

HALESWORTH COMMUNITY CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1125417

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Trust

Registered 2008-08-07

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address School Farm
Church Road
Cratfield
Halesworth
Suffolk
IP19 0BU

Phone 07930877887

Website www.halesworthcommunitychurch.org

Activities

Objects: (A) TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STATEMENT OF BELIEFS APPEARING IN THE SCHEDULE HERETO IN HALESWORTH SUFFOLK AND IN SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AS 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 TRUST (B) TO RELIEVE SICKNESS AND FINANCIAL HARDSHIP AND TO PROMOTE AND PRESERVE GOOD HEALTH BY THE PROVISION OF FUNDS, GOODS OR SERVICES OF ANY KIND, INCLUDING THROUGH THE PROVISION OF COUNSELLING AND SUPPORT IN HALESWORTH AND IN SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES FROM TIME TO TIME MAY THINK FIT (C) TO ADVANCE EDUCATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES BY SUCH MEANS AS THE TRUSTEES MAY CONSIDER APPROPRIATE IN HALESWORTH AND IN SUCH OTHER PARTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OR THE WORLD AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME THINK FIT

Activities: A Community Church including Junior Church. Provides pastoral care and support to members whenever needed. We have informal times together for friendship. Open to non-members. Provides counselling support and advice in this country and via the internet to overseas contacts. Teaching and recorded talks are available to the public through the website.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** HALESWORTH, SUFFOLK
- Norfolk
- Suffolk

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£30,931	£30,635	-	-
2024-03-31	£36,273	£25,776	-	-
2023-03-31	£49,672	£29,930	-	-
2022-03-31	£53,998	£43,159	-	-
2021-03-31	£47,326	£38,957	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David Sillett		2008-05-01
Graham Roderick Nixey		2024-09-06
Jennifer Eugenie Basey-Fisher		2020-07-08
TIMOTHY ROBERT SPARKES		2008-05-01

HALESWORTH COMMUNITY CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1125417

Accounts

Halesworth Community Church

Registered Charity No. 1125417

Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Halesworth Community Church

Report and Accounts Year ended 31 March 2025

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Halesworth Community Church

Legal and Administrative Details For the year ended 31 March 2025

Charity name	Halesworth Community Church
Address for correspondence	School Farm Church Road Cratfield Halesworth Suffolk IP19 0BU
Registered Charity Number	1125417. The charity was registered with the Charity Commission on 7 th August 2008
Governing Document	Trust Deed dated 1 st May 2008
Objects	<p>(a) To advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs appearing in the Trust Deed in Halesworth Suffolk and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as 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 Trust.</p> <p>(b) To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provision of counselling and support in Halesworth and in other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees from time to time may think fit.</p> <p>(c) To advance education in accordance with Christian principles by such means as the Trustees may consider appropriate in Halesworth and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit.</p>
Trustees	The Trustees who served during the year were: Stephen Hall David Sillett (Chair) Tim Sparkes (Pastor) Jennifer Basey-Fisher Graham Nixey
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC Leicester LE87 2BB
Independent Examiner	John Helm ACA 17 Heathville Road London, N19 3AL

Halesworth Community Church

Trustees' Report For the year ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year to 31st March 2025.

Government

The policy and operating decisions of the charity rest with the Trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the Church. New Trustees are appointed by the existing Trustees of the church.

Conflict of interest policy

This was reviewed during the year and the Trustees decided that the present procedure was adequate. When the payment for pastoral services is reviewed annually it is discussed and decided only by Trustees who are not remunerated by the Trust and who are not related to anyone who is remunerated by the Trust. Those Trustees who are remunerated or who are related declare an interest and leave the meeting while the remuneration is discussed.

Activities, Achievements and Public Benefit

In planning the activities of the church, the Trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission in September 2013.

1. Church Meetings

The Trust has continued to run a Community Church, and everyone is welcome to attend our Sunday morning meetings. At the year-end we had 18 members and average attendance for the year was approximately 20. We regularly welcomed visitors and friends of the church, especially during holiday times. Junior church is available when visitors and friends of the church attend with children. A Zoom link continues to be provided for friends and members of the church who are not able to attend in person. This continues to work well and is appreciated. We have introduced home church, which allows people to meet informally as well as giving the opportunity to experience other local churches. We have also added 'small church', this has a more intimate approach and becomes a time for reflective sharing.

Special services were held at Christmas, Easter and Harvest.

In addition to our Sunday morning meetings, we hold weekly prayer meetings and members of the church have continued to meet and pray together regularly in small informal groups.

2. Pastoral Care and Wider Support

The leadership team meets regularly to discuss the church's operations and pastoral matters. As a church, we strive to serve those who seek our help, and many individuals continue to turn to us for support. Throughout the year, we have made several new contacts through our church website.

**Trustees' Report
For the year ended 31 March 2025**

These include Christians from the UK and abroad, as well as people with no faith. Those who come to us for help do so based on recommendations from others who have benefited from our support.

We have a team that is responsible for caring for individuals inside the church. Claire Sillett organises visits for the elderly and those who are unwell. She works alongside a small team to ensure that needs are catered for. As a church, we have become aware of the need to work collaboratively with other local individuals and organisations that support each other in offering support to the community. It is in our future plans to have a facility to cater for the direct needs within the town of Halesworth. A space for counselling as well as the potential to move our Sunday meeting to a more urban setting will hopefully encourage an increase in attendance.

3. Website

David Sparkes has taken on the responsibility of running the website. He has created a more efficient and up to date version making it more user friendly. It remains well-used and is updated weekly. Each week, the Sunday talk is recorded and posted, along with a new Bible verse. The website continues to serve as an online resource for podcasts and materials from the 'Understanding Yourself' courses. New articles are posted regularly, and information about upcoming events is also available on the website. Tim Sparkes works with David Sparkes on the content for the website and it is hoped that they will continue to create resources to serve the needs of the local and wider community potentially through the use of an app.

4. General Data Protection and Safeguarding Regulations

The annual review of our Data Protection policies was carried out in June 2025, and the policies were updated. The information held by the Information Commissioner's Office is current, having changed the contact details which ICO holds to David Sillett.

The church's safeguarding policy and procedures have been updated in line with the current guidance from Thirtyone:Eight. Appropriate training has been carried out and the Trustees are all aware of current safeguarding practices.

