

Barnstaple Street Pastors

Registered Charity Number: 1140645

BARNSTAPLE STREET PASTORS

**Trustees Annual Report and Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2023**

Barnstaple Street Pastors
CONTENTS

	Page
Report of the Trustees	3 to 6
Receipts and Payments	7
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	8
Notes to the Accounts	9

Barnstaple Street Pastors
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
For the year ended 31st March 2023

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31st March 2023. The trustees have opted, under section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Charities Act'), to prepare receipts and payments accounts

Objectives and Aims

The objectives of BSP are:

- To promote, and support, the inhabitants of Barnstaple and the surrounding area and such other local communities and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees may from time to time think fit, to advance the Christian faith according to the Scriptures in Barnstaple and surrounding districts and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees may from time to time think fit and to fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the law of England and Wales.
- To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods, or services of any kind including through the provision of counselling and support in Barnstaple and surrounding districts and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees may from time to time think fit.
- To advance education in accordance with the Scriptures by such means as the trustees may think appropriate including but not so as to limit the generality of the foregoing in the areas of health, citizenship, community development, human rights, conflict resolution and the promotion of religious and racial harmony in Barnstaple and surrounding districts and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees may from time to time think fit.

BSP started operations on 31 October 2009. The principal activity of the charity is street pastor work under a licence agreement with the Ascension Trust, operations generally being on Saturday nights (10pm to 2am) and occasionally other nights as requested by the police.

Public benefit

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and consider that the activities of the charity meet its charitable objectives and provide a benefit to the public.

The team activity over the 12-month period covered by this report has continued on Saturday nights whenever there has been a team available to include a prayer pastor either at the base of the House of Prayer or from home.

The team has not been keeping accurate records of all of its activities however, from the Patrol Reports produced for each evening, the following figures have been gleaned. The team actually have provided a great deal more than the below and the figures provided represent the confirmed minimum.

- 16 Street Pastors deployed over 28 nights, providing 456 hours on the streets
- 7 Prayer Pastors providing 156 hours of support to patrolling teams
- 5 instances of Street Pastors calming aggressive situations
- 32 vulnerable individuals supported (mostly due to excessive alcohol)
- 2 pairs of free flip flops distributed
- 70 free drinks dispensed (this figure combines water given to aid those suffering from excessive alcohol intake and hot drinks to the homeless.)
- 6 instances of first aid.
- 107 instances of removal of glass bottles or broken glass from the streets
- 7 instances where the Street Pastors have arranged transport for stranded people
- 33 significant faith conversations (it must be noted here that Street Pastors are not street preachers; these are instances where people have spontaneously come to the team to ask questions or seek prayer)
- 45 other significant conversations where people have been either requesting guidance on life issues or simply needing someone to talk to including homeless support with food & hot drinks.
- 3 instances of information
- 3 instances of lost property being handed into CCTV manager. 1 passport found and returned to owner.
- 4 sleeping bags supplied to homeless.

Achievement and Performance

Charitable activities

Barnstaple Street Pastors (BSPs) continued to operate throughout 2022/23. The team has provided a visible, reassuring and supportive presence to users of Barnstaple Town Centre on Saturday evenings whenever there have been sufficient

Barnstaple Street Pastors
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ended 31st March 2023

team members (in line with insurance requirements) to operate. This will always include a dedicated prayer pastor either at base or praying from home. During the year, the team has continued to use as its base the North Devon House of Prayer right in the centre of Town.

The timing of patrols has varied between 6pm and 2am on Saturday evening depending upon the availability of team members. With earlier patrols, the team has encountered different groups of vulnerable people including younger people alongside those previously seen such as local rough sleepers. In the course of these encounters, the team has provided practical support including food and hot drinks as well as emotional and spiritual help to those who they encounter. It has been noticeable that whenever the team have been patrolling, the emotional and mental wellbeing issues that they have encountered have been significant and their support greatly appreciated.

The team has printed business cards to give away for those that feel they would like ongoing spiritual support. The card sign posts individuals to the North Devon House of Prayer during the week.

Patrols normally last for around 4 hours and before ending patrols on any given night, BSPs will determine whether there is a need to continue patrolling depending on the number of people on the street, the presence of particular community tensions and any incidents we may be dealing with. Whilst out on patrol the team work in partnership with the on-duty CCTV operator using digital radios and door staff at the different licensed premises.

The size of the team increased slightly over the year with 6 individuals completing their training in October 2022. However, at the same time other pastors have continued to struggle with health issues. As such, it has not been possible to provide patrols every weekend. As well as email, a team WhatsApp group was created to enable members to communicate their availability on a week-to-week basis.

In addition to Saturday patrols, team members also meet once a month for a breakfast as a way of supporting each other and keeping connected. The management team has met on three occasions within the period covered by this report to ensure proper oversight and management of the team's operations.

The work is supported by Barnstaple churches together and a circulation list of 'friends of BSPs' who provide financial and prayerful support as they are provided with updates on the work of the team. This whole service can only be made possible and successful by the glory of God and we continually give our thanks and praise to Him.

Volunteers

The charity is grateful for the volunteers who help in the organisation and running of its prayer and patrol teams.

Financial review

These financial statements aim to show donors, contributors and sponsors how their money has been used and to give some idea of the effectiveness of members' efforts.

