



swindon
evangelical
church

Swindon Evangelical Church

Trustees' Annual Report 2021

Registered Charity No. 1129912

1. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The trustees, who are the church officers named in 1.3 including the Pastor, have pleasure in presenting this report of the church for the year ended 31st December 2021. The information set out above regarding the trust forms part of our report and the attached accounts are the accounts of the church which we have prepared and were adopted by church members at the AGM on 22nd March 2022.

1.1 Name & Address:

Swindon Evangelical Church
17-19 Devizes Road,
Swindon.
SN1 4BH

1.2 Registration with the Charity Commission:

The church is registered directly with the Charity Commission, no. 1129912.

1.3 Trustees during the period:

Holding Trustee: The Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches Ltd
39 The Point, Rockingham Road, Market Harborough, LE16 7QU.

Managing Trustees: Paul Williams, Pastor
Brian Whittaker, Associate Pastor
Mark Trafford, Elder
Richard Foster, Elder and Chair of Trustees
John Baker, Deacon
Jonathan Redhead, Deacon (appointed Elder – June 2022)
Duncan Thew, Deacon
Luke Moody, Deacon
Sacha Childs-Clarke, Deacon (resigned – February 2022)
Michel Crabol, Deacon
Barney Main, Deacon
Timothy Mann, Deacon
Alex Tibitwenda, Deacon (resigned – April 2022)
Paula James, Deacon (appointed – January 2022)

1.4 Bankers:

CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, WEST MALLING ME19 4JQ
and
Lloyds Bank plc, 5 High Street, SWINDON SN1 3EN

1.5 Independent Examiner:

Luke Woodhams, FCCA
TN6 Ltd, Enterprise Centre, Pine Grove, Crowborough, East Sussex, TN6 1DH

2. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

2.1 Governing Documentation:

Swindon Evangelical Church Constitution, November 2008.

A - Chapel, 17 & 18 Devizes Rd - Conveyance (and Declaration of Trust), 17th March 1927.

B - Meeting Rooms, 19 Devizes Rd - Conveyance (and Declaration of Trust), 30th April 1955.

A & B – Charity Commission Scheme (appointing FIEC Ltd as Trustee), 11th May 1993.

Church Rules, June 2009.

2.2 Members and Employees

The church is an independent body made up of members who, on public profession of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and acknowledgment of His authority over their lives, voluntarily agree to adhere to the church Basis of Faith and Constitution.

The membership on 31st December 2021 stood at 135 members, six of whom joined the church during 2021. During the year one member resigned and two died.

The Annual General Meeting was held on 23rd March, with three other Members' Meetings held on the 22nd June, 28th September and 30th November.

The church employed a full-time Pastor, the Pastor's wife on a part-time basis, an Associate Pastor from 22nd February 2021, a part-time Ladies' Worker, a part-time Administrator, and a part-time Children's and Youth Worker.

2.3 Volunteers

The church continues to benefit from committed people who are willing to give their time to help in the work of the church across the range of activities.

3. OBEJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

3.1 Aims and Objectives

The church exists for the:

- worship of God through the preaching and teaching of God's Word, praise and prayer;
- encouragement of spiritual growth in the lives of its members;
- promotion of fellowship between the members;
- organisation of evangelistic efforts to tell other people the good news of the Gospel;
- support of missionary activities both at home and abroad;

in accordance with the governing documentation.

3.2 Public Benefit

The trustees consider that they have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

4. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

4.1 Church Activities

The gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ was faithfully preached throughout the year by our Pastor, Associate Pastor and members of the church, as well as a number of visiting preachers and speakers.

Many of the church meetings and activities, including Sunday services of public worship, were continued despite restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic through the first half of the year, using online meetings. Later in the year the church held Sunday services and other meetings within the church building, as Government restrictions were lifted. However, Sunday services were also broadcast online because during the pandemic a number of worshippers who would normally be unable to attend meetings due to age or infirmity benefitted from the initiative.

