

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN GREAT CROSBY CHARITABLE TRUST

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS – 1 JANUARY 2023 to 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2022	2023
INCOME		
Refreshments	81748	88637
Books / Cards	564	795
Donations	5664	3478
Rents	1238	875
Events – Teas	1102	1899
Interest	9	248
Amazon	12	30
Gift Aid	753	895
Grant for heaters		5000
 TOTAL	 91090	 101857
 EXPENDITURE		
Food & Drink	19114	20957
Wages	49058	53302
Electricity & Water	6461	6066
Telephone	847	913
Rent	3000	1000
Cleaning	1600	1403
Maintenance	1127	2515
Insurance	1110	1222
Equipment	3327	1898
New Heaters		5200
St Lukes patio		250
Sundries	490	305
Petrol /Transport	65	55
Gifts & flowers	500	600
PRS Licence / ICO	139	65
Stationery	200	360
Card Fees	539	671
 TOTAL	 <u>87577</u>	 <u>96782</u>
 Net Surplus/Deficit	 3513	 5075
Less Depreciation Charge	2000	2000
 Surplus (deficit) for Year	 1513	 3075

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

FIXED ASSETS	2022	2023
Leasehold Land & Property	62000	60000
CURRENT ASSETS		
Bank Accounts	26189	31188
Petty Cash	145	151
Banking in transit	394	464
Stock	1412	1412
TOTAL ASSETS	90140	93215
ACCUMULATION FUND		
Balance as at 1 Jan 2023	90140	
Plus surplus for Year	3075	
Balance as at 31 Dec 2023	93215	

Accounts to 31/12/23 were presented by MS to the meeting having been examined by Graham Murphy of Crosby Lions.

- The year was our second full year of trade following the impact of Covid over the past years and it is very pleasing to see sales turnover at a record level of £88,637 (£81,748) with total income at £101,857 (£91,090).
- Donations stood at £3,478 (£5,664) but it should be remembered that in 2022, we had 3 years of the annual £1,000 donation from St Lukes to help cover our rent. Tithing contributions stood at just over £1,100 emphasising the importance of this valuable source of income.
- Our Christmas evening raised £798 an excellent contribution once again.
- Net effect of the above was a surplus of £5,075 (£3,513) and with the depreciation charge of £2,000 our reserves improved by £3,075 which is one of our best years of trade.
- Cash balances increased from £26,728 to £31,803
- We continue to invest in the premises and with the help of a grant of £5,000 raised by our Finance Manager, Richard Norris, we were able to upgrade to more efficient heaters which not only cut down on our energy bills but also maintain a warm and safe environment for all our customers.
- Once again, it is pertinent to acknowledge the contribution from some of our key staff.
- The Finance Manager / Company Secretary has overseen the Health & Safety issues as well as managing the claims under Gift Aid which have ensured we have been able to meet our Health & Safety guidelines as well as managing our cash flow.
- Our managers have continued with their excellent service to the local community. Without their unstinting support which extends well beyond the contracted hours, Crossroads would not have been able to enjoy the financial results as portrayed in these accounts.
- We are grateful to Geoff & Pam Stubbs who have continued the initiative established by Harry and Nora Harwood which effectively sees the bookstall and cards stocked free of charge to Crossroads so that every pound of sales filters through as surplus income.
- Rent receipts were down slightly from £1,238 to £875 and we continue to look for suitable new tenants to gain additional income outside of café hours.
- Charity Commission guidelines suggest cash reserves should be 50% of running costs and we strive to build cash to a level of £40,000 to meet this commitment.
- Whilst a number of fund raising initiatives have been held over the last few years, the longer term security of Crossroads from a financial perspective will be achieved if we can raise further awareness of this valuable ecumenical initiative and increase the number of people tithing each month.
- Since we launched this initiative, the annual tithes are running at £1,100 which is reduced slightly from a peak of £1,200 so we do need to continue to push for more support to secure the long term future of Crossroads.
- Whilst this is an encouraging year, we are conscious that with turnover at the levels quoted, we need to register for VAT which will have a knock on effect on our prices

as will the minimum wage increases and ongoing energy costs. This will be tracked by the Trustees in 2024.

Independent examiner's report to the
CHURCHES TOGETHER IN GREAT CROSBY CHARITABLE TRUST

Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2023

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (The Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to

- a) Examine the accounts under section 145 of The Charities Act*
- b) To follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act)*
- c) State whether particular matters have come to my attention.*

Basis of the Independent Examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commissioner. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Trustees and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair" view, and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

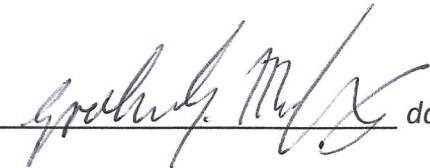
Independent Examiners Statement

In Connection with my examination of the account, no matter has come to my attention

1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements have not been met:

- a) To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act
- b) To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act;

2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed  date 23rd March 2024
Independent Examiner

Name CRAITAM MURPHY

Address 30 ROSEMOOR DRIVE
CROSBY
LIVERPOOL
L23 9XQ