

## **HOPEFIELD EVANGELICAL CHURCH TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21**

Please note that the annual report, that covers 2020/21 as been produced during the 'Covid crisis, involving alterations to normal procedures etc. we will revert to normal procedures once things go back to normal.

### **AIMS AND PURPOSES**

Hopefield Evangelical Church trust has the responsibility of co-operating with the church elders, Malcolm Allan and Jeffrey Smith in promoting the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic and social.

The Trust is also specifically responsible for the maintenance of the Church building and its surrounding grounds. The trust oversees that due care is undertaken for public use of the building, and the people using it. This, for example, includes proper insurance policies, policies on fire prevention and protection, regular DBS checks on those in positions of responsibility and adhering to general health and safety requirements.

### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The Trust is committed to enabling, as many people as possible, to worship at our church and facilitate the growth in their Christian faith; it is also committed to proclaiming the message of Jesus Christ to all who wish to listen. The Trust maintains an overview of activities within the framework of the church and is available to the church elders for advice, guidance and encouragement.

When planning our activities for the year, the elders and the Trust (of which they are part), have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of faith. In particular, we try to enable ordinary people to live out their lives by faith in an extra-ordinary God.

We endeavor to do this by worship and prayer, learning of Bible truths through teaching and group studies, developing knowledge and trust in Jesus Christ, provision of pastoral care for both members, non-members, missionary and outreach work. Our activities are fully inclusive of all ages within the church family.

To facilitate this work, it is imperative that we maintain the fabric of the church building and its surrounding area. Within 2020/21, some of these activities as been disrupted by Covid-19, but we have, and will, endeavor to continue our activities as far as the law permits.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Worship and Prayer**

The Trust is keen that we offer a range of services during the course of the year, and that our congregation, and visitors to our church find it to be beneficial, spiritually fulfilling and uplifting. Our main Sunday service includes worship incorporating music, times of open prayer, the sharing Christian experience, Bible teaching and communion.

This is also enhanced by mid-week meetings for fellowship and prayer, both in the church building and within House-groups.

Lockdown due to Covid 19 made such services impossible initially, resulting in changes to normal practices. Covid 19 has affected some of our times of worship and prayer, particularly with regard to singing and sharing fellowship during and after services. Our desire is to re-implement these as soon as possible.

### **Bible teaching and study**

The main Sunday service includes a Bible teaching session, delivered by invited speakers from both within the church fellowship and outside. Children have their own Junior Church during this time, led by an enthusiastic team of church member volunteers.

Weekly Bible study groups are also held to develop members' understanding of their Christian faith and develop application to everyday living. These groups include a weekly Men's Bible Study Group, a fortnightly meeting for Ladies to share in Bible discussion and fellowship and one house group held in the home of a church member. A daytime Bible Study Group provided on Wednesdays to include those members who find difficult to attend in the evening.

When unable to meet, Bible teaching and children's activities have been produced on line.

### **Pastoral Care**

Both members and non-members of the church are welcomed to request pastoral care from the elders and/or their representatives. This sometimes takes the form of a home visit. Infirm members of the fellowship receive regular home visits from the elders, who encourage visits from other members of the fellowship as well. Financial, social and material help is provided as appropriate. This includes, for example, provision of meals for those who are unable to provide for themselves and financial help in times of material difficulty.

## **Missionary and outreach work**

The church supports several individuals and organizations working abroad. During this year, gifts were sent to church communities, in the Ukraine via members of the church who visited them. We also support Bible translation work in Papua New Guinea.

The church supports the annual Christmas Shoebox appeal through Samaritan's Purse.

A number of social events are held during the year to introduce friends and families to our activities.

We normally pre COVID hold a summer fete and a "Carols & Cocoa" family afternoon just before Christmas.

Money raised by our events is then donated to the work the of Mercy Ships (deploying hospital ships to poor countries), Samaritan's Purse (Christmas parcels to children in need), Tear Fund's Toilet Twinning Project and Bluebell Wood Hospice etc..

Normally pre COVID we also visit local Care Homes for Senior Citizens, providing an informal Christian Service on a monthly basis, but Christmas parcels were delivered in 2020.

Information of our church and our activities his also advertised via our web site and prayer line.

## **Fabric of the church building**

The Trust has encouraged members to get involved with the gardening work around the church, with outstanding results.

Two members of the Trust, having written a fire prevention document, are over-seeing its implementation and adherence. This has involved fixing appropriate signage within the church building.

Hymns and sermon information, is projected onto a screen, and relayed into our back room for those looking after young children. Television/video access is also available for Junior Church sessions.

