

Company Registration No. 07244128 (England and Wales)
Charity Registration No. 1138763

Open Heaven Church
(A Company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' Report and Unaudited Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Open Heaven Church
Contents of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 August 2024

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Open Heaven Church
Charity Information
for the year ended 31 August 2024

Trustees at 31 August 2024 were:	S J Ford D G Howard R A Halse W G Rasaiah (appointed on 11.10.2023) R A Crane field (appointed on 11.10.2023) S Williams (appointed on 30.01.2024)
Trustees who resigned during the year:	N J Davis (resigned on 11.10.2023)
Registered and Principal Office:	St Peter's Centre Storer Road Loughborough Leicestershire LE11 5EQ
Registered Number:	07244128 (England & Wales)
Registered Charity Number:	1138763
Independent Examiner:	D I Hotchkiss Wilkes Tranter & Co Limited Brook House Moss Grove Kingswinford West Midlands DY6 9HS
Principal Bankers:	NatWest Bank Plc Market Place Loughborough Leicestershire LE11 3NZ

Open Heaven Church
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 August 2024

The Trustees who are also directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act present their report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 August 2024. They are also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors' Report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document, applicable law and the requirements of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Objectives and Activities and Achievements for Public Benefit

The objectives of the Church are to advance the Christian faith in Loughborough, the United Kingdom, and the wider world. The vision of Open Heaven is to impact our communities and to see transformation by making disciples who establish heaven on earth. This means bringing heaven's joy, justice, righteousness, peace healing, hope and life to the people and places around us.

In planning activities for the year, the Trustees have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on Charities for the advancement of religion.

Open Heaven is an Evangelical Church and a member of the Pioneer network of Churches.

Our Story and Vision

The story of Open Heaven began with a group of students at Loughborough University. Ness Wilson arrived in Towers Hall as a fresher and found that existing Christian students had been praying specifically for ten 'fired-up freshers'. Ness was one of those ten. They all prayed passionately for their friends, and within ten weeks, the number of students following Jesus trebled. Open Heaven was born in 1993 when seven of this group of students graduated, dared to believe God for more and committed to staying in Loughborough to plant a church for their friends. Open Heaven exists to 'Make Disciples who establish Heaven on Earth'. A disciple is someone who follows the ways and teaching of Jesus. It is a commitment to be teachable and embrace inner transformation through the work of the Holy Spirit. Open Heaven is not a church to belong to if you want to stay the same! Discipleship happens in the community, around tables, over cups of tea, in one-to-one friendships and in small groups. To date, over two thousand people have experienced discipleship through Open Heaven.

Our Values

Our five core values spell the word 'GRACE': Growth, Relevance, Authenticity, Community and Empowerment. We want to be a community characterised by the grace to describe our values as a church.

Growth - We are growing in numbers because numbers mean people, and people matter to God. We are growing in Christ-like character, generosity and gifting because that enables God to use us to our fullest potential. We are growing leaders to influence every sphere of society. We are growing and sending out church-planting teams because church-planting remains the most effective way to make disciples who make disciples.

Relevance - We want our faith to be connected to the rest of our lives. We are a church that is relevant and distinct in Loughborough, and careful thought has been given to location, language, music and content. We create expressions of the church that are accessible to people with little or no church experience. Jesus connected with people who did not regard themselves as religious, and we want to do the same. Everyone is welcome, and all are invited.

Authenticity - Open Heaven is a place where you can be honest - honest before God and honest with others. You will notice that people are authentic and open with each other about their lives, knowing they are accepted and confident there is help to become the person God created them to be. We will love you as you are and will inspire you to become more.

Open Heaven Church
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 August 2024

(Continued)

Our Values - continued

Community - Church is a community of people. It doesn't take long before people comment that Open Heaven feels like a healthy family. We are a community committed to sharing our lives with one another. This is no mere mantra. For some of us, this commitment has led to sharing our homes and possessions. There are many ways to belong and build deep relationships within our community. The quickest and easiest way to belong is to be part of a Small Group.