5. Development

The church is in the process of looking for premises to use within the town of Halesworth. It is felt that we can be more effective in reaching more people and offering services that are needed, such as counselling and support. The 'Walking with God' residential course was widely appreciated and became a resource to use in the future. We are currently working with a couple of Christian men from Marlow who have begun a group dedicated to spiritual growth. We had an initial weekend supporting and developing the idea and now regularly have contact to provide input and guidance. We will offer a teaching weekend in the next few weeks. Tim Sparkes is researching courses to increase his ability and knowledge to more effectively counsel those who look for support. The church has continued to welcome visitors and those seeking help, and the church has grown in its depth of relationship with one another and with the Lord.

Trustees' Report
For the year ended 31 March 2025

6. Financial Review

6.1 Financial Activity

- The church reports a net surplus of £296 (2024: £10,497).
- Payments - the cost of running the church for the year was £30,635 (2024: £26,061), an increase of £4,573 on the previous year.
- Tim Sparkes has increased his consultancy and pastoral services to the church from two days a week to three days at a cost of £26,057 (2024: £22,130) for the year. The Trustees are delighted Tim has been able to increase the time he spends providing pastoral services to the church.
- In order to continue to publicise awareness of the Church in the local community, advertising cards were placed in the library and newsagent's windows advertising the church meetings and website. In addition, the church is advertised on the Findachurch website.
- The Trustees have decided to continue to support local charities in the area who seek to alleviate poverty and need in the town. This is in the form of a twice-yearly donation of £200 to the Waveney Foodbank and a monthly donation of £70 to the Dementia Carers Fund.
- The church plans to hold three special collections during the year to raise funds for Open Doors, the Missionary Aviation Fellowship and Tearfund.

6.2 Financial Position

The balance held at 31st March 2025 was £7,673 (2024: £8,316) in the current account and £64,183 (2024: £63,244) in the Business Premium account, totalling £71,856 (2024: £71,560).

6.3 Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider that, given the nature of the church's work, free reserves should be equivalent to approximately 6 months' routine general fund expenditure, plus a reserve to cover rising costs due to increased Pastoral activity and potential increases in expenditure. The Trustees are of the opinion that this provides sufficient flexibility to cover temporary shortfalls in incoming resources and will allow the church to cope with and respond to unforeseen emergencies or plans such as a relocation into Halesworth. At 31 March 2025 the church had net free reserves of £71,856 (2024: £71,560) as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash balances	£71,856	71,560
Free reserves requirement:		
3 month's budgeted routine expenditure	15,000	15,000

The free reserves requirement has remained set at £15,000 and this amount is held in the Business Premium Account in order to gain interest. However, Trustees do not foresee a deficit in the next two years.

**Trustees' Report
For the year ended 31 March 2025**

6.4 Outlook

With large amounts provided by a very few donors the Trust remains vulnerable to unforeseen fluctuations in line with the circumstances of its donors.

However, at the present time the income of the Trust continues to be sufficient to cover the anticipated expenses for the next financial year with a small surplus and allow potential future development. The level of giving during the year 2024-2025 has covered the expenditure on pastoral services and there is the capacity to increase payment to Tim Sparkes for an increase in his services if required.

7. Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare accounts for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year. The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

8. Approval

This report was approved by the Trustees on 23 September 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



David Sillett, Chair of Trustees

Halesworth Community Church

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Halesworth Community Church

I report on the accounts of Halesworth Community Church for the year ended 31 March 2025, set out on pages 8 to 10.

This report is made solely to the Trustees in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act). My independent examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the 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 the law, I do not accept responsibility to anyone other than the Trustees for my independent examination, for this report, or the opinions I have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period (under section 144(2) of the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Direction given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts 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.



John Helm ACA
23 September 2025

Halesworth Community Church

Receipts and Payments Account For the year ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Receipts					
Donations under Gift Aid		23,932	-	23,932	22,362
Tax refunds under Gift Aid		5,529	-	5,529	8,246
Other Donations		532	-	532	5,358
		29,993	0	29,993	35,966
Other Receipts					
Interest received		938	-	938	592
Total Receipts		30,931	0	30,931	36,558
Payments					
	2				
Church activities		28,805	-	28,805	23,821
Gifts Paid		1,290	-	1,290	1,760
Governance		540	-	540	480
Total Payments		30,635	0	30,635	26,061
Net Receipts		296	0	296	10,497
Cash balances brought forward		71,560	-	71,560	61,063
Cash balances carried forward		71,856	0	71,856	71,560

The notes on page 10 form part of these accounts.

Halesworth Community Church

Statement of Assets and Liabilities
As at 31 March 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed Assets		
Equipment (insurance value)	2,470	1,400
Debtors		
Gift aid receivable	5,565	918
Bank Balances	71,856	71,560
Liabilities	540	450
Total Net Assets	79,351	73,428

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 23 September 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



David Sillett
Chair of Trustees

Halesworth Community Church

Notes to the Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis with a statement of assets and liabilities.

2 Payments

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 £	2024 £
Church activities					
Pastoral Services	3	26,057	-	26,057	22,130
Insurance		414	-	-	414
Copyright Licence		402	-	402	346
Thirtyone:eight (previously Churches Child Protection Advisory Services)		168	-	168	145
Advertising and Publicity		46	-	-	46
Website		20	-	20	20
Data Protection		35	-	35	35
Repairs and renewals		1,088	-	1,088	-
Miscellaneous		575	-	575	685
		28,805	0	28,805	23,821
Gifts Made					
		1,290	-	1,290	1,760
Governance					
Accounts Examination		540	-	540	480
		30,635	0	30,635	26,061

3 Pastoral Services and Trustees

The Trust has no employees. The amount for Pastoral Services is to support the pastoral ministry of the church for three days per week paid to Tim Sparkes.