Meetings held by the church during the year were:

Weekly & Fortnightly

- Sunday services of public worship, both morning and evening.
- Adventurers and Explorers (Sunday School) and Ignite (for teenagers) each Sunday.
- Care Groups (house groups) for Bible Study, prayer & fellowship on alternate Tuesdays.
- Church Prayer Meeting on alternate Tuesdays.
- Stepping Stones parent-toddler group on Wednesday mornings during school terms.
- Women's Fellowship meeting on Wednesday afternoons.
- Ladies' Bible Study on Thursday mornings.
- Men's Bible Study on Thursday mornings.
- Mums Connect met weekly during term time for mums of young children for fellowship, Bible Study and prayer.
- One-Way Club and Pathfinders outreach clubs for children on Thursdays during school term.
- Friday Fellowship outreach & lunch on alternate Fridays.
- Rooted, the group for teenagers (age 14+) on Wednesdays.
- 20+ group for Bible Study, prayer & fellowship on Friday evenings.

Other regular meetings

- Triple-C card making club held once per month.
- Women's Breakfast meeting roughly every 4 months on Saturdays.
- Men's Breakfast meeting roughly every 4 months on Saturdays.
- Ladies Together fellowship for all women roughly every 6 months.

Other special meetings or events:

- There were five baptisms, two weddings and four funerals
- 98th Church Anniversary on 10th January, with speaker David Earnshaw
- Speaker on mission from UFM 14th February
- Brian Whittaker appointed as Associate Pastor on 22nd February, with speaker Jonny Raine
- Good Friday service, 2nd April
- Easter Day Service, 4th April
- Holiday Bible Club (online) 6th to 9th April
- Quiz Nights outreach on 23rd April and 3rd December
- Discipleship Explored course (online), 26th April to 28th June
- Curry Night (online), 10th July
- Holiday at Home outreach to older people, 26th to 30th July
- Church Weekend Away, 17th to 19th September
- Harvest Thanksgiving service, 26th September
- Light Party for children, 30th October
- "Christmas Unwrapped" outreach to primary schools in November and December
- Christmas Lunch for older people, 10th December

- Carol Singing outside local shop, 18th December
- Carol Service on 19th December
- Christmas Day Service on 25th December

Other ministries include outreach using posted literature; visitation of the sick and elderly; and practical care including collections for Swindon Food Bank.

4.2 Missionary Support

The church supports missionary organisations both practically and financially. Organisations regularly supported are the Barnabas Fund which supports persecuted Christians worldwide; 20Schemes in the UK; Cranford Baptist Church, in the UK; UFM in Asia; Baptist Church in Myanmar and Christian Witness to Israel.

5. FINANCIAL REVIEW

5.1 Financial Review and Policies

God always provides for our needs when we seek to trust Him and follow in obedience to the way He leads. We have seen that many times in the past and have seen how God has provided for us in the year. Donation income remained at the same level as last year and expenditure increased as expected as our new Associate Pastor started.

However, the funds for the year were transformed when we received a legacy of £256K in November which means that total funds increased by £272K during the year and takes our total funds to just over £1.9 million. If you take these out the end of year position would be a small deficit of £1,000 which is better than what we had in the budget with the known increased expenditure as we employed an Associate Pastor.

The other major transaction during the year was the loans given to our Associate Pastor to enable him to move to Swindon. This happened before the legacy came in so trustees recalled the Designated Building Funds of £225K to cover this in the short term. The loan is split into two parts - one of which is repayable in 2022 and has now been repaid while the other one has much longer terms.

The biggest impact on the figures is the legacy and the return of the designated building funds which gives us the massive surplus in the year of £454K in our general unrestricted funds and the trustees are considering how best to use these funds in line with our charitable objectives.

5.2 Principal Funding Sources

The principal source of funding is from our members who generously give to support the work of the church in seeking to meet its charitable objectives.

5.3 Reserves policy

Our current reserves policy is to hold unrestricted reserves that are at least equal to three months operational expenditure. We thank God that our current level of reserves are higher than this.

5.4 Investment Policy

Income is generally received to support the work of the church so any surplus income is held in relatively accessible current or short-term deposits accounts.

5.5 Going Concern

The trustees have reviewed the circumstances of the charity and believe that sufficient resources are available to fund the activities for the foreseeable future. Therefore, the trustees are of the view that the charity is a going concern.

5.6 Building Together Project

The trustees considered the future of the building project and decided to look into development of the existing site, as all other potential sites or buildings for sale in the locality were unaffordable or not suitable.