Empowerment - Open Heaven is committed to spotting people's potential and finding ways to develop and release them. As well as releasing people, we provide coaching and training to support those who are leading and pioneering. We actively encourage people to discover their calling, passions and unique spiritual gifts and then find ways both within and outside of Church life to outwork them.

Our goals

Jesus is the only one who can actually change lives and release people into real freedom and He is so active. We get to be co-workers with Him and join in with what He is doing at this time. We have plans and goals, but as the song says "if He's not in it, we don't want it"! Our three goals are Deeper, Wider, Further:

Deeper - going deeper in God and deeper with others; making disciples who make disciples. This includes Discovery Bible studies, Upper Room worship nights, men's ministry, women's ministry, small groups, amongst other things. Wider - reaching out, sharing our faith and serving our community. This includes Christians Against Poverty, Community Grocery, Safe Haven (parenting support for young families), Peter's Place (community cafe safe warm space), amongst other things. Further - championing and forging brave faith in the next generation (U25's). This includes our Student work, youth work, Children's work, Alpha courses, churchwide Bible distribution, amongst other things.

Financial Review

Income from members has increased compared with the previous year £300,171 (2023: £297,088) total income slightly reduced compared to the previous year £396,674 (2023: £408,092). Total expenditure has increased due to the Charity funding more event activities than in the previous year and also increasing the staff working days. The statement of financial activities shows net income on unrestricted funds of £7,297 (2023: £64,818) and overall net income of £13,297 (2023: £64,818). There are restricted funds held in the acquisition value of the St Peter's premises, with the reserve for the future maintenance requirements of the building now being held by other partners.

Total reserves at 31 August 2024 stood at £853,874 (2023: £840,577) including £491,124 (2023: £485,124) restricted funds.

Reserves

The Trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets ('the free reserves') held by the Charity should be sufficient to cover a minimum of three months' salaries.

Open Heaven Church

Report of the Trustees

(Continued)

Risk Management

All major insurable risks are subject to normal Churches and employer's insurance. Annual reviews of risk, such as health and safety are undertaken by the Trustees in conjunction with employees and volunteers.

Structure, Governance and Management

Open Heaven Church is a Charitable Company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 5 May 2010 and registered as a Charity on 14 June 2007. The organisation was formerly a Charitable Trust by the same name and the company took responsibility of its activities on 1 April 2008. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the Charitable Company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

The Board

We appoint Trustees on an irregular basis, when doing so we look for two criteria:

1. A good knowledge of the Charity and its purposes.
2. Appropriate skills and competencies to complement existing strengths.

To support Trustees existing competencies, we refer them to web based training materials appropriate to their role.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of Open Heaven Church for purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the 'Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charitable Company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the Charitable Company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charitable Company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charitable Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charitable Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the Board of Directors and Trustees on 13 February 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

S J Ford

S J Ford – Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Open Heaven Church**

I report to the Charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 August 2024 which are set out on pages 6 to 15.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Charity's Trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your Charitable Company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
- the accounts have not been prepared with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by Charities (applicable to Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.



D I Hotchkiss FCA FCCA

Wilkes Tranter & Co Limited
Chartered Accountants
Brook House
Moss Grove
Kingswinford
West Midlands
DY6 9HS

Date: 13 February 2025

Open Heaven Church

**Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)
for the year ended 31 August 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Income					
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	300,171	-	300,171	297,088
Charitable activities	4	11,232	-	11,232	7,047
Gift Aid		73,214	-	73,214	101,071
Investment income (interest)		6,057	-	6,057	2,886
Grants received		-	6,000	6,000	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Income		390,674	6,000	396,674	408,092
		=====	=====	=====	=====
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	376,018	-	376,018	338,725
Governance costs					
Professional fees		5,059	-	5,059	2,249
Independent examination		2,300	-	2,300	2,300
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Expenditure		383,377	-	383,377	343,274
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net income		7,297	6,000	13,297	64,818
Reconciliation of funds					
Balance at 1 September 2023		355,453	485,124	840,577	775,759
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total funds carried forward		362,750	491,124	853,874	840,577
		=====	=====	=====	=====

All income resources and resource expended derive from continuing activities.

The Church has no recognised gains or losses for the year other than the results above.