HALESWORTH COMMUNITY CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1125417

Accounts

Halesworth Community Church

Registered Charity No. 1125417

Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31st March 2024

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Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year ended 31st March 2024

Legal and Administrative Details

Charity name	Halesworth Community Church
Address for correspondence	School Farm, Church Road, Cratfield, Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 0BU
Registered Charity Number	1125417. The charity was registered with the Charity Commission on 7 th August 2008
Governing Document	Trust Deed dated 1 st May 2008
Objects	<p>(a) To advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs appearing in the Trust Deed in Halesworth Suffolk and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as 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 Trust.</p> <p>(b) To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provision of counselling and support in Halesworth and in other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees from time to time may think fit.</p> <p>(c) To advance education in accordance with Christian principles by such means as the Trustees may consider appropriate in Halesworth and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit.</p>
Trustees	<p>The Trustees who served during the year were:</p> <p>Stephen Hall David Sillett (Chair) Tim Sparkes (Pastor) Jennifer Basey-Fisher Graham Nixey</p>
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC Leicester LE87 2BB
Independent Examiner	John Helm ACA Tandem Accounting Ltd 17 Heathville Road London, N19 3AL

Trustees Report

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year to 31st March 2024.

Government

The policy and operating decisions of the charity rest with the Trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the Church. New Trustees are appointed by the existing Trustees of the church.

Conflict of interest policy

This was reviewed during the year and the Trustees decided that the present procedure was adequate. When the payment for pastoral services is reviewed annually it is discussed and decided only by Trustees who are not remunerated by the Trust and who are not related to anyone who is remunerated by the Trust. Those Trustees who are remunerated or who are related declare an interest and leave the meeting while the remuneration is discussed.

Activities, Achievements and Public Benefit

In planning the activities of the church, the Trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission in September 2013.

1. Church Meetings

The Trust has continued to run a Community Church, and everyone is welcome to attend our Sunday morning meetings. At the year-end we had 18 members and average attendance for the year was approximately 20. We regularly welcomed visitors and friends of the church, especially during holiday times. Junior church is available when visitors and friends of the church attend with children. A Zoom link continues to be provided for friends and members of the church who are not able to attend in person. This continues to work well and is appreciated.

Special services were held at Christmas, Easter and Harvest.

In addition to our Sunday morning meetings, we hold weekly prayer meetings and members of the church have continued to meet and pray together regularly in small informal groups.

2. Pastoral Care and Wider Support

The leadership team meets regularly to discuss the church's operations and pastoral matters. As a church, we strive to serve those who seek our help, and many individuals continue to turn to us for support. Throughout the year, we have made several new contacts through our church website. These include Christians from the UK and abroad, as well as people with no faith. Those who come to us for help do so based on recommendations from others who have benefited from our support. We have a team that is responsible for caring for individuals inside the church. Claire Sillett organises visits for the elderly and those who are unwell. She works alongside a small team to ensure that

Trustees' Report

needs are catered for. As a church, we have become aware of the need to work collaboratively with other local individuals and organisations that support each other in offering support to the community.

3. Website

Tim Sparkes has taken on the responsibility of running the website. It remains well-used and is updated weekly. Each week, the Sunday talk is recorded and posted, along with a new Bible verse. The website continues to serve as an online resource for podcasts and materials from the 'Understanding Yourself' courses. New articles are posted regularly, and information about upcoming events is also available on the website.

4. General Data Protection and Safeguarding Regulations

The annual review of our Data Protection policies was carried out in June 2024, and the policies were updated. The information held by the Information Commissioner's Office is current.

The church's safeguarding policy and procedures have been updated in line with the current guidance from Thirtyone:Eight. Appropriate training has been carried out and the Trustees are all aware of current safeguarding practices.

5. Development

The major development for this year has been the writing and delivering of a course called 'Walking with God'. This was delivered in the autumn over a two-month period. It was attended by local people associated with the church at School Farm Cratfield and also by people from all over the UK. We also had visitors from Canada and France. Each session had close to 30 people in attendance. The church plans to host this course as a residential experience early in the new year of 2025. We also plan to offer this course to other churches in the local area but also from the contacts we have in different parts of the country. Tim Sparkes has increased his services to the church to two and a half days a week.

The church has continued to welcome visitors and those seeking help, and the church has grown in its depth of relationship with one another and with the Lord.

6. Financial Review

6.1 Financial Activity

- The church reports a net surplus of £10,477.
- Payments - the cost of running the church for the year was £26,081, a decrease of £3,849 on the previous year.
- Tim Sparkes has increased his consultancy and pastoral services to the church from two days a week to two and a half days at a cost of £22,129 for the year. The Trustees are delighted Tim has been able to increase the time he spends providing pastoral services to the church.

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year ended 31st March 2024

Trustees' Report

- In order to continue to publicise awareness of the Church in the local community, advertising cards were placed in the library and newsagent's windows advertising the church meetings and website. In addition, the church is advertised on the Findachurch website.
- The Trustees have decided to continue to support local charities in the area who seek to alleviate poverty and need in the town. This is in the form of a twice-yearly donation of £200 to the Waveney Foodbank and a monthly donation of £70 to the Dementia Carers Fund.
- The church held three special collections during the year. Gifts of £120 were made to Open Doors in May, £40 to the Missionary Aviation Fellowship in August and £125 to Tearfund in October.

6.2 Financial Position

The balance held at 31st March 2024 was £8,316 in the current account and £63,244 the Business Premium account, totalling £71,560.

6.3 Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider that, given the nature of the church's work, free reserves should be equivalent to approximately 6 months' routine general fund expenditure, plus a reserve to cover rising costs due to increased Pastoral activity and potential increases in expenditure. The Trustees are of the opinion that this provides sufficient flexibility to cover temporary shortfalls in incoming resources and will allow the church to cope with and respond to unforeseen emergencies. At 31 March 2024 the church had net free reserves of £71,560 as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash balances	71,560	61,063
	_____	_____
Free reserves requirement:		
3 month's budgeted routine expenditure	15,000	12,500
	_____	_____

The free reserves requirement has been increased to £15,000 and this amount is held in the Business Premium Account in order to gain interest. However, Trustees do not foresee a deficit in the next two years.

6.4 Outlook

With large amounts provided by a very few donors the Trust remains vulnerable to unforeseen fluctuations in line with the circumstances of its donors. However, at the present time the income of the Trust continues to be sufficient to cover the anticipated expenses for the next financial year with a small surplus and allow potential future development. The level of giving during the year 2023-2024 has covered the expenditure on pastoral services and there is the capacity to increase payment to Tim Sparkes for an increase in his services if required.

Trustees' Report

7. Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare accounts for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year. The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

8. Approval

This report was approved by the Trustees on 31 January 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Sillett', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

David Sillett, Chair of Trustees

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

I report on the account of Halesworth Community Church for the year ended 31 March 2024, set out on pages 8 to 10.

