



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From

1 April 2022 To

31 March 2023

Charity name: **Fords Lane Evangelical Church**

Charity registration number: **1125658**

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The advancement of the Christian Faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith in the UK and abroad but primarily in the area surrounding Bramhall, Stockport; and such other charitable purposes as shall in the opinion of the Elders further the work of the Church
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The focus of our activities has been and continues to be the preaching and teaching of the Christian Faith, conducting weekly services of worship and prayer, our weekly clubs and activities for children and youth and the provision of facilities and secular activities all for the benefit of the community.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	In planning our activities for the year we kept in mind at all Elders' meetings the Charity Commission's Guidance on Public Benefit.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	

Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>1. We continued links with the village youth club, the Mill, and through its leaders with the local High School and Primary Schools. We did this both financially and via recruitment of a part-time youth leader, who spent time working with young people at the Mill. We continued to host children from two local primary schools for half-day sessions to learn what Christians believe about Christmas and Easter.</p> <p>2. Our children's groups have continued this year, including the club for primary-age children called Sparks. Children and young people from inside and outside the church membership have attended and benefited and the Sparks group has grown numerically.</p> <p>3. One of our church members continues to serve as trustee for 'Press Red', a Manchester-based initiative to help women suffering from domestic violence and abuse, which extended its training reach across England.</p> <p>4. Our monthly lunch club for the over 60's across the area continues to offer a low-cost hot meal, friendship and transport if required. Numbers continued to grow. We also resumed a craft club which enables attendees to develop their artistic talents and is a place for mutual support and encouragement.</p> <p>5. Our previous pastor, Jonathan Dawson, continued to work in Ecuador alongside his wife Susan. Jonathan supports adults spiritually through leading a Bible school and Susan leads work to support poor children in the neighbourhood. The church continues to support all this work financially and in prayer.</p> <p>6. We appointed a new pastor, Chris Thornton, who began work in July 2022. At the same time, the elders of the church continued to provide pastoral support for the whole church membership. A number of</p>

		<p>them are vulnerable adults, whom we assist with transport, shopping and friendship.</p> <p>7. From autumn 2022 an increasing flow of foreign nationals, including some of the Hong Kong diaspora, began to come to church and some became members. We have supported these new arrivals practically by advising on and helping them integrate into British life and from January 2023 began more formal teaching to help them become more proficient in English language and culture.</p> <p>8. We became a Christians Against Poverty (CAP) partner with another church in the town. We offer debt advice and practical support to anyone in the area who contacts CAP and wants to become debt-free. This has included providing Christmas hampers of food and food vouchers.</p> <p>9. We have continued broadcasting and live-streaming our services over the Internet, continuing to reach much larger numbers than pre-Covid came through the doors. For more vulnerable and housebound people, this continues to be a way of keeping in touch and contributing markedly to emotional well-being.</p>
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The Charity was solvent at the end of the financial year. Income in the reporting period showed a small increase on the previous year whilst there was a marked increase in expenditure this was attributed to a resumption of normal activities after the effects of the lockdowns resulting from the Covid 19 pandemic. The amount held in reserves showed an increase this was partly due to the lower level of activities in the previous year and partly due to the reduction in spending on salary due to a gap between one Pastor leaving and the new Pastor taking up his position; it is anticipated that some of these reserves will be spent on projects in the coming year as funds had been set aside for the installation of a lift to enable disabled access to the first floor of the church hall.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Our policy is to accumulate income to set aside for special purposes or as reserves against future expenditure including unforeseen expenditure that may occur, for example repairs or extensions to buildings, for such period not exceeding that permitted by law. We aim to hold up to £40,000 in reserves for the year end.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£119,529.59
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	n/a

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	

Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Trust Deed
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Unicorporated Association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Each elder acts as trustee and elders are appointed by the elders for the time being

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Fords Lane Evangelical Church
Other name the charity uses	n/a
Registered charity number	1125658
Charity's principal address	Fords Lane Bramhall Stockport SK7 1DQ

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	C T Thornton	Pastor	1/7/22-31/3/23	The Elders
2	N Wilson			The Elders
3	P E Harper MBE			The Elders
4	D R Webb			The Elders
5	T K Ayebare			The Elders
6	M Wilson			The Elders
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

[illegible]

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

[illegible]

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	n/a
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	n/a
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	n/a

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	(sgnd)	(sgnd)
Full name(s)	Paul Harper	Mike Wilson
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Trustee	Trustee
Date	14 Jan 2024	

