



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 1/1/2024

Period start date To 31/12/2024

Period end date

Charity name: The Peoples Church (Banbury)

Charity registration number: 1137118

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	1 To advance the Christian faith 2 To relieve those in need by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial or other disadvantage in our community, nation and the world in such ways as the Church leadership from time to time may think fit 3 To advance education in our community, nation and the world in such ways as the Church leadership from time to time may think fit.
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	Church services; youth groups; children's groups; prayer and pastoral care support; liaising with other Churches and groups to support the local community, e.g. with Foodbank.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Trustees can confirm that they have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charities Commission 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	n/a
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	n/a
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Trustees are very grateful to the excellent support in time and energy given by our substantial number of volunteers, around 100 over the year, not just from our Church but also the local community, to advance the aims of the Church as listed previously.
Other		n/a

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>Main Church:</p> <p>During 2024 our congregation engaged in several teaching series. They included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools (<i>this was used for our Lent series</i>). • The Romans Course (produced by The Bible Society) • Summer in the Psalms • Mark: Living the Way of Jesus in the World (produced by LICC) • Down to Earth (<i>our advent series</i>). <p>During 2024 the number of people attending our services increased and were regularly attended by approximately 150+ adults per week.</p> <p>We were also pleased to witness a correlated increase in the number of children and young people engaging with our services on Sunday and throughout the week.</p> <p>A growing number of people also engaged in our small group programme, with around 90 people registered in groups by the end of 2024.</p> <p>There were two baptism services held in 2024 with 3 young people and adults baptised.</p> <p>During 2024 the church were pleased to award sabbaticals to our Lead Pastor and Youth Pastor who were approaching 20 years of combined service.</p> <p>In addition to the above:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People continue to gather for our two weekly prayer meetings. • The church's social gatherings (<i>monthly Coffee Social, International Sundays and picnics</i>) remain popular with our congregation. • The Ministry Leadership Team received a new member (Pastoral Care Team coordinator). • The church continue to support asylum seekers in the Banbury area & partner with Asylum Welcome. • The church set-up Banbury Foodbank as its own Charitable Incorporated Organisation. <p>Youth Church:</p> <p>In 2024 we had up to 18 youth (11-18 year olds) coming regularly to our church youth groups.</p> <p>We took 10 young people to Satellites in August 2024.</p> <p>Our football group had around 20 boys not part of our church coming regularly.</p> <p>We baptised one young person.</p> <p>The youth band led worship at church once a month.</p>

		<p>Kids Church:</p> <p>In 2024 Kids Church for 0 to 11 year olds provided a Sunday morning space for three Sundays per month. This was an increase from 2023 due an increase of young children and an expansion of team members in our 0-5 year old groups which meant we were able to increase from two to three Sundays. G4U2 for 5 to 11 year olds continued every Sunday (including the summer holidays), except Christmas when we paused to perform the Christmas special service. On average we welcomed 24 children weekly into the 3 areas. We registered 66 children accessing Kids church throughout 2024, from 38 families (more families attending since 2023).</p> <p>During 2024 we encouraged the involvement of children and families in the life of church and it's mission. Easter Saturday saw a 'Day of Prayer' where families joined to explore how they could pray in a variety of ways for our world.</p> <p>In October we supported the work of Operation Christmas Child during our mission month. Primary aged children experienced a course that O.C.C offer to children who receive their gift boxes and we raised money to help with the project by holding a bake sale which collected £400. At Christmas we encouraged families to read along with our Advent series from 'Worship for Everyone' which we studied with the children on Sundays and concluded with a family Christmas party.</p> <p>Our kids pastor has encouraged parents to start their own table group. This takes place online to accommodate their family needs and has been crucial in supporting life and discipleship. This group grew from 3 to 7 families attending by the end of 2024. In autumn 2024 we recognised the need for family support within our church, so started a monthly parent email providing information for Sunday provision, community Christian activities and support for family life (e.g. transitions, sleep issues) from a Christian perspective. We also began to look into providing a mid-week support provision for families by gathering information and spending time with families that had babies and pre-schoolers.</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	n/a
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	n/a
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	n/a
Other		n/a

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	We are comfortable that our finances are in a sustainable position, we continue to monitor our income and outgoing regularly and act as appropriate.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	We hold reserves at this level based on potentially needing to meet unexpected costs for our building, as well as ensuring enough to cover salaries and costs in case of unexpected eventualities.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£113,660
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	Donations from members and attendees.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	n/a
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	We do not foresee any potential major risks.
Other		n/a

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted?	Para 1.25	unincorporated
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	Names put forward to members, at a Church members meeting, by trustees, members will then either approve or not approve their appointment.