This report is made solely to the Trustees in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act). My independent examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the 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 the law, I do not accept responsibility to anyone other than the Trustees for my independent examination, for this report, or the opinions I have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period (under section 144(2) of the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Direction given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the church as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts 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.



John Helm ACA
31 January 2025

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2024

Receipts & Payments Account

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Receipts					
Donations under Gift Aid		22,362	0	22,362	32,854
Tax refunds under Gift Aid		8,246	0	8,246	8,962
Other Donations		5,073	285	5,358	7,839
		35,681	285	35,966	49,655
Other Receipts					
Interest received		592	0	592	17
		36,273	285	36,558	49,672
Payments					
	2				
Church activities		23,821	0	23,821	27,310
Gifts Paid		1,475	285	1,760	2,151
Governance		480	0	480	450
		25,776	285	26,061	29,930
		10,497	0	10,497	19,761
Cash balances brought forward		61,063	0	61,063	41,302
		71,560	0	71,560	61,063

The notes on page 10 form part of these accounts.

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2024

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Assets		
Fixed Assets		
Equipment (insurance value)	1,400	1,400
Debtors		
Gift aid receivable	918	8,221
Bank Balances	71,560	61,063
Liabilities	(450)	(450)
Total Net Assets	73,428	70,234

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 31 January 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



David Sillett
Chair of Trustees

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2024

Notes to the Accounts

1 Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis with a statement of assets and liabilities.

2 Payments

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Church activities					
Pastoral Services	3	22,130	0	22,130	25,629
Insurance		414	0	414	414
Copyright Licence		346	0	346	329
Data Protection		35	0	35	35
Thirtyone:eight (previously Churches Child Protection Advisory Services)		145	0	145	130
Advertising and Publicity		46	0	46	22
Website		20	0	20	0
Miscellaneous		685	0	685	751
		23,821	0	23,821	27,310
Gifts Made		1,475	285	1,760	2,151
Governance					
Accounts Examination		480	0	480	450
		25,776	285	26,061	29,911

3 Pastoral Services and Trustees

The Trust has no employees. The amount for Pastoral Services is to support the pastoral ministry of the church paid to Tim Sparkes.

HALESWORTH COMMUNITY CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1125417

Accounts

Halesworth Community Church

Registered Charity No. 1125417

Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31st March 2023

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Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year ended 31st March 2023

Legal and Administrative Details

Charity name	Halesworth Community Church
Address for correspondence	6 Princes Green Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 8DP
Registered Charity Number	1125417. The charity was registered with the Charity Commission on 7 th August 2008
Governing Document	Trust Deed dated 1 st May 2008
Objects	<p>(a) To advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs appearing in the Trust Deed in Halesworth Suffolk and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as 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 Trust.</p> <p>(b) To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provision of counselling and support in Halesworth and in other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees from time to time may think fit.</p> <p>(c) To advance education in accordance with Christian principles by such means as the Trustees may consider appropriate in Halesworth and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit.</p>
Trustees	<p>The Trustees who served during the year were:</p> <p>John Sparkes (Pastor) (served until 22nd July 2022 when he passed away)</p> <p>Stephen Hall</p> <p>David Sillett (Chair)</p> <p>Tim Sparkes (Pastor)</p> <p>Julie Gorton (Secretary)</p> <p>Jennifer Basey-Fisher</p>
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC Leicester LE87 2BB
Independent Examiner	John Helm ACA 17 Heathville Road London, N19 3AL

Trustees Report

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year to 31st March 2023.

Government

The policy and operating decisions of the charity rest with the Trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the Church. New Trustees are appointed by the existing Trustees of the church.

Conflict of interest policy

This was reviewed during the year and the Trustees decided that the present procedure was adequate. When the payment for pastoral services is reviewed annually it is discussed and decided only by Trustees who are not remunerated by the Trust and who are not related to anyone who is remunerated by the Trust. Those Trustees who are remunerated or who are related declare an interest and leave the meeting while the remuneration is discussed.

Activities, Achievements and Public Benefit

In planning the activities of the church, the Trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission in September 2013.

1. Church Meetings

The Trust has continued to run a Community Church, and everyone is welcome to attend our Sunday morning meetings. At the year end we had 20 members and average attendance for the year was approximately 20 – 25. We regularly welcomed visitors and friends of the church, especially during holiday times. Junior church is available when visitors and friends of the church attend with children. A Zoom link continues to be provided for friends and members of the church who are not able to attend in person. This continues to work well and is appreciated.

Special services were held at Christmas, Easter and Harvest.

In addition to our Sunday morning meetings, we hold weekly prayer meetings and members of the church have continued to meet and pray together regularly in small informal groups.

2. Pastoral Care and Wider Support

The leadership meet regularly to discuss the running of the church and pastoral issues. As a church we continue to seek to serve those who approach the church for help and several people have continued to look to the church for support. There have been several new contacts which have been made during the year via the church website. These include Christians from the UK and abroad as well as people with no faith. Apart from running our website, we do not advertise in any other way so those who come for help do so because of recommendations by those who have been helped.

Trustees' Report

Support is offered via phone calls, emails, Zoom conversations and visits to the area. Much of the support is offered on a regular ongoing basis and this results in real and permanent changes in people's lives. We have been pleased to be able to welcome visitors to the church during the year.

An Understanding Yourself Step One course was run in Cratfield from 10th – 12th June 2022. There were 13 attendees, and the course was greatly appreciated by all who attended. Ongoing help has continued to be offered to those who have attended courses in previous years.

3. Website

Online church resources continued to be available via the website throughout the year, including recordings of the Sunday talks, podcasts and written teaching materials. The 'Understanding Yourself' sections of the website continued to be well-used.

Although the number of website visitors dropped following the end of the pandemic, the website visitor figures were consistent throughout the year.

4. General Data Protection and Safeguarding Regulations

The annual review of our Data Protection policies was carried out in June 2023, and the policies were updated. The information held by the Information Commissioner's Office is current.

The church's safeguarding policy and procedures have been updated in line with the current guidance from Thirtyone:Eight. Appropriate training has been carried out and the Trustees are all aware of current safeguarding practices.

5. Development

It has been a year of transition for the church following the passing of the Pastor, John Sparkes, on 22nd July 2022. The Assistant Pastor, Tim Sparkes, who had already taken on increased responsibility for the church, has taken over as the Pastor. He has continued to be paid for one day a week for consultancy and pastoral services to the church and this will be reviewed in the coming year.

