

Oughtibridge Wesleyan Reform Chapel
Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024

Oughtibridge Wesleyan Reform Chapel

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Oughtibridge Wesleyan Reform Chapel
Legal and administrative information
For the year ended 31 December 2024

Other names the charity is known by:

OWRC

Oughtibridge Chapel

Trustees

Matt Brook

Richard Hall (Chair)

Angela Howard (Secretary)

Adrian Little

Andrew Misiukanis

Christopher Nicholson

John Scarffe

Peter Shapland

Pam Smith

Christopher Yeardley

Ian Brearley (part year, deceased 26 Nov 2024)

Principal Address

C/o 89 Cockshutts Lane

Oughtibridge

Sheffield

S35 0FX

Treasurer

Felicity Hall

Accountants

Seven Hills Accountants

57 Burton Street

Sheffield

S6 2HH

**Oughtibridge Wesleyan Reform Chapel
Trustees' Annual Report
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

Oughtibridge Wesleyan Reform Chapel (OWRC) is a family church serving the people of Oughtibridge and the surrounding areas. The chapel premises are located close to the centre of the village, about five miles north-west of Sheffield city centre.

Following agreement in 2021 to unite the congregation with Oughtibridge Parish Church (OPC) – registered charity number 1196843 – and OWRC, the members are fully integrated into a single ministry including all aspects of church life and activity. This change continues to be very successful and has reinvigorated the Church and charity activities.

Structure, governance and management

OWRC registered with the Charity Commission in November 2009 and is governed by the Wesleyan Reference Deed of October 1898. This Deed is governable by the Wesleyan Reform Union (WRU) and the Church continues to be a member of the WRU with the OWRC accountable to the Union.

The Charity Trustees remain active and responsible for ensuring the Wesleyan Reform Chapel building is used in accordance with the requirements of the 'Reference Deed' and stated charitable objectives. Throughout the year the Trustees communicated both in person and via email but, since uniting, formal business meetings are only required infrequently. An annual meeting is held to approve accounts and the annual report. Other meetings are ad hoc as required.

The building premises are held in trust by a group of people, known as the "Building Trustees" who are custodians of the building for the benefit of the church. Since 1st January 2022 the members of the "Building Trustees" have been identical to the Charity Trustees.

Under the governing Deed the OWRC are required to provide the finances to maintain the premises and have power to alter or rebuild. However, the WRU have a restrictive call option on any sale and will receive the capital. Therefore, the charity trustees consider that they do not own the property, but hold it in trust.

On 21st January 2022 a formal lease agreement was completed between OWRC and OPC such that OPC had full use of the building to fulfil charitable purposes held in common. The rent paid includes payment of all running costs associated with the premises.

Objectives

The principal object as disclosed on the Charity Commission website is:

The trustees for the time being shall at all times permit the said premises and the chapel school or other buildings from time to time standing thereon to be used and occupied and enjoyed as a place for the public worship of God and for the instruction of children and adults under the direction of the society or church assembling for worship thereon in connection with the said denomination or connexion according to the principles constitution usages polity and rules from time to time of the said denomination and also for the promotion of such other religious, educational or charitable purposes as the said society or church shall from time to time direct.

This remains the principal object and is unchanged by the uniting of the congregation with OPC. The building will continue to be used for the above purposes, by OPC and the united congregation, under the lease agreement with OWRC.

Oughtibridge Wesleyan Reform Chapel
Trustees' Annual Report - continued
For the year ended 31 December 2024

Activities during the financial year

OWRC follows the Wesleyan Reform doctrines of the Christian faith and share them with the public by:

- Being a part of a church serving the people in the locality.
- Joining in regular Sunday services.
- Providing premises for and supporting groups giving instruction in the Christian faith to children, teenagers and adults.
- Supporting organisations and individuals working for the advancement of the Christian faith.

This is achieved through the activities managed and operated by OPC, with OWRC supporting all ministry activities and providing the premises through the lease. Sunday Services take place united with OPC. During 2024 each week, at the Chapel premises, there were meetings of youth and children's groups and adult prayer groups. Other fellowship groups and teaching Christian sessions took place monthly or occasionally. A Community Café serving and reaching out to the local community ran each Thursday at the Chapel premises.

A project to modernise the 'Chapel worship area' (aka Auditorium) began in April and was nearing completion by the end of the year. The cost of this work was majority funded by grants but will be supplemented with some OWRC reserves. During the period of modernising the Auditorium, worship and church services were curtailed in that room. However, the hall and other rooms remained in daily use.

In January 2024, following confirmation of full grant funding for modernising the Auditorium, the decision of the Trustees' meeting (03.12.2023 item 6) was actioned and a donation of £30,000 was made to 'The Langsett Trust' (Charity number 1190712).

