safeguarding, we remain vigilant. Both volunteers and non-volunteers engage in discussions with the Safeguarding team to ensure appropriate behaviour and compliance with safeguarding criteria during planned events. The "See something, say something" principle continues to guide our actions.

All concerns raised have been addressed and safely closed. We are closely monitoring one specific issue and will take action if necessary.

Our recent audit yielded satisfactory results, and we continuously refine our audit process after each cycle.

Lastly, we are actively seeking individuals who can support our Safeguarding efforts. While discussions have taken place with various individuals, we are still awaiting someone to join our team. We remain hopeful and continue to pray for the right match.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Internal and external factors

There are no additional factors other than recorded elsewhere in the Trustees report.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

This last financial year saw an overall positive financial result for Solihull Christian Fellowship. The accounts show income of £257,616 and expenditure of £229,374 giving positive cash flow of £28,242.

Regular Giving is our largest contributor towards income, which was a total of £163,719. This was above predicted regular giving income. We have also seen an income of £7,526 as a result of ad-hoc giving whereby members have donated significant contributions as one-off gifts. Through gift aid donations, we have also been able to receive an additional £28,015. Continued use of the building enables generation of revenue through room hire which has also brought £36,633 of revenue this financial year. Whilst this is an excellent revenue stream for SCF to also provide further support to our community, the Directors are also aware that each external room hire restricts room capacity for the members of the church to utilise the space. As a result, we look to maintain a level of control on room hire which will always limit the amount of income available.

As a result it's clear that Regular Giving remains a significant area of revenue which enables SCF to provide the services it delivers with financial stability. Whilst SCF is in a positive cash position at the end of this financial year, we continue to monitor and reflect on both the sources of our regular income and the stewardship of where we spend the money that is available to us.

Our expenditure supports a number of activities including Staff Costs, Ministry Activities, Administrative and Building related costs. Our total expenditure this financial year of £229,374 has come to 2% under expected budget.

The budget for the next financial year has been set and the directors plan to continue to carefully manage the resources trusted to us to support the activities of SCF.

Principal funding sources

The principal ongoing funding is provided by way of donations from members of the church.

Reserves policy

Our reserves policy is to cover 3 months average expenditure based on a sudden downturn in expected revenue. For the year ended 31st March 2024, this reserve fund is £55,945. Over the financial year, an additional review has confirmed the reserve level remains appropriate to provide financial support in a downturn to our financial situation. In addition, the Directors have designated an additional fund to support one off emergency building related work of £30,900 to meet increasing demands on repair and replacement commitments arising from the building.

LOOKING FORWARD

As we move forward, we will be developing our activity through our small groups, known as Life-Groups. Taking the work we do out into the 'marketplace'. We want our Life Groups to be a primary focus for discipleship, fellowship, and Spiritual growth. We want to see Life-Groups be the place from which church members can reach out to those in need and connect them with the church on a Spiritual, physical, and emotional level. As this grows, our central activities will be informed by the needs identified through those relationships and connections developed in our Life Groups.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

New trustees are recruited from amongst the church membership and are selected so they may contribute to the mix of skills and balance of the Board of Trustees as a whole. The trustees are appointed in accordance with the charitable company's Articles of Association.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational structure

Employed Staff 2023-24

Ben Lees	Lead Pastor
Andrea Lowndes	Associate Pastor
Sally Hart	Children's Worker
Berry Ho	Children's Worker (From 1 September 2023)
James Cook	Youth Pastor (resigned July 2023)
Samuel Lees	Youth assistant (temporary contract from 1 September 2023)
Mable Melt	Administration Clerk/Finance Clerk
Karen Beresford	Housekeeping
Heather Cole	Site Support (resigned March 2023)

Induction and training of new trustees

All newly appointed trustees are given a comprehensive induction to the general operation and financial management of the charitable company. All trustees are also given the opportunity to undertake further training with regard to relevant activities carried out by the charitable company.