The church has continued to welcome visitors and those seeking help and the church has grown in its depth of relationship with one another and with the Lord.

6. Financial Review

6.1 Financial Activity

- The church reports a net surplus of £19,742.
- Payments - the cost of running the church for the year was £29,930, a decrease of £13,229 on the previous year. This is due to the cessation of payment to John and Merle Sparkes from September 2022. A gift of £1,500 was given to Merle Sparkes in November 2022 in recognition of her long years of service and her ongoing support for the work of the church.

Trustees' Report

- Tim Sparkes has continued to be paid for consultancy and pastoral services to the church for one day a week at a cost of £10,279 for the year. The Trustees have agreed that Tim should investigate the possibility of working an additional day in the church from either Easter or September 2023. This is under discussion.
- In order to continue to publicise awareness of the Church in the local community, advertising cards were placed in the library and newsagent's windows advertising the church meetings and website. In addition, the church is advertised on the Findachurch website.
- The Trustees have expressed a desire to support local charities in the area who seek to alleviate poverty and need in the town. It was decided that a twice-yearly donation of £200 be given to the Waveney Foodbank and a monthly donation of £70 to the Dementia Carers Fund. The first gift to each organisation was made in March 2023.
- The church held three special collections during the year. Gifts of £204 were made to Open Doors in May, £110 to the Missionary Aviation Fellowship in August and £337 to Tearfund in October.

6.2 Financial Position

The balance held at 31st March 2023 was £48,411 in the current account and £12,652 in the Business Premium account, totalling £61,063.

The reserve amount of £12,500 had been moved to the Business Premium Account in November in order to gain interest on the money.

6.3 Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider that, given the nature of the church's work, free reserves should be equivalent to approximately 3 months' routine general fund expenditure, plus a reserve to cover anticipated annual deficits. The Trustees are of the opinion that this provides sufficient flexibility to cover temporary shortfalls in incoming resources and will allow the church to cope and respond to unforeseen emergencies. At 31 March 2023 the church had net free reserves of £61,063 as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash balances	61,063	41,302
Free reserves requirement:		
3 month's budgeted routine expenditure	12,500	11,457

The free reserves requirement has remained at £12,500 and this amount was moved to the Business Premium Account in order to gain interest. However, at the present level of giving we do not foresee a deficit in the next two years.

Trustees' Report

6.4 Outlook

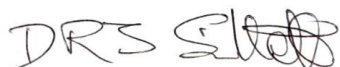
With large amounts provided by a very few donors the Trust remains vulnerable to unforeseen fluctuations in line with the fortunes of its donors. However, at the present time the income of the Trust is sufficient to cover the anticipated expenses for the next financial year and allow potential future development. The level of giving during the year 2022-2023 has covered the expenditure on pastoral services and there is the capacity to increase payment to Tim Sparkes for two days per week.

7. Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare accounts for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year. The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

8. Approval

This report was approved by the Trustees on 30th October 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DRS Sillett', with a circular flourish at the end.

David Sillett, Chair of Trustees

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

I report on the account of Halesworth Community Church for the year ended 31 March 2023, set out on pages 8 to 10.

This report is made solely to the Trustees in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act). My independent examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the 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 the law, I do not accept responsibility to anyone other than the Trustees for my independent examination, for this report, or the opinions I have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period (under section 144(2) of the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Direction given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the church as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts 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.



John Helm ACA
1 November 2023

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2023

Receipts and Payments Account

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Receipts					
Donations under Gift Aid		32,854	0	32,854	39,628
Tax refunds under Gift Aid		8,962	0	8,962	8,331
Other Donations		7,558	281	7,839	6,039
		49,374	281	49,655	53,998
Other Receipts					
Interest received		17	0	17	0
		49,391	281	49,672	53,998
Total Receipts					
Payments					
	2				
Church activities		27,329	0	27,329	41,848
Gifts Paid		1,870	281	2,151	861
Governance		450	0	450	450
		29,649	281	29,930	43,159
Total Payments					
		19,742	0	19,742	10,839
Net Receipts					
Cash balances brought forward		41,302	0	41,302	30,463
		61,044	0	61,044	41,302
Cash balances carried forward					

The notes on page 10 form part of these accounts.

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2023

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Assets		
Fixed Assets		
Equipment (insurance value)	1,400	1,400
Debtors		
Gift aid receivable	8,221	8,957
Bank Balances	61,063	41,302
Liabilities	450	-
Total Net Assets	70,234	51,669

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 30th October 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



David Sillett
Chair of Trustees

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2023

Notes to the Accounts

1 Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis with a statement of assets and liabilities.

2 Payments

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 £	2022 £
Church activities					
Pastoral Services	3	25,629	0	25,629	40,400
Insurance		414	0	414	414
Copyright Licence		329	0	329	280
Data Protection		35	0	35	35
Thirtyone:eight (previously Churches Child Protection Advisory Services)		130	0	130	129
Advertising and Publicity		22	0	22	419
Website		0	0	0	122
Miscellaneous		770	0	770	49
		27,329	0	27,329	41,848
Gifts Made		1,870	281	2,151	861
Governance					
Accounts Examination		450	0	450	450
		29,649	281	29,930	43,159

3 Pastoral Services and Trustees

The Trust has no employees. The amount for Pastoral Services referred to above is the grant paid to John and Merle Sparkes for leading the church and to support them in their wider Christian work. In addition, a payment for consultancy, assistance and other activities as required to support the pastoral ministry of the church for one day per week was made to Tim Sparkes.

HALESWORTH COMMUNITY CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1125417

Accounts

Halesworth Community Church

Registered Charity No. 1125417

Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31st March 2022

**Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year ended 31st March 2022**

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Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year ended 31st March 2022
Legal and Administrative Details

Charity name	Halesworth Community Church
Address for correspondence	6 Princes Green Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 8DP
Registered Charity Number	1125417. The charity was registered with the Charity Commission on 7 th August 2008
Governing Document	Trust Deed dated 1 st May 2008
Objects	(a) To advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs appearing in the Trust Deed in Halesworth Suffolk and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as 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 Trust. (b) To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provision of counselling and support in Halesworth and in other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees from time to time may think fit. (c) To advance education in accordance with Christian principles by such means as the Trustees may consider appropriate in Halesworth and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit.
Trustees	The Trustees who served during the year were: John Sparkes (Pastor) (served during the year but passed away on 22 nd July 2022) Stephen Hall David Sillett Tim Sparkes (Assistant Pastor) Julie Gorton (Secretary) Jennifer Basey-Fisher
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC Leicester LE87 2BB
Independent Examiner	John Helm ACA 17 Heathville Road London, N19 3AL

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year to 31st March 2022.