Internal re-decoration of the Church premises was completed during the lockdown and closure of the church.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

Total income during the year amounted to £40,750. The balance at the end of the financial year amounted to £31,372. Gift Aid claimed during the year 2020/2021 amounted to £4,620, which helped considerably in meeting our obligations.

The church made gifts to several individuals and organizations including visiting speakers (to offset expenses), Bluebell Wood Hospice, Samaritan's Purse, a church community in Ukraine and families in the locality with a variety of difficulties.

The church pays a salary (currently £12,000) to Jeff Smith for his work in leading the church congregation and £6,000 to his wife Christine Smith for her support in enabling that work to be

done efficiently. A committee of four people (Trust Chairman, Trust secretary, Church treasurer and a Church member) reviews these salaries as to need and affordability.

The church treasurer has also implemented a computerized accounting system, incorporating suggestions made by the independent accounts auditor.

Church members give by means of weekly collections and bank standing orders. An envelope scheme is available for those who wish to gift aid their gifts without using standing orders. This is the only source of income for the church.

### **RESERVES POLICY**

There is always sufficient cash at the bank to meet at least one calendar month of expenses and the building is in the ownership of the Trust with significant equity.

### **VOLUNTEERS**

Other than Jeff and Christine Smith, who receive partial salaries, all work carried out by members of the church is done on a voluntary basis. The church would cease to function were it not for the time and effort put in by the majority of its members. We believe the church to be an organization set up for the benefit of members and non-members.

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

The Trust appoints further trustees as the need arises. There are currently seven trustees. The Trust endeavors to maintain the numbers of trustees of at least seven. We hope to add at two trustees to the Trust before 2021 ends.

The Trust is responsible for the fabric of the building and supporting the spiritual and pastoral guidance of the church through its eldership.

The Trust holds its AGM after the accounts for each financial year have been published, and meets at other times if the needed. This meeting was held by means of e-mails in 2020. It needs to be stressed that six of the trustees are regular, committed church members who meet each other on a weekly basis as a result. One is a regular visiting speaker on our teaching program.

### **APPROVAL OF REPORT**

This report has been approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by the Chairman.  
Steven Broadhead (Trust Chairman)

Signature: 

Date 16/12/2021

**HOPEFIELD EVANGELICAL CHURCH (Charity Number 1138773)**

**Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Hopefield Evangelical Church**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Hopefield Evangelical Church for the year ended 31st March 2021.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

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

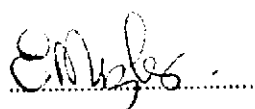
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act, and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**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 any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those 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 this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Mr E J Mizler, FCCA  
Hawson Jefferies  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
Suite 4  
164-170 Queens Road  
Sheffield  
S2 4DH

Date: 16 December 2021

# **Hopefield Evangelical Church (Charity Number 1138773)**

**Financial Statement for the year ending 31st March 2021**

	2020-2021	2019-2020
<b>Income</b>		£
Regular & Sunday Collections	24,812.06	34,866.74
Ministry (Special Collections)	-	192.00
Ukraine 'Fiver-a-month'	1,235.00	-
Gift Aid	6,316.25	4,620.00
Card Sales	-	39.30
Coffee Morning	-	56.41
Summer Fete	-	816.00
Christmas Meal	-	140.00
Book Publishing	-	20.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>32,363.31</b>	<b>40,750.45</b>

<b>Expenditure</b>		£
Salaries and NI	18,000.00	16,333.40
Speakers / Mission	700.00	5,408.00
Gifts	2,125.00	2,792.55
Ukraine 'Fiver-a-month'	1,420.00	-
Junior Church	-	473.24
Bibles, Books & Tracts	242.56	568.78
Repairs & Renewals	4,110.11	951.65
Insurance	922.49	2,305.59
Light, Heat & Water	1,142.89	1,095.40
Ground Rent	10.00	10.00
Audio / Visual / IT	405.37	1,419.22
Licences, Fees & Subscriptions	647.18	643.58
Miscellaneous Expenses	276.84	1,306.65
Summer Fete	-	417.10
Christmas Meal	-	327.31
Cleaning	317.51	314.98
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>30,319.95</b>	<b>34,367.45</b>

<b>Net Income</b>	<b>2,043.36</b>	<b>6,383.00</b>
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<b>Accumulated Fund</b>		
Balance brought forward	31,678.94	25,295.94
Add income for the year	2,043.36	6,383.00
Balance carried forward	33,722.30	31,678.94

<b>Represented by:</b>		
Uncleared amounts	-480.00	306.70
Balance at Bank	34,202.30	31,372.24

*S. Broadhead 17th December 2021*