**Fords Lane Evangelical Church
Account for the year ended 31st March 2023**

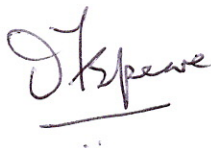
GRAND TOTAL

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Receipts	155,989.50	153,818.90
Payments	-145,072.88	-111,348.51
Net Receipts	10,916.62	42,470.39
Opening Balance	108,612.97	66,142.58
Closing Balance	119,529.59	108,612.97

RECONCILIATION

Bank Account: Royal Bank of Scotland - Current Account	35,734.67	34,217.77
Royal Bank of Scotland - Deposit Account	48,594.83	43,555.01
Royal Bank of Scotland - Maintenance Account	35,200.09	30,840.19
Total Bank	119,529.59	108,612.97

Examined and found correct according to the books and records presented to me.



Independent examiner
24th August 2023

Fords Lane Evangelical Church

Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023

BANK ACCOUNT RECONCILIATIONS AS AT 31/03/2023

RBS CURRENT ACCOUNT

Bank Balance at 31/03/2023		37,418.27
Less outstanding cheques:		
5145 Mwcbeg	500.00	
5150 30/03/23 Joireman	820.00	
5151 30/03/23 Brights	63.60	
5152 30/03/23 Kia Hadeaghi	300.00	1,683.60
		<hr/>
Cash Book Balance at 31/03/2023		35,734.67

RBS DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

Bank Balance at 31/03/2023	48,594.83
Cash Book Balance at 31/03/2023	<hr/> 48,594.83

RBS MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT

Bank Balance at 31/03/2023	35,200.09
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TOTAL BANK BALANCES at 31/03/2023	<hr/> 119,529.59
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Fords Lane Evangelical Church
Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023

INCOME	2023	2022
1 Gift Aid	53,270.00	62,283.65
2 Gift Aid HMRC	15,969.27	12,424.64
3 Donations	72,467.05	45,536.07
4 Donations Lift	3,799.00	19,352.52
5 Weekly Offerings	3,097.22	760.10
6 GADS	3,325.00	1,871.00
7 Other Income		
Church Weekend Receipts	0.00	6,170.00
Craft Workshop	150.00	250.00
Donation Ukraine	0.00	2,572.27
Earthquake Appeal	1,836.01	0.00
Hire of Hall	447.50	877.50
Hursthead School	128.00	0.00
IJM	0.00	200.00
Moss Hey School	0.00	110.00
Mukinge	820.00	0.00
Rebate	150.00	1,404.92
Turkey Car	150.00	0.00
8 Bank Interest	380.45	6.23
TOTAL INCOME	155,989.50	153,818.90
EXPENDITURE		
Ministry and Mission		
1 Salary	31,177.41	16,534.72
2 Pension	2,822.72	4,107.80
3 Expenses	909.62	0.00
4 Missionary	50,305.00	46,428.00
5 Outreach Expenses	400.00	123.00
6 Ukraine Gift	0.00	3,162.27
	85,614.75	70,355.79
Buildings		
7 Council Tax	2,116.31	2,516.74
8 Insurance	3,553.11	3,392.04
9 Water Rates	602.71	362.60
	6,272.13	6,271.38
Repairs/Equipment		
10 Church Buildings	16,693.87	16,934.91
11 Equipment	2,087.54	207.02
12 Lift Costs	5,880.00	870.00
	24,661.41	18,011.93
Heating/Lighting		
13 Electricity/Gas	5,019.84	1,858.22
	5,019.84	1,858.22
Sundry Payments		
14 CAP	1,600.00	0.00
15 Catering	1,024.45	113.52
16 CCN Donation	240.00	240.00
17 Cleaning	1,730.50	557.63
18 Church Weekend	500.00	7,537.00
19 Earthquake Relief	3,090.00	0.00
20 Fees	2,340.32	2,722.60
21 Festival Manchester	1,000.00	0.00
22 Flowers	147.48	0.00
23 Gifts	7,972.75	1,366.11
24 IJM Donation	0.00	350.00
25 Other Service Expenses	1,281.87	694.71
26 Printing /Publications	735.85	62.40
27 Photocopier/Broadband	445.69	360.36
28 Subscriptions	22.00	550.80
29 Training	250.00	0.00
30 Youth Work (inc DBS)	1,123.84	296.06
	23,504.75	14,851.19
Total Expenditure	145,072.88	111,348.51
Net Receipts	10,916.62	42,470.39
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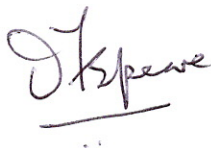
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