The notes on pages 8 to 15 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Open Heaven Church
Balance Sheet at 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	9	622,662	612,926
Current assets			
Debtors	10	21,242	15,195
Cash at bank and in hand		220,091	222,061
		<u>241,333</u>	<u>237,256</u>
Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)	11	(10,121)	(9,605)
		<u></u>	<u></u>
Net current assets		231,212	227,651
		<u></u>	<u></u>
Net assets		853,874	840,577
		<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>
The Funds of the Charity:			
Restricted funds	16	491,124	485,124
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted income funds	16	362,750	355,453
		<u></u>	<u></u>
Total Charity funds		853,874	840,577
		<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>

For the year ended 31 August 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' and Trustees' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with Section 476; and
- The Directors and Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and Trustees on 13 February 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

S J Ford - Trustee.

S Ford

The notes on pages 8 to 15 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2024**1 General information**

Open Heaven Church is a company, limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales under the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011. The address of the registered office is provided in Reference and administrative details. Details of the Charity's operations are provided in the Report of the Trustees.

2 Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Basis of preparation

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared, under the historical cost convention in accordance with applicable accounting standards and follow the recommendations in Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2019 (FRS 102)) and comply with these Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulation 2005 issued under the Charities Act 2011.

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with provisions of FRS 102, Section 1A, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.'

Fund accounting policy

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the Trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the Charity.

Restricted funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for the specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. Further details of each fund are disclosed in Note 16.

Income

Voluntary income including donations and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised where there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Donated services or facilities

These are included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit is reasonably quantifiable, measurable, and material. Their estimated value is based upon the nature of the service.

Income from tax reclaims are included in the statement of financial activities at the same time as the gift to which they relate.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Income from charitable activities includes income recognised as earned (as the related goods or services are provided) under contract.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the Charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2024**2 Accounting policies (continued)**

Grants payable are payments made to third parties in the furtherance of the charitable objectives. Where the Charity gives a grant with conditions for its payment being a specific level of service or output to be provided, such grants are only recognised once the recipient of the grant has provided the specific service or output.

Grants payable without performance conditions are only recognised in the accounts when a commitment has been made and there are no conditions to be met relating to the grant which remain in the control of the Charity.

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Support cost

As a small Charity with a single significant activity, the allocation of support costs across activities is not applicable.

Governance costs

Governance costs include costs of the preparation and examination of the statutory accounts, the costs of Trustee meetings and the costs of any legal advice to Trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

Fixed assets

Assets are capitalised if their useful economic life exceeds one year. Individual fixed assets costing £500 or more are initially recorded at cost.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment	33 1/3% straight line basis
Plant and machinery - other equipment	12.5% straight line basis
Plant and machinery - stage equipment	20% straight line basis
Plant and machinery - St Peter's kitchen equipment	10% straight line basis
Land and buildings	Not depreciated

Fixed assets are included in the balance sheet at revalued amounts.

Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged in the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees.

Taxation

As a Registered Charity, the company is exempt from income and corporation tax as all of its income has been applied for charitable purposes.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2024

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Appeals and donations	257,850	-	257,850	251,798
One off donations	42,321	-	42,321	45,290
	<u>300,171</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>300,171</u>	<u>297,088</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Christian mission and social action				
Community activities	1,481	-	1,481	700
Youth and Students	6,067	-	6,067	-
Other church events	3,684	-	3,684	6,347
	<u>11,232</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,232</u>	<u>7,047</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====

5 Details of charitable activities

	Direct Costs £	Support £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Employment costs	198,488	-	198,488	183,524
Church activities	84,712	-	84,712	71,892
Subscriptions	-	4,805	4,805	6,667
Gifts and donations	-	43,095	43,095	24,580
St Peter's costs	-	26,909	26,909	23,344
Safeguarding, health and safety	-	1,989	1,989	242
Book-keeping	-	976	976	10,778
Printing, postage and stationery	-	2,328	2,328	1,624
IT costs	-	3,457	3,457	2,135
Travel and subsistence	-	608	608	4,292
Advertising and promotion	-	2,359	2,359	2,740
Bank charges	-	3,107	3,107	2,870
Depreciation	-	3,185	3,185	4,037
	<u>283,200</u>	<u>92,818</u>	<u>376,018</u>	<u>338,725</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2024

6 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No Trustee or person related or connected to them received any remuneration or expenses from the Charity during the year.

