



High Street Chapel

Registered Charity no. 1127666

High Street Chapel Hopton

**Report of the Trustees
and
Independently Examined Financial Statements**

**For the year ended
31st March 2024**

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High Street Chapel Hopton
Report of the trustees for the year ended 31st March 2024

The trustees present their annual report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) on Accounting and Reporting by Charities effective from 1 January 2015 and FRS 102.

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity name

High Street Chapel Hopton

Registered charity number

1127666

Principal address

High Street Chapel Hopton
High Street
Hopton
Diss
Norfolk
IP22 2QX

Trustees

The following people served as trustees during the period:

Local Trustees

Andrew Clarke
Mark Cleveland
Tim Holden
Wendy Banks
Tanya Dawson (per 5 March 2024)

External Trustees

Graeme Thomas
Mark Wallace
Andrew Yuill (resigned 1st June 2023)

Accounts Preparation

Matthew Larkin
72, Green Street,
Tahunanui,
Nelson,
7011,
New Zealand

Independent examiner

Tania Jones
Warren Cottage,
Warren Lane,
Woolpit,
Suffolk,
IP30 9RT

Bankers

NatWest
7 Cornhill,
Bury St Edmunds,
Suffolk,
IP33 1BQ

Structure, Governance and Management

Governance

High Street Chapel Hopton was formed as a charity under a deed of trust made on 18th July 1878.

The charity's activities are centred upon the premises stewarded by the trustees under the trust deed, being that of High Street Chapel, High Street, Hopton, although some of the church's activities are carried out outside these premises as considered necessary.

The trust also includes a residential property neighbouring High Street Chapel known as *Sundene*. This is rented out and the income is applied towards the property's upkeep, with any surplus funds being credited to the charity's general fund to be used within its day to day activities.

The trust registered with the Charity Commission (registration number 1127666) on 21st January 2009.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Any trustee can propose an individual to serve as a trustee, and this person can be appointed by the unanimous agreement of the trustee body. The policy of the trustees is to ensure that the trustee body is made up both of individuals involved in the day to day activities of the church (referred to as "local trustees") and a number of trustees serving who are unconnected and external to the church ("external trustees"), so as to ensure independence and objectivity.

Day to day management therefore rests with the "local trustees"; the day to day activities of the charity are delegated to the body of elders and deacons. The "local trustees" are members of High Street Chapel Hopton, some of whom also serve either as an elder or as a deacon.

Trustee induction and training

New trustees are provided with copies of:

- the charity's trust deed;
- the latest annual report and financial statement of the charity;
- relevant policy and practice documents and minutes;

and are encouraged to read Charity Commission guidance notes CC3 – "The Essential Trustee: What you need to know".

Trustees are encouraged to read Charity Commission and other appropriate newsletters designed to keep them abreast of their duties and responsibilities.

Risk management

The trustees confirm that the major risks to which the charity is exposed have been identified, reviewed and assessed in order for systems to be established to mitigate those risks.

Health and safety issues, safeguarding issues, food hygiene, first aid and maintenance and upkeep of the buildings, amongst other risks, are kept under review.

Organisational structure

The trustees aim to meet twice during the year. The church continues to be led on a day-to-day basis by three elders, supported by a group of six deacons who undertake practical work.

Apart from our 4 part-time employees: the Caretaker, Ministry Leader, Communities Worker and Administrator, all other workers in the church are volunteers. Too many to count or name, everyone in the church plays their part in making things happen.

Objectives and Activities, Achievements and Performance

The objectives of High Street Chapel ("HSC") are set out in its trust deed. These are summarised as being the following:-

- a. to organise and carry out a "breaking of bread" service (commonly known as Communion);
- b. to preach and teach the Gospel of God; and
- c. to use the premises for such purposes, civil or religious, which the members of High Street Chapel consider fit and relevant to carry out its overall objectives.

The elders have adopted a "mission statement" which sets out how they seek to apply this on a day-to-day basis. An extract of this is reproduced below:

"We believe God has called High Street Chapel to join with His heart and reach out in new innovative ways to the people of our community; to build bridges and earn the right to share the life-transforming message of the Gospel. We believe God has led us through prayer, thought and confirmation from His Word and respected Christians outside and inside the church to this vision. We believe we must take the initiative to go out to our community and obey the principle of the Great Commission to 'go'. We believe God will honour this vision to transform our community and in so doing transform our church as we transform lives in Jesus' name."