5.7 Risk Management

The church has a risk management strategy involving an annual review and update by the trustees of identified operational, personnel, financial and reputational risks. The trustees are satisfied that appropriate systems and procedures are in place to monitor, manage and, where appropriate, mitigate these risks. The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the risks of beginning to come out of lockdown have continued to be reviewed regularly to ensure that everyone connected with the church remains safe while seeking to get back to more in-person gatherings.



Richard Foster
Chair, on behalf of the Managing Trustees
4th September 2022

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Swindon Evangelical Church

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 135 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants.

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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 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.



L W Woodhams FCCA
TN6 Ltd
Pine Grove Enterprise Centre
Pine Grove
Crowborough
East Sussex
TN6 1DH

Date: 18 October 2022

Swindon Evangelical Church
Report and Financial Statements - 31 December 2021

Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds 2021 £	2020 £
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies		429,533	28,033	-	457,566	362,567
Interest		142	3,913	-	4,055	4,135
Total		<u>429,675</u>	<u>31,946</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>461,621</u>	<u>366,702</u>
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	3	170,540	18,642	-	189,182	148,252
Total		<u>170,540</u>	<u>18,642</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>189,182</u>	<u>148,252</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		<u>259,135</u>	<u>13,304</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>272,439</u>	<u>218,450</u>
Transfers between funds	10	(3,384)	3,384	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>255,751</u>	<u>16,688</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>272,439</u>	<u>218,450</u>
Total funds brought forward	10	416,222	685,563	537,500	1,639,285	1,420,835
Total funds carried forward	10	<u><u>671,973</u></u>	<u><u>702,251</u></u>	<u><u>537,500</u></u>	<u><u>1,911,724</u></u>	<u><u>1,639,285</u></u>

Swindon Evangelical Church
Report and Financial Statements - 31 December 2021

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Fixed Assets						
Tangible assets	6	10,939	-	437,500	448,439	451,174
Investments	7	-	-	100,000	100,000	100,000
		<u>10,939</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>537,500</u>	<u>548,439</u>	<u>551,174</u>
Current assets						
Debtors	8	239,378	13,344		252,722	85,999
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>426,906</u>	<u>688,907</u>		1,115,813	1,003,662
		<u>666,284</u>	<u>702,251</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,368,535</u>	<u>1,089,661</u>
Current liabilities						
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(5,250)	-	-	(5,250)	(1,550)
Net current assets		<u>661,034</u>	<u>702,251</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,363,285</u>	<u>1,088,111</u>
Total net assets		<u>671,973</u>	<u>702,251</u>	<u>537,500</u>	<u>1,911,724</u>	<u>1,639,285</u>
Funds of the charity						
Endowment funds	10	-	-	537,500	537,500	537,500
Restricted income funds	10	-	702,251	-	702,251	685,563
Unrestricted funds	10	671,973	-	-	671,973	416,222
Total funds		<u>671,973</u>	<u>702,251</u>	<u>537,500</u>	<u>1,911,724</u>	<u>1,639,285</u>

Approved by the Trustees on 4th September 2022 and signed on their behalf by:



Richard Foster
Chairman

Swindon Evangelical Church
Report and Financial Statements - 31 December 2021

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

1. Basis of preparation

a) Basis of preparation

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011. The trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Swindon Evangelical Church meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

b) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The church has free reserves in excess of two years' annual expenditure. The trustees are happy the church prepares accounts on a going concern basis.

2. Accounting policies

a) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are donations receivable without further specified purpose and are available as general funds. Restricted funds are to be used for specific purposes as laid down by the donor. Expenditure which meets these criteria is charged to the fund. Details of the nature and purpose of each fund is set out in note 12.

b) Income

Voluntary income is received by way of donations and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Gift Aid is recognised on the date of the donation and recovered on an annual basis. The Trust also makes use of the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme. The value of services provided by volunteers has not been included.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Support and governance costs are recognised in the costs of the charitable activities of the church.

d) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing (excluding land and buildings) more than £1,000 are capitalised and valued at historical cost. Depreciation is charged on the assets at the following rates:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment	20% per annum on a straight line basis
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Land and buildings are not depreciated as the trustees believe the property's market value is in excess of the carrying value.

e) Investments

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date. The same treatment is applied to unlisted investments unless fair value cannot be measured reliably, in which case it is measured at cost less impairment.