Government

The policy and operating decisions of the charity rest with the Trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the Church. New Trustees are appointed by the existing Trustees of the church.

Conflict of interest policy

This was reviewed during the year and the Trustees decided that the present procedure was adequate. When the payment for pastoral services is reviewed annually it is discussed and decided only by Trustees who are not remunerated by the Trust and who are not related to anyone who is remunerated by the Trust. Those Trustees who are remunerated or who are related declare an interest and leave the meeting while the remuneration is discussed.

Activities, Achievements and Public Benefit

In planning the activities of the church, the Trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission in September 2013.

1. Church Meetings

The Trust has continued to run a Community Church. Due to COVID-19 restrictions church meetings were conducted online until 19th September 2021, when we resumed meeting at Cratfield. Prior to that date meetings were held via Zoom with everyone welcome to attend our Sunday morning meetings and mid-week Bible studies. A Zoom link continued to be provided for those who could not attend in person once we resumed our meetings; this continued to work well and be much appreciated. Appropriate measures were taken to comply with COVID guidelines. The meeting room was well-ventilated with the seating spaced out, masks were worn as required and individual communion pots provided.

Several people who attended our Zoom church meetings during the pandemic returned to their own churches as they opened. Our average weekly attendance from September – March was 30, with a further 10 attendees joining online. The talk continued to be pre-recorded and available on the church website by Saturday evening.

Our Bible studies were held on Zoom throughout the year and continued to be very well-attended and appreciated. The recordings are available on the church website.

Regular weekly prayer meetings also resumed during the year and have been held as appropriate with due regard for COVID infection rates. Members of the church have continued to meet and pray together regularly in small informal groups.

2. Pastoral Care and Wider Support

The leadership have continued to meet remotely, and in person as restrictions allowed, to discuss the running of the church and pastoral issues. As a church we continue to seek to serve those who approach the church for help and many people have continued to look to the church for support. These include Christians from the UK and abroad as well as people with no faith. Apart from running our website, we do not advertise in any way so all those who come for help do so because of recommendations by those who have been helped. The online course that we offer has continued to prove very effective. Other means of support have included phone calls, emails, Zoom conversations and visits as restrictions have allowed. Much of the support is offered on a regular ongoing basis and this results in real and permanent changes in people's lives. We have been pleased to be able to welcome both visitors and new members to our church during the year.

We have been unable to run the 'Understanding Yourself' courses in person this year, though ongoing help has been offered to those who have attended courses in previous years. All the course materials are available through our website and a Step One course is planned for June 2022.

3. Website

Online church resources have continued to be accessible and developed via the website throughout the year, including recordings of the Sunday talks and mid-week Bible studies and written teaching materials. Podcasts have continued to be recorded covering topics such as 'What is church?', relationship conflict, healing and the way our lives have been influenced by our fathers. There has been much positive feedback regarding the benefit of the podcasts.

A regular website newsletter has been sent out and the website has continued to be well-used and appreciated throughout the year.

4. General Data Protection Regulations

The annual review of our Data Protection policies was carried out in May 2021, and they were updated. The information held by the Information Commissioner's Office is current.

5. Development

Website visitor numbers and church attendance have been good throughout the year and the church has continued to grow, both numerically and in depth of relationship with one another and with the Lord.

A monthly article and report on the church has been published in the Halesworth Community News, a local free newspaper which is delivered to several thousand homes in the area.

The assistant pastor has taken on increased responsibility in leading the Sunday morning meetings, preaching and pastoral work. He has continued to be paid for one day a week for consultancy and pastoral services to the church.

6. Financial Review

6.1 Financial Activity

- The church reports a net surplus of £10,839.
- Payments - the cost of running the church for the year was £43,159, an increase of £4,202 on the previous year.
- The main additional costs were for pastoral services paid to Tim Sparkes for the full financial year, which amounted to £9,500. There was no increase in payment for pastoral services to John and Merle Sparkes. We have continued to keep other expenditure as low as possible.
- In order to continue to publicise awareness of the Church in the local community, the Pastor wrote an article and report each month for the Halesworth Community News at the editor's request, for which there was no charge. The church paid for advertising space for the New Year article. The church is advertised on the Findachurch website. In addition, advertising cards were placed in the library and newsagent's windows advertising our church meetings and website.
- A gift of £751 was made from general funds to John Sparkes towards the purchase of a new computer to enable him to efficiently carry out his work for the church.
- A gift of £110 was made from restricted funds in November 2021 to Tearfund which, along with individual cheques, gave a combined total of £405. We did not make any gifts from general funds to other charities.
- We held a special collection for Tearfund on Harvest Sunday (see above) but were unable to hold special collections for The Missionary Aviation Fellowship and Open Doors. However individual members made direct donations to these charities.

6.2 Financial Position

The balance held at 31st March 2022 was £41,302 on unrestricted funds. There were no restricted funds. The Trust does not operate a separate account for Reserves. The Trust's funds are held in a cheque account.

6.3 Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider that, given the nature of the church's work, free reserves should be equivalent to approximately 3 months' routine general fund expenditure, plus a reserve to cover anticipated annual deficits. The Trustees are of the opinion that this provides sufficient flexibility to cover temporary shortfalls in incoming resources and will allow the church to cope and respond to unforeseen emergencies. At 31 March 2022 the church had net free reserves of £41,302 as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Cash balances	41,302	30,463
Free reserves requirement:		
3 month's budgeted routine expenditure	11,457	10,697

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2022
Trustees Report

The free reserves requirement has been increased to cover the additional costs of paying the assistant pastor for one day a week. However, at the present level of giving we do not foresee a deficit in the next two years.

6.4 Outlook

With large amounts provided by a very few donors the Trust remains vulnerable to unforeseen fluctuations in line with the fortunes of its donors. However, at the present time the income of the Trust is sufficient to cover the anticipated expenses for the next financial year and allow potential future development. The level of giving has continued to increase during the year 2021-2022, which has covered the additional expenditure on pastoral services.

7. Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare accounts for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year. The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

8. Approval

This report was approved by the Trustees on 16th November 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DRS Sillett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Sillett, Chair of Trustees

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year ended 31st March 2021
Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of Halesworth Community Church

I report on the account of Halesworth Community Church for the year ended 31 March 2022, set out on pages 8 to 10.

This report is made solely to the Trustees in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act). My independent examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the 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 the law, I do not accept responsibility to anyone other than the Trustees for my independent examination, for this report, or the opinions I have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period (under section 144(2) of the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Direction given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the church as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts 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.



John Helm ACA
16th November 2022

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2022
Receipts and Payment Account

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Receipts					
Charitable Receipts under Gift Aid		39,628	0	39,628	34,708
Tax refunds under Gift Aid		8,331	0	8,331	6,838
Other Charitable Receipts		5,929	110	6,039	5,780
		53,888	110	53,998	47,326
Other Receipts					
Interest received		0	0	0	0
Total Receipts		53,888	110	53,998	47,326
Payments					
Church activities	2	41,848	0	41,848	38,212
Gifts Paid		751	110	861	325
Governance		450	0	450	420
Total Payments		43,049	110	43,159	38,957
Net Receipts		10,839	0	10,839	8,369
Cash balances brought forward		30,463	0	30,463	22,094
Cash balances carried forward		41,302	0	41,302	30,463

The notes on page 10 form part of these accounts.

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2022
Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	2022 £	2021 £
Assets		
Fixed Assets		
Equipment (insurance value)	1,400	1,400
Debtors		
Gift aid receivable	8,957	8,331
Bank Balances	41,302	30,463
Total Assets	<u>51,659</u>	<u>40,194</u>

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 16th November 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



David Sillett
Chair of Trustees

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2022
Notes to the Accounts

1 Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis with a statement of assets and liabilities.

2 Payments

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022	2021
		£	£	£	£
Church activities					
Pastoral Services	3	40,400	0	40,400	36,442
Insurance		414	0	414	412
Copyright Licence		280	0	280	269
Data Protection		35	0	35	35
Thirtyone:eight (previously Churches Child Protection Advisory Services)		129	0	129	129
Advertising and Publicity		419	0	419	419
Website		122	0	122	127
Miscellaneous		49	0	49	379
		41,848	0	41,848	38,212
Gifts Made		751	110	861	325
Governance					
Accounts Examination		450	0	450	420
		43,049	110	43,159	38,957

3 Pastoral Services and Trustees

The Trust has no employees. The amount for Pastoral Services referred to above is the grant paid to John and Merle Sparkes for leading the church and to support them in their wider Christian work. In addition, a payment for consultancy, assistance and other activities as required to support the pastoral ministry of the church for one day per week was made to Tim Sparkes.

HALESWORTH COMMUNITY CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1125417

Accounts

Halesworth Community Church

Registered Charity No. 1125417

Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31st March 2021

**Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year ended 31st March 2021**

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Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year ended 31st March 2021
Legal and Administrative Details

Charity name	Halesworth Community Church
Address for correspondence	6 Princes Green Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 8DP
Registered Charity Number	1125417. The charity was registered with the Charity Commission on 7 th August 2008
Governing Document	Trust Deed dated 1 st May 2008
Objects	(a) To advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs appearing in the Trust Deed in Halesworth Suffolk and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as 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 Trust. (b) To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provision of counselling and support in Halesworth and in other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees from time to time may think fit. (c) To advance education in accordance with Christian principles by such means as the Trustees may consider appropriate in Halesworth and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit.
Trustees	The Trustees who served during the year and who were serving at the date of this report were: John Sparkes (Pastor) Stephen Hall David Sillett Tim Sparkes (Assistant Pastor) Julie Gorton (Secretary) Jennifer Basey-Fisher
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC Leicester LE87 2BB
Independent Examiner	John Helm ACA 17 Heathville Road London, N19 3AL

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year to 31st March 2021.

Government

The policy and operating decisions of the charity rest with the Trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the Church. New Trustees are appointed by the existing Trustees of the church.

Conflict of interest policy

This was reviewed during the year and the Trustees decided that the present procedure was adequate. When the payment for pastoral services is reviewed annually it is discussed and decided only by Trustees who are not remunerated by the Trust and who are not related to anyone who is remunerated by the Trust. Those Trustees who are remunerated or who are related declare an interest and leave the meeting while the remuneration is discussed.

Activities, Achievements and Public Benefit

In planning the activities of the church, the Trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission in September 2013.

1. Church Meetings

The Trust has continued to run a Community Church. However, due to the COVID-19 restrictions, our church meetings have been conducted online throughout the year. Everyone is welcome to attend our Zoom Sunday morning meetings and mid-week Bible studies.

Our average attendance on a Sunday morning is 30 screens, which represents approximately 40 – 50 individuals, including children. The Zoom meetings have enabled people to join from different parts of the UK and the world, and we have regularly had attendees from Spain, Italy, France and Canada. The format of the meetings follows a similar pattern to our physical meetings, including worship, sharing, prayer and communion, with the talk being pre-recorded and available on the church website.

We held a series of Zoom Bible studies during the year, which were similarly well-attended and appreciated.

The church website has been developed to provide resources for people to access during the lockdowns.

The regular weekly prayer meetings have not been able to be held this year. However, as restrictions allowed, members of the church have walked together, and prayer has become an integral part of those walks. The prayer life of both individuals and the church has deepened as a result.

2. Pastoral Care and Wider Support

The leadership have continued to meet remotely, and in person as restrictions have allowed, to discuss the running of the church and pastoral issues. As a church we continue to seek to serve those who approach the church for help and many people have continued to look to the church for help and support. These include Christians from the UK and abroad as well as people with no faith. Apart from running our website, we do not advertise in any way so all those who come for help do so as a result of recommendations by those who have been helped. The online course that we offer has continued to prove very effective. Other means of support have included phone calls, emails, Zoom conversations and the opportunity to 'walk and talk' as restrictions have allowed. Much of the support is offered on a regular ongoing basis and this results in real and permanent changes in people's lives.

We have been unable to run the 'Understanding Yourself' courses in person this year, though ongoing help has been offered to those who have attended courses in previous years. All the course materials are now available through our website.