In short, HSC's objectives remain to provide a place where God's people can come together to worship God, have fellowship with one another, be taught from God's Word and to be encouraged to serve God.

Worship

Sunday morning services continue every week with a live stream on our YouTube channel so that those who are unable to attend can partake and be included. The babies, children and youth are all catered for by Creche, and Explorers, with High Street Kids and Ignite meeting on a Friday evening. Early Birds, the group for parents/carers and babies/toddlers continues to meet on Thursday mornings serving both the church and local community.

There are special services organised around Easter, Harvest and Christmas.

Regular weekly evening services consist of "Drawing Closer" meetings on the 1st Sunday of the month, focussing on spending time seeking the Lord, praying specifically for our community, our nation, our world, and ourselves, and on the other Sundays of the month an evening prayer meeting.

Youth work

In April a 2-day holiday club was organised, called Space Academy, which was well attended by many children from the local schools.

Regular youth worship sessions, encourage the worship gifts and talents of the younger people, ready for them to begin involvement in Sunday worship.

Once again, at Advent, the children put together videos, this year focusing on Hope, Peace, Love and Joy.

Outreach and Community

The HSC Face Book Page continues to post uplifting, encouraging content with the aim to help people find and follow Jesus Christ.

HSC's coffee shop, The Well, in the village of Hopton is open 3 days a week and is well used.

Several regular events are organised, open to anyone. These include the Coffee Morning in the church building, Men's breakfast, once a week summer evening walks, a bowling challenge, and a men's worship event with local band World Without End.

Other events include summer outreach BBQ, light party as an alternative to Halloween, carol singing.

During the year a ladies' game night and a ladies' care group were started

Two big events, organised by HSC are for a families' camping weekend in July and for a weekend of worship, teaching and relaxation in January, both at the Sizewell Hall. These events are open for anyone.

The Communities Worker continues to keep in touch with members and with many people in the area by regular phone calls and visits. Where needed he organises support for families which could be in co-operation with the Waveney Foodbank.

Hopton CEVA school used the HSC building to host a concert to raise money for mosquito nets for families in need.

Mission

The ministry of Tony and Ruth Hood, Counties Evangelists, continued to be supported by the church as schools gradually re-started after school clubs and assemblies. This includes helping with reading activities, one to one mentoring, 'Open the Book' Assemblies and SPLAT (Special People Learning About Truth). They also continue to develop new relationships in the community, providing welfare support, particularly supplying food parcels to those in need, with financial support from the church.

HSC supports a number of overseas and local missions and missionaries.

Organisation

The elders met every month, while the deacons met together quarterly, and the trustees met once this year. New policies were written for financial control and event policy, while the safeguarding policy was reviewed.

Public Benefit

It is the policy to ensure that all activities are relevant to those in the local community as occasion allows. Several members are involved in village activities, and we seek to engage and invite the local community to all the church's activities, as they are relevant to them.

In reviewing these activities, the trustees are aware and conscious of the statutory obligations placed upon them to ensure that the charity is run for the public benefit, and consider the guidance given and published by the Charity Commission.

Financial Review

In the year ended 31st March 2024, a net surplus of £7,530 was recorded on total income of £83,686 (period to 31st March 2023: net deficit of £10,287).

The charity operates four main funds which fall under three broad categories:-

- Unrestricted Funds – can be spent on any of the charitable purposes of the charity. The General Fund performs this function as it is used for the day to day running of the trust's activities.
- Designated Funds – represents the Building Fund and the House Fund. The Building Fund sets funds aside for maintaining the building and major capital projects. The House Fund collects the rent from Sundene and pays expenses relating to the property.
- Restricted Funds - can only be lawfully used for a specific charitable purpose. The funds donated to the church specifically for individuals, missionaries and charities fall into this category.

Transfers are made between the General Fund, Building and House Funds as the need arises.

As at 31st March 2024, total net assets for all three funds amounted to £1,774,109.

The main income of the church arises from donations made by members of the church, mostly under regular Gift Aid giving, by standing order. Offerings and gifts amounted to £68,955 in the year, compared with £59,400 in the year to 31st March 2023. Rental Income from Sundene was £6,600.