Swindon Evangelical Church
Report and Financial Statements - 31 December 2021

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021 (cont'd)

3. Charitable expenditure (including support and governance costs)

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2021	Total funds 2020
	£	£	£	£
Ministry	113,917		113,917	84,916
Outreach and mission	17,226	16,551	33,777	27,183
Premises	14,074	2,091	16,165	12,248
Admin	19,390		19,390	22,587
Other costs	663		663	529
Governance costs	5,270		5,270	789
	<u>170,540</u>	<u>18,642</u>	<u>189,182</u>	<u>148,252</u>

4. Governance costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Governance costs include:		
Independent examiner's fees	<u>474</u>	<u>474</u>

5. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Salaries and wages	107,877	82,106
Employer's National Insurance contributions	4,392	1,421
Pension costs	8,627	6,568
	<u>120,896</u>	<u>90,095</u>

The average number of employees during the year:

	2021	2020
Charitable activities	6	5
	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>

No employee received total emoluments (excluding employer pension costs) above £60,000.

Swindon Evangelical Church
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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021 (cont'd)

6. Tangible Fixed Assets

Used by the Charity	Freehold land & buildings £	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Total £
Cost			
As at 1 January 2021	437,500	49,287	486,787
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2021	<u>437,500</u>	<u>49,287</u>	<u>486,787</u>
Depreciation			
As at 1 January 2021	-	35,613	35,613
Charge for year	-	2,735	2,735
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>38,348</u>	<u>38,348</u>
Net book value			
As at 31 December 2021	<u>437,500</u>	<u>10,939</u>	<u>448,439</u>
As at 31 December 2020	<u>437,500</u>	<u>13,674</u>	<u>451,174</u>

7. Fixed Asset Investments

	Other investments £
Carrying value at 1 January 2021	100,000
Revaluations	-
Less: impairments	-
Carrying value at 31 December 2021	<u>100,000</u>

8. Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Loan to trustee	214,500	
Income Tax recoverable for Gift Aid donations	29,580	80,737
Prepayments	1,970	2,087
Accrued income	6,672	3,175
	<u>252,722</u>	<u>85,999</u>

2 loans were made to Brian Whittaker, Associate Pastor, during the year to enable his relocation to Swindon. One for £105,000 at 0% interest with an equal interest in any property revaluation. The other for £109,500 was a bridging loan with 1.5% interest rate. The second was repaid in March 2022.

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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021 (cont'd)

9. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals	5,250	1,550
	<u>5,250</u>	<u>1,550</u>

10. Movements in funds

	At 1 January 2021	Income Expenditure		Transfers	Gains/ (losses)	At 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Endowment funds:						
Church Premises	437,500	-	-	-	-	437,500
Manse Trust Fund	100,000	-	-	-	-	100,000
Total endowment funds	<u>537,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>537,500</u>
Restricted funds:						
Building fund	647,939	10,719	(2,091)	-	-	656,567
Other restricted funds	37,624	21,227	(16,551)	3,384	-	45,684
Total restricted funds	<u>685,563</u>	<u>31,946</u>	<u>(18,642)</u>	<u>3,384</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>702,251</u>
Unrestricted funds:						
General funds	166,667	425,275	(150,575)	179,605	-	620,972
Building fund provision	225,000	-	-	(225,000)	-	-
Other unrestricted funds	24,555	4,400	(19,965)	42,011	-	51,001
Total unrestricted funds	<u>416,222</u>	<u>429,675</u>	<u>(170,540)</u>	<u>(3,384)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>671,973</u>
Total funds	<u><u>1,639,285</u></u>	<u><u>461,621</u></u>	<u><u>(189,182)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,911,724</u></u>

11. Related party transactions

The following trustees received remuneration:

Name	Legal Authority	Salary £	Pension £	Total £	2020 £
Paul Williams	Church constitution	41,381	3,310	44,691	43,496
Ruth Williams	Church constitution	5,130	410	5,540	5,392
Brian Whittaker	Church constitution	29,896	2,392	32,288	
Deborah Baker	Church constitution	10,712	857	11,569	11,259

Trustees were reimbursed for the following expenses in the year:

Travel expenses	705	311
Accommodation expenses	-	-
	<u>705</u>	<u>311</u>

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period.