3. Website

Online church resources have been made accessible and have been developed throughout the year, including recordings of the Sunday talks and mid-week Bible studies, links to worship songs and written teaching materials. A series of podcasts have been recorded which explore the importance of understanding yourself and some of the mental and emotional issues we face. These have been particularly popular. The website has continued to be very well-used and appreciated throughout the year. All the pastor's teaching materials and course notes are now available through the website.

A regular website newsletter was sent out during the year.

4. General Data Protection Regulations

The annual review of our Data Protection policies was carried out in May 2021 and they were updated. The information held by the Information Commissioner's Office is current.

5. Development

Website visitors and online attendance have been excellent throughout the year and the church has continued to grow, both numerically and in depth of relationship with one another and with the Lord.

A monthly article and report on the church has been published in the Halesworth Community News, a local free newspaper which is delivered to several thousand homes in the area.

The assistant pastor has taken on increased responsibility in preaching, leading the Sunday Zoom meetings and pastoral work. He has been paid for one day a week for consultancy and pastoral services to the church.

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2021
Trustees Report

Financial Review

1. Financial Activity

- The church reports a net surplus of £8,369.
- Payments - the cost of running the church for the year was £38,957, an increase of £6,005 on the previous year.
- The main additional costs were for pastoral services paid to Tim Sparkes from September 2020, which amounted to £5,542 for 7 months of the year. There was no increase in payment for pastoral services to John and Merle Sparkes. We have continued to keep other expenditure as low as possible.
- In order to continue to publicise awareness of the Church in the local community, the Pastor wrote an article and report each month for the Halesworth Community News at the editor's request, for which there was no charge. The church paid for advertising space for the New Year article. The church is advertised on the Findachurch website. In addition, advertising cards were placed in the library and newsagent's windows advertising our website and Zoom meetings.
- The church received a gift of £325 to support any member of the church who needed additional financial help during lockdown. As such a need did not arise the Trustees decided that the money should be given to Tim with grateful thanks for all the additional work he had undertaken.
- We did not make any gifts from general funds to other charities and were unable to hold special collections for Tear Fund, Missionary Aviation Fellowship and Open Doors as usual. However individual members made direct donations to these charities.
- A new computer was bought for the church at a cost of £379.

2. Financial Position

The cash balance held at 31st March 2021 was £30,463 of unrestricted funds. There were no restricted funds. The Trust's funds are held in a cheque account.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider that, given the nature of the church's work, free reserves should be equivalent to approximately 3 months' routine general fund expenditure, plus a reserve to cover anticipated annual deficits. The Trustees are of the opinion that this provides sufficient flexibility to cover temporary shortfalls in incoming resources and will allow the church to cope and respond to unforeseen emergencies. At 31 March 2021 the church had net free reserves of £30,463.

Cash balances	2021 £ 30,463	2020 £ 22,094
Free reserves requirement: 3 month's budgeted routine expenditure	10,697	8,238

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2021
Trustees Report

The free reserves requirement has been increased to cover the additional costs of paying the assistant pastor for one day a week. However, at the present level of giving we do not foresee a deficit in the next two years.

Outlook

With large amounts provided by a very few donors the Trust remains vulnerable to unforeseen fluctuations in line with the fortunes of its donors. However, at the present time the income of the Trust is sufficient to cover the anticipated expenses for the next financial year and allow potential future development. The level of giving has increased significantly during the year 2020-2021, which has covered the additional expenditure on pastoral services.

Trustees' Responsibilities

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare accounts for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year. The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable us to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees also have a responsibility to safeguard the assets of the charity and to take reasonable steps to prevent fraud or any other irregularities.

Approval

This report was approved by the Trustees on 22 September 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Sparkes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

John Sparkes
Trustee

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year ended 31st March 2021
Report of the Independent Examiner to the Trustees of Halesworth Community Church

I report on the account of Halesworth Community Church for the year ended 31 March 2021, set out on pages 8 to 10.

This report is made solely to the Trustees in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act). My independent examination has been undertaken so that I might state to the 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 the law, I do not accept responsibility to anyone other than the Trustees for my independent examination, for this report, or the opinions I have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period (under section 144(2) of the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Direction given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the church as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts 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.



John Helm ACA
22 September 2021

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2021
Receipts and Payment Account

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Receipts					
Charitable Receipts under Gift Aid		34,708	0	34,708	27,219
Tax refunds under Gift Aid		6,838	0	6,838	4,954
Other Charitable Receipts		5,780	0	5,780	9,230
		47,326	0	47,326	41,403
Other Receipts					
Interest received		0	0	0	0
		47,326	0	47,326	41,403
Payments					
Church activities	2	38,212	0	38,212	32,422
Gifts Paid		325	0	325	170
Governance		420	0	420	360
		38,957	0	38,957	32,952
Net Receipts/(Payments)		8,369	0	8,369	8,452
Cash balances brought forward		22,094	0	22,094	13,642
		30,463	0	30,463	22,094

The notes on page 10 form part of these accounts.

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2021
Statement of Assets and Liabilities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Assets		
Fixed Assets		
Equipment (insurance value)	1,400	1,400
Bank Balances	30,463	22,094
Total Assets	31,863	23,494
Liabilities		
Unbilled fee for Independent Examination	420	420
Total assets less total liabilities	31,443	23,074

The accounts were approved by the Trustees on 22 September 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



John Sparkes
Trustee

Halesworth Community Church
Report and Accounts Year Ended 31st March 2021
Notes to the Accounts

1 Accounting Policies

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis with a statement of assets and liabilities.

2 Payments

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 £	2020 £
Church activities					
Pastoral Services	3	36,442	0	36,442	31,050
Insurance		412	0	412	409
Copyright Licence		269	0	269	314
Data Protection		35	0	35	35
Churches Child Protection Advisory Services		129	0	129	120
Advertising and Publicity		419	0	419	142
Website		127	0	127	0
Miscellaneous		379	0	379	352
		38,212	0	38,212	32,422
Gifts Made					
		325	0	325	170
Governance					
Accounts Examination		420	0	420	420
		38,957	0	38,957	33,012

3 Pastoral Services and Trustees

The Trust has no employees. The amount for Pastoral Services referred to above is the grant paid to John and Merle Sparkes for leading the church and to support them in their wider Christian work. In addition, a payment for consultancy, assistance and other activities as required to support the pastoral ministry of the church for one day per week was made to Tim Sparkes.