

Stour Valley Vineyard Church

Report and Accounts
Year ended 31 December 2024

Stewardship 
Active generosity

1 Lamb's Passage, London EC1Y 8AB
www.stewardship.org.uk

STOUR VALLEY VINEYARD CHURCH
LEGAL & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE	Suite 1 & 2 Sudbury Business Centre Chilton Industrial Estate Milner Road Sudbury CO10 2XG
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Constitution for a charitable incorporated organisation from 27 August 2020.
CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER	1131617
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE CHARITY	J Taylor K Taylor R Woodman I Copeman (resigned 31st March 2025) C Vernon H Forth M Buckland (appointed 31st March 2025)
BANKERS	CAF Bank 25 Kings Hill Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Lisa Darby FCA Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage LONDON EC1Y 8AB

INDEX

Page 1	Legal & Administrative Details
Pages 2-4	Trustees' Report
Page 5	Independent Examiner's Report
Page 6	Receipts and Payments Account
Page 7	Statement of Assets & Liabilities
Pages 8 - 9	Notes to the Accounts



Trustee Report on 2024 Accounts

The Trustees have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Objects of the charity

In summary, the principal objects of the charity (as set out in the governing document) are:

- (a) to advance the Christian faith
- (b) to further Christian education
- (c) to relieve sickness and financial hardship

The Church seeks to demonstrate the Christian faith in action by reaching out with God's love; Sunday services; prayer ministry; pastoral groups; youth and children's ministries; prayer for the sick within and without the church; providing financial and practical help, food and support to those in need; ministry training; life-skills and personal development; biblical studies; in the Stour Valley area.

Our vision is to be a people who seek to encounter the presence of the living God and be transformed by that encounter. Our mission is to grow vibrant Christian communities in the Stour Valley Area, to bring healing and hope in Jesus' name.

Governance:

The policy and operating decisions of the charity rest with the Trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the Organisation. In planning activities, the trustees have applied the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

Review of Activities

Church Life:

The church is steadily growing and we continue to have baptisms each year. The church body is made up of all age groups, and has seen particular growth in the area of young adults and young families this past year. There are multiple Sunday teams that operate each week in order to support the Sunday meeting. These teams include set up team, venue management, welcome team, café team, worship team, kids team and youth team. We have weekly HOME groups that meet- these groups promote the benefit of fellowship, spiritual growth and friendship. The Little Wonders toddler group that is run for the community each week is growing and young mums are finding it incredibly helpful in supporting their well-being.

Storehouse Foodbank:

Storehouse continues to bless the community by providing food for those in crisis and signposting individuals to the many support services offered in Sudbury. The foodbank is operated on an emergency referral-only basis with two “drop-in” sessions per week at set times for assessments and collection of food parcels. There is a team of experienced volunteers both from the Church and from the community who help each week.

Funding received for Storehouse in 2024 included grants from Suffolk Community Foundation through Private Fund – JA, Suffolk Giving Grant Making Programme, Food & Drink Fund and Maurken Fund.

Finances and Reserves

During the year income decreased by £3,006 to £143,239, and expenditure increased by £15,955 to £159,871. As a result, the charity has reported a loss of £16,632 (2023: surplus £2,329) and the cash held by the charity decreased by £16,632, to £71,897. This comprised unrestricted cash of £39,106 and cash of £32,791 held for restricted purposes (mainly for Storehouse).

Reserves Policy

The trustees have determined that the charity should aim to unrestricted cash equivalent to 3 to 6 months of general fund expenses in the charity’s designated contingency fund and in unrestricted general funds. This would equate holding cash of somewhere between £22,000 to £44,000 in these funds. The trustees are satisfied that this level of reserves would be sufficient to allow the charity to continue to operate smoothly should income fall, or expenditure increase, unexpectedly. At the year-end the charity held cash of £32,379 in these funds and the charity is complying with its reserves policy.

Risk Statement

The charity is exposed to various risks - be they operational, financial or reputational. The trustees review the charity's activities regularly to identify significant risks and, where possible, they take appropriate measures to mitigate those risks.

