

New Life Church, Biggleswade

**TRUSTEE'S REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

Charity Registration No. 1121027

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New Life Church, Biggleswade

Trustees' annual report for the period:

From: April 1st. 2022

To: March 31st. 2023

Charity name:

New Life Church, Biggleswade

Charity registration number:

1121027

Objectives and activities

The charitable purpose of New Life Church according to our foundational document is, "The advancement of the Christian faith and the relief of need for the public benefit. New Life Church is seeking to build a community where everyone is welcomed and accepted. It's a sanctuary where people grow in faith together, love one another, develop one other, and teach and demonstrate to people who Jesus is."

The wider community is served via outreach work and through activities mentioned below in our key activities.

The trustees are following the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit through the stated activities:

Achievements and performance

Newlife Church returned to normality between April 2022 and March 2023. The following below outlines our activities during this period and includes our key achievements and performance.

Over the past year, our church has been a hub of spiritual growth, community engagement, and meaningful connections.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN YEAR

- Launched the Freedom in Christ course and completed in 23/24.
- Engaged a number of visiting speakers through out the year that delivered powerful and inspirational messages.
- Church leadership coaching sessions and pastors and leaders retreat attendance in West Sussex
- Continuous ongoing pastoral, charity and missionary support
- Successful implementation of a monthly café style church service
- Regular monthly family meetings via Zoom
- Ran a spirit led worship and prayer meeting via Zoom called Mission Control
- Weekly Life groups evolved back to face to face and a hybrid group.
- Organised various summer and winter activities; for example; the Newlife festival, pancake social evening, annual carol service, Christmas party and quiz nights.
- Participated in joint events with Churches together; remembrance parade, world prayer day and Vigil in town
- Continuous collaboration with Compassion UK as church members sponsored several children.
- Initiation of the Friday morning devotionals.

Financial review

In 2022-23 income was £48,984 (£70,943 in the previous year) as gift aided income and regular giving to the church decreased because of reduction in the members of the church that made donations as members exited

the church. There was a steady average income of about £3,200 a month (£4,400 a month in the previous year) this had a major impact on the decrease also of the gift aid income to £9,342 from (£15,816 in the previous year). Expenditure was £70,108 (£61,496), the increase can be mainly attributed to a full year allocation of rents and other face to face expenditure returning to normal after the shutdown. Also, lump sum back pay owed arrears to a staff member.

The trustees reviewed the reserves policy and the previous designated fund has been returned to the general fund as the previous original designation is now not being furthered.

After reviewing the current financial position; £20,000 has been allocated to reserves because of the declining income situation.

The Reserves policy will be reviewed on a quarterly basis to ensure it is relevant and up to date.

Future plans

1. Implement the operational running of the church to the house church approach.
2. Strengthen the discipleship understanding by harnessing the power of 'Discovery Bible Studies' and deepen the spiritual connection through increased prayer initiatives.
3. Run training for core church members to learn and implement Disciple Making Movements (DMM.)
4. Develop plans to increase giving and look at creative ways to raise money for the church with different initiatives. Contactless ways of giving are already being investigated.
5. Proactively exploring cost effective venues and other ways of reducing costs until giving is back up to the desired levels required.
6. To exit the affiliation with Catalyst, New Frontiers and their related eldership and spiritual guidance.
7. To establish new ties and affiliation with DMM for eldership and spiritual guidance.
8. To establish a new leadership to support the operational church model.

Structure, governance, and management

The charity is a "Charitable Trust with a Spiritual Leadership and 5 trustees. Trustees are selected from those who have the requisite governance skills and interpersonal skills to effect change, development, and progress.

Reference and administrative details

Name: New Life Church, Biggleswade

Also known as: Findnewlife

Registered Charity: 1121027

Charity Address: 4 Cleveland Way; Great Ashby, Hertfordshire SG1 6BZ

Church Leaders: Mr Alf Ringwood and a leadership team of Elders.

Administrator: Mrs Amanda Ringwood

Trustees:

Trustee name	Office:	Dates if not whole year:	Appointed by:
Banji Ajibowu	Trustee		Elders

Margaret Osibowale	Treasurer		Elders
Brian Gibbins	Trustee		Elders
Derek Brister	Trustee		Elders
Ian Lovell	Trustee		Elders

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:



Margaret Osibowale

Dated : 11/11/2023

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF NEW LIFE CHURCH

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 7 - 12

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

- 1) the accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act;
- 2) accounts do not accord with those records, or
- 3) the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of account as set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Dated: 29th September 2023

Mervyn Thomas
128 Putnoe Lane
Bedford
MK41 8LS

Section A Statement of financial activities for the period 01/04/2022 to 31/03/2023