The main expenditure of the church is on salaries, tax, National Insurance and pension payments to the Caretaker, Ministry Leader, part-time Communities Worker and part-time Administrator, amounting to £38,369 (2023: £37,486).

We support a number of local and overseas mission partners. We paid in total £12,296 of which £3,297 went to overseas missions.

The four largest expenses from the Building Fund were: Insurance (£1,984), Hedge Cutting (£600), Lighting (£260), and Fire Extinguisher Servicing (£259).

The house, Sundene, was let all year, maintenance was continued, the major expenses being: Maintenance and repairs (£754), Insurance (£563) and boiler servicing (£92).

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the trustees to hold funds which allow room for the fluctuations in income that inevitably occur from year to year, and for any major projects that may be required in the future. The trustees consider that the free cash reserves held at the year-end of £ 61,530 represent sufficient reserves for the trust.

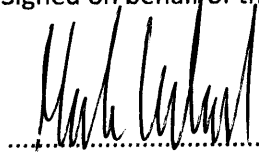
Investment policy and objectives

The trustees consider that there are no material funds available for medium- or long-term investment and, having considered the options available, have decided to place any surplus funds on deposit with appropriate banking institutions.

Trustees

The eight trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 2 of this report.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees:



M Cleveland, Trustee

19.11.2024

Date

Independent Examiner's Report To The Trustees Of High Street Chapel Hopton

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 set out on pages 9 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

It is my responsibility to:

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

Basis of the independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Tania Jones
Warren Cottage,
Warren Lane,
Woolpit,
Suffolk,
IP30 9RT

20 October 2024

Date

Receipts and Payments Account

For the year ended 31st March 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Prior Period Funds £
Income						
Bank Interest		519	0	0	519	189
Events & Activities		7,612	0	0	7,612	6,389
Offerings & Other Gifts		66,433	0	2,522	68,955	59,400
Rent Received		0	6,600	0	6,600	6,600
		74,564	6,600	2,522	83,686	72,578
Payments						
Administration Expenses		(506)	0	0	(506)	(489)
Bank Charges		0	0	0	0	(24)
Copyright		(890)	0	0	(890)	(837)
Equipment Purchased		(356)	0	0	(356)	0
Events & Activities		(11,038)	0	0	(11,038)	(9,302)
Gifts & Donations		(7,033)	0	(5,263)	(12,296)	(18,865)
Insurance		0	(2,571)	0	(2,571)	(2,762)
IT		(91)	0	0	(91)	(262)
Maintenance, repairs & cleaning		(1,140)	(2,208)	0	(3,348)	(7,049)
Printing, stationery, computer supplies & postage		(666)	0	0	(666)	(1,035)
Safeguarding		(1,382)	0	0	(1,382)	(162)
Speakers		(322)	0	0	(322)	(584)
Teaching & Library Costs		0	0	0	0	(33)
Personnel Cost		(38,369)	0	0	(38,369)	(37,486)
Utilities		(4,322)	0	0	(4,322)	(3,975)
		(66,114)	(4,779)	(5,263)	(76,156)	(82,866)
Surplus/(deficit) for the Year		8,450	1,821	(2,741)	7,530	(10,287)
Transfers Between Funds		(4,684)	1,000	3,684	0	0
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets		0	626,946	0	626,946	0
Net Movement In Funds		3,766	629,767	943	634,476	(10,287)
Reconciliation of Funds:						
Total Funds Brought Forward		51,773	1,088,803	370	1,140,946	1,151,234
Total Funds Carried Forward		55,539	1,718,570	1,313	1,775,422	1,140,946

High Street Chapel Hopton
Report of the trustees for the year ended 31st March 2024

High Street Chapel Hopton

Balance Sheet

As at 31st March 2024

	Total Funds £	Prior Year Funds £
Fixed Assets		
Tangible Assets	1,705,509	1,078,563
Current Assets		
Debtors	7,370	13,228
Cash at Bank and in Hand	62,843	49,869
Liabilities		
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	(300)	(714)
Total Net Assets	1,775,422	1,140,946
The Funds of The Charity		
Unrestricted Funds	55,539	51,773
Designated Funds	1,091,624	1,088,803
Restricted Funds	1,313	370
Revaluation Reserve	626,946	0
Total Charity Funds	1,775,422	1,140,946

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees and were signed on its behalf by:



M Cleveland, Trustee



M. Wallace, Trustee