

**Report of the Trustees and**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**  
**for**  
**Swindon Community Church**

Monahans  
Chartered Accountants  
Hermes House  
Fire Fly Avenue  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN2 2GA

**Swindon Community Church**

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**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

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**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objectives and aims**

The objects of the charity are:

To advance the Christian faith in accordance with the statement of beliefs appearing in the schedule hereto in Swindon 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 and are connected with the charitable work of the charity.

**Public benefit**

The trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. The trustees consider that they have acted in the public benefit.

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Overview**

The year has been a period of development and stability as we have transitioned from meeting in a home to a physical church building. Numbers of members have remained broadly constant and giving has been maintained. This has meant our church charitable work can continue in a similar fashion.

**Services and Meetings**

The church has held weekly Sunday occasional morning but mostly afternoon services for worship and teaching at the Church of Christ the Servant building together with weekly in-person mid-week evening meetings in our homes across Swindon for prayer and teaching.

**Activities**

Our members are active in supporting the poor and vulnerable in Swindon, which is promoted by the Christian teachings within our church meetings.

Our pastor has provided a weekly free bike repair service within Tadpole Garden Village.

Our pastor travelled to India in November to serve the people there

Our members volunteer with Safe Families providing support to families in Swindon.

Our members have opened their homes to refugees from the conflict in Ukraine.

We are associated in Good News 4 Swindon (Swindon churches coming together to worship and pray for the town).

We held our Easter Sunday meeting jointly with Lawn Community Church on 10th April 2022, in order that we may support one another and celebrate together.

Social occasions in the form of walks and picnics through the summer months including trips to Bourton-on-the-Water and Cotswold Wildlife Park.

**Giving**

We provide regular financial support and have increased our giving locally to Swindon Youth for Christ, Shine Pinehurst, Swindon Food Collective, and Pregnancy Choices.

We support Open Doors with Brother Andrew, a ministry to the persecuted church around the world.

We support Dr Jan White financially in her clinical work and the provision of a hospice in rural Uganda.

We have given a significant donation to a church pastor and ministry in Uganda.

We give regular financial support to Hope for Justice, which combats human trafficking and modern slavery.

We retain Pastoral services.

We are affiliated to Salt and Light Ministries and support their work financially.

We anticipate that our giving will continue to expand in 2023/2024.

**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Financial position**

At 31 March 2023 the charity held total funds of £39,179.

**Reserves policy**

The Trustees have set a target for financial reserves i.e.: Cash at the bank is to remain above the total outgoings for three months - currently about £9,000. Free reserves held are in excess of the required level. We plan to expand our giving in 2023/2024.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

**Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Trustees are recruited from the congregation.

An All Church Annual General Meeting was held on 08 February 2023.

Also we held 1 Trustee Meeting during 2022/2023.

A further All Church Annual General Meeting will be held in Autumn 2023.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Company number**

07454520 (England and Wales)

**Registered Charity number**

1140752

**Registered office**

19 Whitworth Road  
Swindon  
SN25 3AW

**Trustees**

B Lafford  
T Lafford  
R Cole

**Company Secretary**

B Lafford

**Independent Examiner**

James Gare FCA DChA  
Monahans  
Chartered Accountants  
Hermes House  
Fire Fly Avenue  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN2 2GA

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 13/11/2023 and signed on its behalf by:



T Lafford - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of**  
**Swindon Community Church**

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Swindon Community Church ('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

**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 charity'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:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. 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
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance 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.



James Gare FCA DChA

Monahans  
Chartered Accountants  
Hermes House  
Fire Fly Avenue  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN2 2GA

Date: 21 November 2023

**Swindon Community Church**

**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

		2023 Unrestricted fund £	2022 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>	Notes		
Donations and legacies	3	33,199	34,584
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Charitable activities	4	35,808	29,320
Church Activities			
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		(2,609)	5,264
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
Total funds brought forward		41,788	36,524
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		39,179	41,788

The notes form part of these financial statements

**Balance Sheet**  
**31 March 2023**

	Notes	2023 Unrestricted fund £	2022 Total funds £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	11	13,570	6,995
Cash at bank and in hand		26,696	35,670
		<u>40,266</u>	<u>42,665</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	12	(1,087)	(877)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>39,179</u>	<u>41,788</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>39,179</u>	<u>41,788</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>39,179</u>	<u>41,788</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	13		
Unrestricted funds		39,179	41,788
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u>39,179</u>	<u>41,788</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 13/11/2023 and were signed on its behalf by:



T Lafford - Trustee

**1. GENERAL INFORMATION**

Swindon Community Church is a charitable company limited by guarantee, without share capital, incorporated in England and Wales. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The registered office address can be found in the Trustees' Report.

**2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest pound.

There are no significant areas of judgements or key sources of estimation uncertainty.

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

**Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

**Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Governance costs**

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

**Tangible fixed assets**

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 - 3 years on a straight line basis. Fixed assets costing more than £250 are capitalised and are initially recorded in the balance sheet at cost.

**Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

**Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**Creditors**

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.



**Swindon Community Church**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

**Fund accounting**

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

**3. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Tithes & Offerings	26,619	28,224
Gift aid	6,580	6,360
	<u>33,199</u>	<u>34,584</u>

**4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	Direct Costs (see note 5)	Support costs (see note 6)	Totals
	£	£	£
Church Activities	<u>35,010</u>	<u>798</u>	<u>35,808</u>

**5. DIRECT COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Rent	2,233	812
Licenses & insurance	933	832
Pastors fees	20,081	16,094
Sundries	3,195	149
Conference Costs	350	650
Training	208	1,584
Travel Costs	800	-
Donations	7,138	8,365
Bank Charges	72	72
	<u>35,010</u>	<u>28,558</u>

**6. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Governance costs
	£
Church Activities	<u>798</u>

Support costs, included in the above, are as follows:

	2023 Church Activities	2022 Total activities
	£	£
Accountancy and independent examination	<u>798</u>	<u>762</u>

**Swindon Community Church**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accountancy and independent examination	<u>798</u>	<u>762</u>

**8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

The trustee, R Cole and his spouse, received total remuneration of £18,009 (2022: £15,938) for pastoral services provided during the year.

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

**9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted fund £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>	
Donations and legacies	<u>34,584</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>	
<b>Charitable activities</b>	
Church Activities	<u>29,320</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	5,264
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>	
Total funds brought forward	36,524
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u><u>41,788</u></u>

**10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Computer equipment £
<b>COST</b>	
At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023	<u>350</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>	
At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023	<u>350</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u><u>-</u></u>

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 March 2023**

**11. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>13,570</u>	<u>6,995</u>

**12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2023 £	2022 £
Accrued expenses	<u>1,087</u>	<u>877</u>

**13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	41,788	(2,609)	39,179
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>41,788</u>	<u>(2,609)</u>	<u>39,179</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	33,199	(35,808)	(2,609)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>33,199</u>	<u>(35,808)</u>	<u>(2,609)</u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.22 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	36,524	5,264	41,788
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>36,524</u>	<u>5,264</u>	<u>41,788</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	34,584	(29,320)	5,264
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>34,584</u>	<u>(29,320)</u>	<u>5,264</u>

**14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

Donations from trustees and related parties in the year totalled £18,976 (2022: £13,063).

There were no other related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2023.