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	Before being put forward to members potential trustees talk with the Chair of trustees (Church Secretary) , who also provides the charities commission 'help I'm a charity trustee' guidance, along with guidance from the Baptist Union, and well as discussing the practicalities and their responsibilities, ensuring they are comfortable with their potential responsibilities prior to appointment. After appointment the Chair will talk to them further about meeting, their input etc.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	Trustees, including Church Minister. Staff team and ministry leadership team headed by Church Minister.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	n/a
Other		n/a

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	The Peoples Church (Banbury)
Other name the charity uses	none
Registered charity number	1137118
Charity's principal address	The Church Centre Horsefair Banbury Oxon OX16 0AH


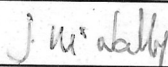
Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Craig Corbett	Church Secretary (Chair of trustees)		
2	Sandy Sherwood	Treasurer		
3	Merid Bezawork Desta	Safeguarding trustee		
4	Stefan McNally	Main pastor		
5	Elizabeth MacAulay	Health and Safety trustee		
6				
7				

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Craig Corbett	STEFAN MC NALLY
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	LEAD PASTOR
Date	22-10-2025	

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees / Members of The Peoples Church

My report is for the accounts for the period ended 31 December 2024.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner:

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

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 material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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



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Dated 16/10/25

The Peoples Church

Income and Expenditure Analysis

January - December 2024

	TOTAL	
	JAN - DEC 2024	JAN - DEC 2023 (PY)
Income		
40005 Foodbank income	17,818.30	57,290.47
40006 Gift Aid Recovered	23,566.06	27,658.92
40008 Church activities and gift months	15,827.77	4,755.00
40010 Rental income, Access income & Hire of facilities	18,874.12	8,301.09
40011 Tithes & Offerings - Standing Order	123,093.88	104,266.86
40012 Tithes & Offerings - Sunday Collection	18,651.99	16,112.22
40020 Interest received	1,523.78	1,942.23
Total Income	£219,355.90	£220,326.79
TOTAL	£219,355.90	£220,326.79
Expenditures		
Direct Charitable Expenditure		
60001 Social Media/Advertising/Promotional	5,514.31	3,981.54
60003 Baptist Union Home Mission	1,200.00	1,200.00
60004 Books, Information and publications	1,877.65	780.85
60006 Conference fees		350.00
60007 Donations	1,761.00	1,908.00
60009 Foodbank costs	21,022.53	52,185.24
60010 Foodbank motor expenses	767.54	1,409.59
60012 Hospitality	5,659.65	4,313.37
60013 Kids Church expenses	1,504.98	1,732.09
60015 Music and licences	1,366.48	1,301.10
60016 Safeguarding	83.00	50.00
60017 Subscriptions	1,368.29	860.00
60018 Visiting preachers	900.00	200.00
60020 Youth expenses	3,367.09	3,170.05
Total Direct Charitable Expenditure	46,392.52	73,441.83
Staff Costs		
61001 Manse costs	16,947.27	16,753.09
61002 Pensions	11,919.69	13,433.88
61003 Staff training & welfare	4,480.46	1,700.00
61004 Wages and salaries	87,294.39	95,860.54
Total Staff Costs	120,641.81	127,747.51
Support Costs		
62001 Accountancy	518.40	518.40
62004 Cleaning	1,696.28	495.84
62005 Equipment expensed		5,154.87
62006 Equipment hire	1,128.00	1,787.06
62007 Insurance	4,293.49	3,617.26
62008 Legal and professional fees		1,524.00
62010 Office/General Administrative Expenses	889.68	304.55
62012 Refurbishment of church		58,445.08
62013 Repairs and maintenance	7,536.28	10,366.19
62014 Software and Website Costs	1,171.51	909.49

The Peoples Church

Income and Expenditure Analysis

January - December 2024

	TOTAL	
	JAN - DEC 2024	JAN - DEC 2023 (PY)
62015 Telephone and broadband	579.90	1,010.04
Total Support Costs	17,813.54	84,132.78
Utilities		
63001 Electricity	2,967.40	2,712.93
63002 Gas	4,096.25	1,352.88
63004 Water	1,777.17	831.79
Total Utilities	8,840.82	4,897.60
Total Expenditures	£193,688.69	£290,219.72
NET OPERATING INCOME	£25,667.21	£ -69,892.93
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	£25,667.21	£ -69,892.93

The Peoples Church
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
As of December 31, 2024

	TOTAL	
	AS OF DEC 31, 2024	AS OF DEC 31, 2023 (PY)
Fixed Asset		
Tangible assets		
10001 Motor Vehicles Cost	0.00	5,216.00
Total Tangible assets	£0.00	£5,216.00
Total Fixed Asset	£0.00	£5,216.00
Cash at bank and in hand		
11001 Current Account	19,110.08	13,725.14
11003 Food Bank Project	12,155.66	103,411.59
11004 Saver Account	30,000.00	10,000.00
11005 BCT Care for Refugees	2,410.80	
Total Cash at bank and in hand	£63,676.54	£127,136.73
Current Assets		
12001 BUC Trust Fund	62,139.29	60,754.85
Total Current Assets	£62,139.29	£60,754.85
NET CURRENT ASSETS	£125,815.83	£187,891.58
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Current Liabilities		
21001 Food Bank Funds	12,155.66	
Total Current Liabilities	£12,155.66	£0.00
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	£12,155.66	£0.00
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	£113,660.17	£187,891.58
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	£113,660.17	£193,107.58
TOTAL NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)	£113,660.17	£193,107.58
Charity funds		
Restricted Funds		
Restricted - BCT Care for Refugees Fund	2,410.80	0.00
Restricted - Food Bank Fund	0.00	103,411.59
Total Restricted Funds	2,410.80	103,411.59
Retained Earnings	0.00	0.00
Unrestricted Funds		
Designated - BUC Trust Fund	62,139.29	60,754.85
Designated - Capital Fund	20,000.00	0.00
Unrestricted - General Fund	3,442.87	98,834.07
Total Unrestricted Funds	85,582.16	159,588.92
Surplus/(Deficit)	25,667.21	-69,892.93
Total Charity funds	£113,660.17	£193,107.58