The work of the charity includes intangibles difficult to measure – possibly the simplest being how safe the people of Barnstaple feel on the streets on Saturday nights when we receive many positive words from people that have been helped and those who appreciate the peace we bring to situations. There are cordial relationships with both the Police and door staff at the various locations in the town and on occasions SPs have been requested to calm or help situations which may become inflamed if official action is taken.

In August of 2022, BSPs made a successful bid for £5,700 from the Government Safer Streets fund. This included £2700 for training and uniforms for new recruits to help increase the size of the team and £3000 to set up a safe space to which vulnerable persons could be brought. Some of the money has been used to recruit 6 new individuals however, as yet, a team has not been identified to create the safe space.

The incoming resources for the period were £7,362 (2022: £1,623) and outgoing resources were £2,822 (2022: £981) The Cash balance at 31st March 2023 was £8,484 (2022: £3,943).

The funds in hand will provide for training in the next financial year, both for retraining of existing members and new. To minimise costs, where possible this will be carried out with other street pastor organisations in Devon & Somerset. Although an independent examination of the accounts is not required, the trustees have asked Magnus Proctor FFA to review the financial statements.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

Year Ending 31st March 2023

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements and assessment of going concern

These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis as permitted by law for smaller charities.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

2. Movement in Funds

	Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance
	1 st Apr 2022				31 st Mar 2023
General Fund	3,944	1,663	(2,822)		3,944
Restricted:		3000			
Training and uniform fund	0	2700	(0)		0
Total Funds	3,944	7,363	(2,822)		8,485

	Balance	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance
	1 st Apr 2021				31 st Mar 2022
General Fund	3,301	1,263	(981)		3,944
Restricted:					
Training and uniform fund	0	0	(0)		0
Total Funds	3,301	1,623	(981)		3,944

The training and uniform fund – restricted donations made to support the training and uniform costs of street pastors. There is a 25% /year depreciation on stock.

3. Ascension Trust

Under the licence agreement with the Ascension Trust, BSP agree to pay 15% of the income of the charity to the Ascension Trust as a management licence fee to cover their support costs and £2m public liability insurance.

4. Trustee remuneration and benefits

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any benefits from an employment with the charity or a related entity

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
For The Year ending 31st March 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Fixed Assets				
	0	0	0	0
Current Assets				
Stock @ Start of Year	509	0	637	849
Stock After 25% Depreciation /Year	(127)		(127)	(212)
Cash at bank	5484	3000	3944	3301
	5866	0	4454	3,938
Current Liabilities				
Creditors				
• Ascension Trust	(330)	0	400	113
Total Assets less Liabilities	5536	3000	4054	3,830

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 28 September 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:



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Roger Bartlett, Chair

Barnstaple Street Pastors

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

for the Year ended 31st March 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Receipts				
Donations from Barnstaple churches	1365	0	730	860
Donations from other organizations and individuals	2998	3000	893	576
Total receipts	4363	3000	1623	1,436
Payments				
Payments to Ascension Trust	1000	0	600	706
Training and uniforms	620	0	0	160
Equipment and consumables	49	0	96	84
Rental of communication equipment	692	0	0	0
Tithe of income to similar charities	0	0	144	0
Induction and celebrations of street pastors	0	0	0	150
CCPAS disclosure service	462	0	141	129
Total payments	2822	0	980	1,229
Net receipts / (payments)	1541	0	643	207
Reconciliation of funds				
Transfer between funds	0	0	0	0
Total Funds brought forward	3944	0	3301	3,094
Total Funds carried forward	5485	3000	3944	3,301

Barnstaple Street Pastors
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT
For the year ended 31st March 2023

There were no areas of concern

Reserves policy

The trustees consider the reserves held at the year end to be sufficient for the ongoing needs of the charity.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

Barnstaple Street Pastors (BSP) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed by a trust deed dated 6th October 2019.

Formerly incorporated on 12th August 2010, Barnstaple Street Pastors was a company limited by guarantee (CRN 7344549) and registered as a charity on 2nd March 2011, operating under the licence agreement signed with the Ascension Trust. It converted to a CIO in October 2019.

Trustees are appointed by seeking people with relevant skills and experience. Induction and training are provided on a personal basis as appropriate. The trustees meet quarterly.

Reference and Administration Details

Registered name

Barnstaple Street Pastors

Registered Charity number

1140645

Principal address

19 Redlands Road
Fremington
Barnstaple
Devon
EX31 2NY

Trustees

Name

Position

Appointments/Resignations

Roger Bartlett
Brian Tancock
David Eckhardt
Gareth Owens
Derek Wilson

Chair
Treasurer
Secretary
SP Coordinator
(Prayer coordinator)

Appointed July 2020
Resigned January 2022

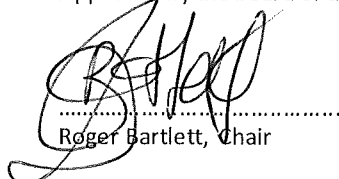
Committee Members

Name

Derek Gaunt
Glyn Harding
Liz Honeysett

Team Leader
Team Leader
Team Leader

Approved by the board of trustees on 28 September 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



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Roger Bartlett, Chair