Responsibilities of trustees

Charity law requires us as Trustees to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which record the receipts and payments of the charity for the year.

We 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.

We 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 and signed on their behalf by:

Ruth Woodman
Ruth Woodman (Jul 23, 2025 22:37:31 GMT+1)
.....
R Woodman – Trustee

Jul 23, 2025
.....
Date

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
STOUR VALLEY VINEYARD CHURCH

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Stour Valley Vineyard Church ('the charity') for the year ended 31 December 2024 on pages 6 to 9 following.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 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 2011 Act.

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 accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

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

Lisa Darby

[Lisa Darby \(Jul 28, 2025 11:50:37 GMT+1\)](#)

Lisa Darby FCA
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
LONDON
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Jul 28, 2025

STOUR VALLEY VINEYARD CHURCH
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted Funds	2024	2023
		General Funds	Designated Funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
Income receipts						
Donations and grants including gift aid		71,439	8,751	52,730	132,920	143,517
Income from charitable activities		6,837	-	-	6,837	1,861
Bank interest		751	-	731	1,482	866
		<u>79,027</u>	<u>8,751</u>	<u>53,461</u>	<u>141,239</u>	<u>146,245</u>
Capital and similar receipts						
Sale of fixed assets		-	2,000	-	2,000	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Total receipts		<u>79,027</u>	<u>10,751</u>	<u>53,461</u>	<u>143,239</u>	<u>146,245</u>
Payments						
Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly	2	88,129	-	62,392	150,521	135,145
Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others	3	-	9,350	-	9,350	8,771
		<u>88,129</u>	<u>9,350</u>	<u>62,392</u>	<u>159,871</u>	<u>143,915</u>
Total payments		<u>88,129</u>	<u>9,350</u>	<u>62,392</u>	<u>159,871</u>	<u>143,915</u>
Net of receipts / (payments) before transfers		(9,102)	1,401	(8,931)	(16,632)	2,329
Transfers between funds	6	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		<u>(9,102)</u>	<u>1,401</u>	<u>(8,931)</u>	<u>(16,632)</u>	<u>2,329</u>
Cash funds as at last year end		16,142	30,665	41,722	88,529	86,200
Cash funds at this year end	A	<u>7,040</u>	<u>32,066</u>	<u>32,791</u>	<u>71,897</u>	<u>88,529</u>

The notes on pages 8 to 9 form part of these accounts.

STOUR VALLEY VINEYARD CHURCH
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds		Restricted funds	2024	2023
		General funds	Designated funds			
		£	£	£	£	£
A Cash funds						
Cash at bank with immediate access		7,040	32,066	32,791	71,897	88,529
		7,040	32,066	32,791	71,897	88,529
B Other monetary assets						
Gift aid due to charity		-	-	50	50	746
Prepayments and other debtors		320	-	800	1,120	1,120
Grant due to charity		-	-	5,000	5,000	-
		320	-	5,850	6,170	1,866
C Liabilities						
Falling due within one year						
Other creditors		904	-	-	904	600
Independent examiner's fee for preparing and examining the accounts		696	-	696	1,392	1,320
Payroll related creditors		558	-	-	558	615
		2,158	-	696	2,854	2,535

D Assets retained for charity's own use

	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost £	Current Value £
Air-conditioning units	Restricted	10,050	-
Portacabin	Unrestricted	12,474	-
Equipment & fittings	Unrestricted	7,325	2,555
Equipment & fittings	Restricted	850	-
		30,699	2,555

The current values of the charity's assets have been estimated by the trustees.

E Guarantees and secured debts

The charity has not given any guarantees and has not provided its assets as security for any liabilities.

The accounts were approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Ruth Woodman

Ruth Woodman (Jul 23, 2025 22:37:31 GMT+1)

R Woodman

Date: Jul 23, 2025

The notes on pages 8 to 9 form part of these accounts.