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
Categories of activity	Funds	Funds	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources Note 3				
Voluntary income	48,144	840	48,984	70,943
Total incoming resources	48,144	840	48,984	70,943
Outgoing resources Note 4				
Costs of Generating Funds	423	-	423	251
Charitable activities	67,901	840	69,685	61,245
Total resources expended	68,324	840	70,108	61,496
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers	(20,180)	-	(21,124)	9,447
Gross transfers between funds Note 8	20,000	(20,000)	-	-
Net movement in funds	(180)	(20,000)	(21,124)	9,447
Total funds brought forward	15,067	72,000	87,067	77,620
Total funds carried forward	14,887	52,000	65,943	87,067

Section B Balance sheet for the year ended 31/03/2023

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Funds	Funds	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets Note 5	581	-	581	196
Current assets				
Cash at bank and in hand	14,306	52,000	66,306	87,071
Total current assets	14,887	52,000	66,887	87,267
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year Note 6	-	-	-	(200)
Net current assets/(liabilities)	14,887	52,000	66,887	87,067
Net assets	14,887	52,000	66,887	87,067

Funds of the Charity

Unrestricted funds	14,887		14,887	15,067
Restricted income funds Note7		52,000	52,000	72,000
Total funds	14,887	52,000	66,887	87,067

Signed by Margaret Osibowale on behalf of the trustees:



Margaret Osibowale

Dated: 11/11/2023

1 BASIS OF PREPARATION

1.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognized at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with:

- the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable
- and with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).
- and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

The Charity is a going concern. Income generation through members' donations is maintaining adequate reserves.

1.3 Change of accounting policy

The accounts present a true and fair view and the accounting policies adopted are those outlined in note 2.

1.4 Changes to accounting estimates

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred in the reporting period (3.46 FRS 102 SORP).

2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

2.1 Income

Recognition of income

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- it is more likely than not that the Trustees will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenses unless required or permitted by the FRS 102 SORP or FRS 102.

Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS 102 SORP).

There are no performance-related grants.

Note 3 INCOME	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds £	Funds £	2023 £	2022 £
Donations	38,802	840	39,642	55,127
Gift Aid	9,342	-	9,342	15,816
TOTAL INCOME	48,144	840	48,984	70,943

Note 4 EXPENDITURE	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds £	Funds £	2023 £	2022 £
Publicity	423	-	423	251
Total expenditure on generating funds	423	-	423	251
Salaries	39,766	-	39,766	33,688
Employers National Insurance	3,310	-	3,310	2,801
Pensions	1,651	-	1,651	3,301
Guest Speakers	-	-	-	50
Expenses, Training	697	-	697	888
Resources	134	-	134	69
Rents	9,941	-	9,941	6,061
Equipment	419	-	419	1,663
Depreciation	646	-	646	440
Administration and office	2,735	-	2,735	2,382
Bank Charges	72	-	72	98
Pastoral	798	-	798	357
Children and Youth	250	-	250	262
Catering and Events	2,335	-	2,335	1,973
Social Action			944	
International Donations	2,572	840	3,412	3,112
Catalyst Network Contribution	2,400	-	2,400	3,900
Governance	175	-	175	200
Total expenditure on charitable activities	67,901	840	69,685	61,245
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	68,324	840	70,108	61,496

Note 5 Creditors and accruals

	Amounts falling due within one year	
Analysis of creditors	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	175	200
Total	175	200

Note 6 Tangible fixed assets (Electronic Equipment)

Cost or valuation	2023	2022
	£	£
At the beginning of the year	2,198	2,198
Additions	1,031	-
At end of the year	3,229	2,198
Depreciation and impairments		
Depreciation rate straight line at	20%	20%
At beginning of the year	2,002	1,562
Depreciation	646	440
At end of the year	2,648	2,002
Net book value		
Net book value at the beginning of the year	196	636
Net book value at the end of the year	581	196

Note 7 FUNDS ANALYSIS

7.1 Movements of all funds summarised in the Statement of Financial Activities for the current year.

Fund Name	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted General Church	15,067	48,144	(68,324)	20,000	14,887
Restricted To the Nations Fund	-	612	(612)	-	-
Designated Building Fund	72,000			(20,000)	52,000
Total Funds	87,067	48,756	(68,936)	-	66,887

7.2 Reason for Fund Transfers.

£20,000 was transferred from the designated Building fund back to the general fund following a year in which general reserves had fallen to below policy.

7.3 Movements of all funds summarised in the Statement of Financial Activities for the previous year.

Fund Name	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Transfers	Fund balances carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted General Church	17,620	70,331	(60,884)	(12,000)	15,067
Restricted To the Nations Fund	-	612	(612)	-	-
Designated Building Fund	60,000			12,000	72,000
Total Funds	77,620	70,943	(61,496)	-	87,067