Wider network

The charitable company is a member of the Evangelical Alliance and Shirley Churches Together, and has involvement with a number of Christian organisations around the world, including: Open Doors, TEAR (The Evangelical Alliance Relief) Fund), Caleb Ministries, Mission24 and International Connections

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Areas the charitable company and trustees continue to give particular attention to in terms of risk management include:

- our safeguarding policy
- our health and safety policy
- our compliance with new GDPR legislation

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

05571316 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1111765

Registered office

The Bridge
234 Stratford Road
Shirley
Solihull
West Midlands
B90 3AG

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31 March 2024**

Trustees

R C Wood Vice Chair
A G Cave Chair
B Lees
D Shore
S H Cordon
D Court Builder (appointed 15.2.24)
M Morgan Bullock Solicitor (appointed 22.11.23)
A Lung Accountant (appointed 22.11.23)

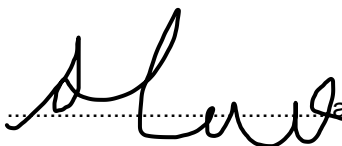
Independent Examiner

LDP Luckmans
1110 Elliott Court
Coventry Business Park
Herald Avenue
Coventry
West Midlands
CV5 6UB

Solicitors

Anthony Collins LLP
134 Edmund Street
Birmingham
B3 2ES

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



.....
A G Cave - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
SOLIHULL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Solihull Christian Fellowship ('the Company')

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also 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 your charity's accounts as 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 your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the 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.

M D Spafford

LDP Luckmans
1110 Elliott Court
Coventry Business Park
Herald Avenue
Coventry
West Midlands
CV5 6UB

Date:28/06/2024.....

SOLIHULL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	3	213,678	6,643	220,321	223,849
Charitable activities					
General		36,634	-	36,634	26,708
Investment income	4	661	-	661	252
Total		<u>250,973</u>	<u>6,643</u>	<u>257,616</u>	<u>250,809</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
General		30,235	-	30,235	25,636
Church		149,210	5,582	154,792	150,808
Youth groups		26,073	9	26,082	37,070
Children and families		18,265	-	18,265	14,091
Total		<u>223,783</u>	<u>5,591</u>	<u>229,374</u>	<u>227,605</u>
NET INCOME		27,190	1,052	28,242	23,204
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		1,669,291	169,028	1,838,319	1,815,115
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>1,696,481</u></u>	<u><u>170,080</u></u>	<u><u>1,866,561</u></u>	<u><u>1,838,319</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**BALANCE SHEET
31 March 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	10	1,629,611	167,213	1,796,824	1,798,465
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	11	11,581	-	11,581	10,970
Cash at bank and in hand		112,120	2,867	114,987	114,069
		<u>123,701</u>	<u>2,867</u>	<u>126,568</u>	<u>125,039</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	12	(18,491)	-	(18,491)	(16,181)
		<u>105,210</u>	<u>2,867</u>	<u>108,077</u>	<u>108,858</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>105,210</u>	<u>2,867</u>	<u>108,077</u>	<u>108,858</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>1,734,821</u>	<u>170,080</u>	<u>1,904,901</u>	<u>1,907,323</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	13	(38,340)	-	(38,340)	(69,004)
		<u>1,696,481</u>	<u>170,080</u>	<u>1,866,561</u>	<u>1,838,319</u>
NET ASSETS					
		<u>1,696,481</u>	<u>170,080</u>	<u>1,866,561</u>	<u>1,838,319</u>
FUNDS	16				
Unrestricted funds				1,696,481	1,669,291
Restricted funds				<u>170,080</u>	<u>169,028</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>1,866,561</u>	<u>1,838,319</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.


The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

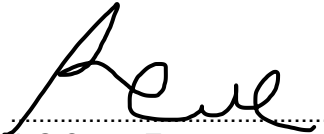
BALANCE SHEET - continued
31 March 2024

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

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



.....
B Lees - Trustee



.....
A G Cave - Trustee

SOLIHULL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. CHARITY INFORMATION

The charitable company is Limited by Guarantee, and is registered in England and Wales.

The registered office is:
The Bridge
234 Stratford Road
Shirley
Solihull
B90 3AG

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, 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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Until payment is received based on the entitlement, the asset is recognised as a debtor in the financial statements.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Once a liability has been recognised as an expense, it will be recognised as a creditor until payment is made.