STOUR VALLEY VINEYARD CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comprise a statement that shows the charity's receipts and payments, a statement that summarises the charity's assets and liabilities and related notes. The accountancy profession have determined that only accounts prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards present a 'true and fair' view and, as these receipts and payments accounts have not (and cannot) be prepared in accordance with accounting standards, these accounts do not present (and are not intended to present) a 'true and fair' view of the charity's financial activities and state of affairs.

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted	Total	Total
	General	Designated	Funds	2024	2023
	funds	funds			
	£	£	£	£	£
2 Payments in relation to charitable activities undertaken directly					
<i>Direct expenditure on activities</i>					
Advertising	180	-	233	413	599
Equipment	468	-	163	631	2,671
Other ministry costs	4,596	-	242	4,838	6,301
Events	7,097	-	-	7,097	-
Other Storehouse expenses:					
Items purchased for distribution	-	-	1,397	1,397	6,909
Consumables	-	-	1,059	1,059	1,396
Repairs, maintenance and cleaning	437	-	519	956	2,284
Staff costs	60,503	-	46,769	107,272	97,007
Training and conferences	2,388	-	145	2,533	3,212
Venue hire	9,345	-	9,944	19,289	9,510
	85,013	-	60,471	145,484	129,890
<i>Support costs</i>					
Independent examiner's fee	660	-	660	1,320	1,260
Insurance	493	-	493	986	939
Office costs	1,266	-	201	1,467	1,619
Phone and internet	696	-	567	1,263	1,437
	3,116	-	1,921	5,037	5,255
	<u>88,129</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>62,392</u>	<u>150,521</u>	<u>135,145</u>

3 Grants paid in relation to charitable activities undertaken by others

Grants for:					
Other charities					
Open Doors	-	1,200	-	1,200	1,950
Great Lakes Outreach	-	1,000	-	1,000	1,200
Universities & Colleges Christian Fellowship	-	500	-	500	-
Home for Good (National)	-	-	-	-	600
Suffolk Transforming Futures (Home for Good)	-	1,200	-	1,200	600
Vineyard Churches UK & Ireland	-	5,200	-	5,200	4,421
Relief of poverty and hardship	-	250	-	250	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>9,350</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,350</u>	<u>8,771</u>

4 Transactions with related parties

Mr & Mrs Taylor serve as church pastors and received employment benefits totalling £39,617 (2023: £38,172) for serving in that capacity, not for serving as trustees; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

5 Non-monetary resources

During the year the charity was donated food and other items with an estimated value of £86,000 (2023: £94,000) for distribution by the charity's Storehouse Foodbank to those in need.

STOUR VALLEY VINEYARD CHURCH

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

6 Movement on designated funds and restricted funds

		Balance at 31 Dec 2023 £	Receipts £	Payments £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 Dec 2024 £
Building fund	Designated	3,154	2,730	-	-	5,884
Building fund	Restricted	736	724	-	-	1,460
		3,890	3,454	-	-	7,343
Contingency fund	Designated	25,339	-	-	-	25,339
Storehouse fund	Restricted	40,986	52,737	(62,392)	-	31,331
Tithe fund	Designated	2,172	8,021	(9,350)	-	843
Total for all designated funds		30,665	10,751	- 9,350	-	32,066
Total for all restricted funds		41,722	53,461	(62,392)	-	32,791

Designated funds

- i) The **Contingency fund** represents funds set aside to help cover unexpected variances in income and expenditure.
- ii) The **Building fund** represents funds set aside by the trustees to provide or improve facilities used by the charity.
- iii) The **Tithe fund** represents funds set aside by the trustees to help fund grant giving to other charities and individuals.

Restricted funds

- i) The **Storehouse fund** was created from donations and grants received to help fund the Storehouse compassion ministry of Stour Valley Vineyard Church including the Storehouse foodbank, aiming to help local families and individuals in crisis. At the year end the carried forward balance on this fund includes a contingency of £9,000 to help ensure that Storehouse could continue to operate smoothly should income and / or expenditure vary adversely.
- ii) The **Building fund** was created from donations received which were restricted to help provide or improve facilities used by the charity.