7 Resources Expended

	2024	2023
	£	£
Resources expended are stated after charging:		
Independent Examiner's fee	2,300	2,300
Depreciation	3,185	4,037
	=====	=====

8 Employees' remuneration

The average number of persons employed by the Charity (including Trustees) during the year was as follows:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Charitable activities (full time equivalents)	6.57	5.30
Average number of staff employed (headcount)	11.00	13.00
	=====	=====

The aggregate payroll costs of these persons were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	185,399	169,631
Social security	6,283	8,398
Pension costs	6,806	5,495
	=====	=====
	198,488	183,524
	=====	=====

No employees received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year (2023 - Nil).

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2024

9 Fixed assets

	Freehold interest in land and buildings (including heritage assets) £	Plant and machinery (including motor vehicles) £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 September 2023	607,400	18,237	18,653	644,290
Additions	-	11,192	2,747	13,939
Disposals	-	(3,000)	-	(3,000)
At 31 August 2024	607,400	26,429	21,400	655,229
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2023	-	14,365	16,999	31,364
Charge for the year	-	1,472	1,543	3,015
Eliminated on disposal	-	(1,812)	-	(1,812)
At 31 August 2024	-	14,025	18,542	32,567
Net book value				
At 31 August 2024	607,400	12,404	2,858	622,662
At 31 August 2023	607,400	3,872	1,654	612,926

10 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Other debtors	263	653
Prepayments and accrued income	20,979	14,542
	21,242	15,195

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2024

11 Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	492	-
Other creditors	6,852	6,129
Accruals and deferred income	2,777	3,476
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	10,121	9,605
	<hr/>	<hr/>

12 Members' liability

The Charity is a private limited company by guarantee and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the members is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the Charity in the event of liquidation.

13 Related parties

Donations totalling £22,001 were made to the Charity by 6 Trustees during the year (2023: £9,906 by 4 Trustees).

14 Controlling entity

The Charity is controlled by the Trustees.

Open Heaven Church

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2024

15 Analysis of funds

	At 1 Sept. 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	At 31 Aug. 2024 £
Designated Funds					
Church Plant Fund	9,900	-	-	3,600	13,500
General Funds					
Unrestricted income fund	345,553	390,674	(383,377)	(3,600)	349,250
Total Unrestricted income funds	<u>355,453</u>	<u>390,674</u>	<u>(383,377)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>362,750</u>
Restricted Funds					
Shared Church Building Project	485,124	-	-	-	485,124
Loughborough Community Grocery Project	-	6,000	-	-	6,000
Total Restricted funds	<u>485,124</u>	<u>6,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>491,124</u>
	<u>840,577</u> =====	<u>396,674</u> =====	<u>(383,377)</u> =====	<u>-</u> =====	<u>853,874</u> =====

Unrestricted funds are used for any purpose deemed suitable by the Charity in pursuance of its main objects, including contributing to any restricted funds held by the Charity.

Designated funds have been put aside to fund Church plant from general funds as part of the Trustees strategy to support the development of new Churches.

Shared Church Building Project - these are incoming resources restricted to funding the Charity's proportion of capital costs and operating expenses concerning the Church Property Share Agreement in respect of St Peter's Church, Loughborough described elsewhere in these accounts.

Loughborough Community Grocery Project – these are incoming resources to set up a community grocery shop. The community grocery shop is being established to bridge the gap between food banks and supermarkets by supporting local residents who are feeling the financial impact of the rising cost of living.

Open Heaven Church

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2024

16	Net assets by fund	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
	Tangible assets	137,538	485,124	622,662	612,926
	Debtors	21,242	-	21,242	15,195
	Cash at bank	214,091	6,000	220,091	222,061
	Creditors (amounts falling due within one year)	(10,121)	-	(10,121)	(9,605)
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Net assets	362,750	491,124	853,874	840,577
		=====	=====	=====	=====