Charitable activities

The charitable company operates four main activities. These are Church, Youth, Children, and general activities. Church activities relate to Sunday worship and related teachings and home groups. Youth activities relate to activities run specifically for young people between 11 and 18. Children's and families activities is for children up to 11 and for their families attending organised groups. General activities covers the remainder of the charitable company's work.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Support costs comprise service costs incurred centrally or for more than one activity in support of the activities. These are allocated in proportion to the estimated time and resources required by each charitable activity. The apportionments are reviewed annually.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings - 33% on cost and 20% on reducing balance

SOLIHULL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 March 2024

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets

In respect of the freehold property, the trustees have determined that the annual depreciation charge under this policy is immaterial based on the current estimated residual value of the property at the balance sheet date.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at their original cost plus the cost of bringing the asset into use.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Designated funds are recognised where the trustees have identified a specific purpose for funds, and these are shown separately within unrestricted funds.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals payable under operating lease commitments are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred.

3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	113,535	105,181
Gift aided donations	106,786	118,668
	<u>220,321</u>	<u>223,849</u>

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>661</u>	<u>252</u>

SOLIHULL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 March 2024

5. SUPPORT COSTS

	Premises and administration £	Governance costs £	Totals £
General	5,050	-	5,050
Church	52,387	2,361	54,748
Youth groups	17,463	787	18,250
Children and families	17,463	787	18,250
	<u>92,363</u>	<u>3,935</u>	<u>96,298</u>

Activity	Basis of allocation
Premises and administration	Allocated on the proportion of the activities use of support functions.
Governance costs	Allocated on the proportion of the activities use of support functions.

6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>1,920</u>	<u>2,347</u>

7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

	2024 £	2023 £
Trustees' salaries	42,809	41,163
Trustees' pensions paid	<u>3,920</u>	<u>3,920</u>
	<u>46,729</u>	<u>45,083</u>

Trustees remuneration is paid to B Lees. Mr Lees is the Lead Pastor of the Church and therefore acts as a director/trustee, with authority within the Memorandum and Articles of the charitable company.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2024 nor for the year ended 31 March 2023.

8. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
Ministry leaders	3	3
Administration	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>

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

No employee has been paid more than £60,000.

SOLIHULL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	217,550	6,299	223,849
Charitable activities			
General	26,708	-	26,708
Investment income	252	-	252
Total	<u>244,510</u>	<u>6,299</u>	<u>250,809</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
General	25,636	-	25,636
Church	142,819	7,989	150,808
Youth groups	34,575	2,495	37,070
Children and families	14,091	-	14,091
Total	<u>217,121</u>	<u>10,484</u>	<u>227,605</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	27,389	(4,185)	23,204
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	1,641,902	173,213	1,815,115
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>1,669,291</u></u>	<u><u>169,028</u></u>	<u><u>1,838,319</u></u>

10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Totals £
COST			
At 1 April 2023	1,789,059	106,937	1,895,996
Additions	-	279	279
At 31 March 2024	<u>1,789,059</u>	<u>107,216</u>	<u>1,896,275</u>
DEPRECIATION			
At 1 April 2023	-	97,531	97,531
Charge for year	-	1,920	1,920
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>99,451</u>	<u>99,451</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2024	<u><u>1,789,059</u></u>	<u><u>7,765</u></u>	<u><u>1,796,824</u></u>
At 31 March 2023	<u><u>1,789,059</u></u>	<u><u>9,406</u></u>	<u><u>1,798,465</u></u>

The freehold property with a carrying amount of £1,789,059 (2023: £1,789,059) is secured against the bank loan facility.

SOLIHULL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the year ended 31 March 2024

11. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	6,131	5,500
Other debtors	4,378	4,464
Prepayments	1,072	1,006
	<u>11,581</u>	<u>10,970</u>

12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts (see note 14)	14,540	11,890
Social security and other taxes	1,892	2,206
Accrued expenses	2,059	2,085
	<u>18,491</u>	<u>16,181</u>

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank loans (see note 14)	<u>38,340</u>	<u>69,004</u>

14. LOANS

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year on demand:		
Bank loans	<u>14,540</u>	<u>11,890</u>
Amounts falling due between two and five years:		
Bank loans - 2-5 years	<u>38,340</u>	<u>54,041</u>
Amounts falling due in more than five years:		
Repayable by instalments:		
Bank loans more 5 years	-	14,963

The bank loan is repayable in equal monthly instalments over the remaining term of the loan which is due to be repaid by July 2028. The current interest rate being applied to the loan is 7%.

Interest paid during the year was £5,050 (2023: £3,315).

SOLIHULL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 March 2024

15. SECURED DEBTS

The following secured debts are included within creditors:

	2024 £	2023 £
Bank loans	<u>52,880</u>	<u>80,894</u>

The bank loan facility is charged against the charitable company's freehold premises at 234 Stratford Road. The loan represents 2.96% (2022: 4.52%) of the net book value of the property.