Future plans

Modernisation work has been completed during the first quarter of 2025. Following modernisation, the Auditorium will be available not only for Church events, worship, marriages, funerals, and so forth, but the new layout and flexible seating will also enable youth and children's events to be held in the room. A full programme to maximise the use of this modernised space will be developed, thereby further delivering our principal objectives: the promotion of religious, educational or charitable purposes.

For the medium term, and most likely for the longer term too, the Churches will remain united in ministry and activity using the OWRC premises. OWRC's regular income is almost exclusively made up of the rent paid by OPC. The current lease expires in 2027, following which we anticipate new agreements being in place to secure the future of the building and the charitable purposes.

Reserves Policy

The unrestricted cash reserves at 31 December 2024 were £48,185. The intention of the trustees to keep a minimum a reserves level of approximately £10,000 to provide cash flow and working capital to allow for repair work before insurance payouts are received.

The Trustees' declare that they have approved the above report on 8 May 2025.

Signed on their behalf by:



Richard Hall
Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Oughtibridge Wesleyan Reform Chapel ("the Charity")

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Charity 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 Trust'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 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 respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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.

S Lightfoot

15 May 2025

Sarah Lightfoot, FCA DChA
Seven Hills Accountants Limited
57 Burton Street
Sheffield
S6 2HH

Oughtibridge Wesleyan Reform Chapel
Receipts & payments account
For the year ended 31 December 2024

		Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Receipts					
OPC rent and running costs reimbursement	4	6,484	-	6,484	5,228
Grant - Youth Investment Fund		-	72,961	72,961	-
Grant - Benefact Trust		-	-	-	3,250
Grant - Oughtibridge Gala		-	536	536	-
Donations		-	40	40	-
Donations for defibrillators' upkeep		-	26	26	18
Bank interest		903	15	918	1,094
Total receipts		7,387	73,578	80,965	9,590
Payments					
Circuit contributions		444	-	444	444
Utilities and wi-fi		4,836	-	4,836	3,233
Insurance and ground rent		2,252	-	2,252	1,723
Electric Infrastructure Upgrade		964	536	1,500	-
Auditorium Refurbishment		-	61,738	61,738	-
Printing, stationery and other administration costs		163	-	163	143
Accountancy & independent examination fee		-	-	-	477
Defibrillator costs		-	-	-	300
Gift to Langsett Trust		30,000	-	30,000	-
Total payments		38,659	62,274	100,933	6,320
Net receipts/(payments) for the year		(31,272)	11,304	(19,968)	3,270
Total funds brought forward		79,457	3,891	83,348	80,078
Total funds carried forward		48,185	15,195	63,380	83,348

Oughtibridge Wesleyan Reform Chapel
Statement of assets and liabilities
As at 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash assets		
Current account	51,178	7,064
Deposit account	12,202	76,284
Total	63,380	83,348

Assets retained for the charity's own use

The charity owns the following assets:

Furniture
Kitchen equipment & crockery
Office & meetings equipment
Sound system
Musical instruments and accessories
Building maintenance equipment

As noted in the trustees' report the land and buildings used by the Charity are excluded from the accounts as they are owned by the Church Building Trustees and are subject to the WRU reference deed 1898 which contains a restrictive call option. The charity insures the Chapel building for £1.96m.

Liabilities	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Accountancy & independent examination fee	741	-	741	-
Utilities - net balance due	140	-	140	-
	881	-	881	-

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 8 May 2025.

Signed on their behalf by:



Richard Hall
Trustee

Oughtibridge Wesleyan Reform Chapel
Notes to the accounts
For the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Receipts & payments account

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

2 Restricted funds

	Funds brought forward	Receipts £	Payments £	Funds carried forward £
Defibrillator fund	641	41	-	682
Chapel auditorim refurb - Benefact Trust	3,250	-	(2,393)	857
Chapel auditorim refurb - Youth Investment Func	-	72,961	(59,305)	13,656
Chapel auditorim refurb - donation	-	40	(40)	-
Electric Infrastructure Upgrade - Gala	-	536	(536)	-
	3,891	73,578	(62,274)	15,195

3 Trustees' expenses, remuneration and benefits

Trustees received no expenses (other than reimbursed expenses directly related to charitable activities), remuneration or benefits during the year.

4 Related Party Transactions including transactions with Oughtibridge Parish Church (OPC)

Spouses of two trustees were also trustees of OPC during the year. Various trustees held other voluntary positions of responsibility within OPC.

As detailed in the Trustees' report, OPC have the lease of the chapel building, and reimbursed running costs such as utilities etc. £6,484 was received from OPC during the year.

£30,000 was gifted to the Langsett Trust, of which the vicar of OPC is a trustee (and chair), towards the purchase of a house to be used for the accommodation of OPC's Associate Vicar.

There were no other related party transactions during the year.