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	95,738	28,834	(58,915)	65,657
Fixed Assets Fund	7,789	(1,644)	-	6,145
The Building Fund	1,542,164	-	28,015	1,570,179
The Sinking Fund	23,600	-	-	23,600
Emergency Building Work Fund	-	-	30,900	30,900
	<u>1,669,291</u>	<u>27,190</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,696,481</u>
Restricted funds				
Big Lottery Fund	166,000	-	-	166,000
Awards for All - SCF	154	(9)	-	145
Community Lunches Fund	2,874	1,061	-	3,935
	<u>169,028</u>	<u>1,052</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>170,080</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,838,319</u>	<u>28,242</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,866,561</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	250,973	(222,139)	28,834
Fixed Assets Fund	-	(1,644)	(1,644)
	<u>250,973</u>	<u>(223,783)</u>	<u>27,190</u>
Restricted funds			
Awards for All - SCF	-	(9)	(9)
Community Lunches Fund	6,643	(5,582)	1,061
	<u>6,643</u>	<u>(5,591)</u>	<u>1,052</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>257,616</u>	<u>(229,374)</u>	<u>28,242</u>

SOLIHULL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 March 2024

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.23 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	77,196	29,390	(10,848)	95,738
Fixed Assets Fund	9,790	(2,001)	-	7,789
The Building Fund	1,531,316	-	10,848	1,542,164
The Sinking Fund	23,600	-	-	23,600
	<u>1,641,902</u>	<u>27,389</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,669,291</u>
Restricted funds				
X-Stream	2,483	(2,483)	-	-
Big Lottery Fund	166,000	-	-	166,000
Awards for All - SCF	166	(12)	-	154
Murcutt Travel fund	542	(542)	-	-
Community Lunches Fund	3,808	(934)	-	2,874
Ukraine	214	(214)	-	-
	<u>173,213</u>	<u>(4,185)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>169,028</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,815,115</u>	<u>23,204</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,838,319</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	244,509	(215,119)	29,390
Fixed Assets Fund	1	(2,002)	(2,001)
	<u>244,510</u>	<u>(217,121)</u>	<u>27,389</u>
Restricted funds			
X-Stream	-	(2,483)	(2,483)
Awards for All - SCF	-	(12)	(12)
Murcutt Travel fund	-	(542)	(542)
Community Lunches Fund	6,299	(7,233)	(934)
Ukraine	-	(214)	(214)
	<u>6,299</u>	<u>(10,484)</u>	<u>(4,185)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>250,809</u>	<u>(227,605)</u>	<u>23,204</u>

The general funds represent the free funds of the charity which are not designated for specific purposes.

The Building Fund represents the property at 234 Stratford Road, less the remaining mortgage liabilities. The trustees have set up this fund to protect the value of the building being diminished.

The Fixed Assets Fund has been set up by the trustees to protect the value of the fixtures and fittings and other fixed assets, excluding the freehold property. It represents the net book value of the fixed assets of the charitable company.

SOLIHULL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 March 2024

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

The Sinking Fund is set aside by the trustees to meet repair and replacement commitments relating to the building. There is an expectation that the expenditure will need to be incurred within the next 24 months.

The Emergency Building work fund is to meet increasing demands on repair and replacement commitments arising from the building.

The Big Lottery Fund grant is also towards the redevelopment of 234 Stratford Road. The capital grant towards the cost of 234 Stratford Road is subject to a legal charge and therefore the restriction remains on this element of the income.

The X-Stream fund is the remaining balance from grant-funded youth activities. The trustees consider the purpose for which the funds were provided and will release the funds towards specific expenditure for the Youth activity.

Awards for All is a capital grant towards the fitting out of the children's facilities at 234 Stratford Road. The grant income will be offset by the depreciation of the equipment purchased with the grant.

The Community Lunches Fund is a National Lottery funded project to provide lunches to vulnerable individuals within the community.

Transfers between funds

As part of how the trustees deal with the designation of funds towards the Building Fund, funds are transferred from General Funds to enable the mortgage repayments to be made, or are transferred to the Fixed Asset Fund to reflect capital improvements. During the year, transfers totalling £28,015 were made from General Funds to the Building Fund.

17. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2024.