



Great Shelford Free Church

Annual Report of the trustees for the year ended 31st March 2024

Charity Name: Great Shelford Free Church (Baptist) also known as GSFC

Registration Number: 1141345

Address: **Great Shelford Free Church (Baptist)**
Ashen Green
Great Shelford
CB22 5EY

Property Trustees: The Baptist Union Corporation
Baptist House
129 Broadway
Didcot
Oxfordshire
OX11 8RT

Trustees: (Leadership Team)	Mrs Diana Parr	Pastor (Acting Pastor until September 2023)
	Mrs. Liz Jenkin	Elder
	Mrs Jillian Hardwick	Secretary
	Mr Stuart Watt	Church Treasurer
	Mr Colin Jefferson	Deacon
	Mr Christopher Smith	Deacon
	Mr Graham Briscoe	Deacon
	Mrs Fiona Joel	Deacon (From 11 th March 2024)

Bankers: Barclays Bank plc

Independent Examiner: Mr John Stirrat FCCA , Hardcastle Burton (Newmarket) Limited, Chartered Certified Accountants

Pastor's Letter

Dear Friends

I often reflect on the journey of life and how our faith journey is interwoven into every aspect of our lives, sometimes without us being aware of it, and so our journey of faith as individuals walking with Jesus also encompasses our journey as a church. Sometimes that journey with God is straightforward and at other times it seems more complex; sometimes the way ahead is clear and at other times our path may seem shrouded in mist; sometimes it may seem that we are going round in circles and at other times we move forward at pace.

As we look back over the past year it may seem that we are revisiting the same situations, but there are also indicators that as a church community, and as individuals, we are moving on in our journey with our Lord, in ever increasing circles, as we aim to keep Him at the centre of everything we do.

Because of the way the dates fell this year, we started the year by preparing for the celebration of Easter with times of proclamation of the word and prayer, and we also ended our year with a joyous celebration of the death and resurrection of our Lord. At both ends of the year we took time and opportunity to share our joy in the Good News of Jesus with the local community by offering free coffee and hot cross buns at Cara Coffee Shop. We also began the year searching for a new pastor and now as we approach a new year, having filled that post, we begin a search for an assistant pastor to work alongside me. It may seem that we are revisiting a place we've been in before, but we continue to trust that God has the right person in mind and will bring about His purposes in our midst.

I give thanks for all of you and for the way we work together as a team to serve the purposes of God in the place and time he has given us. It has been good this year to spend time studying the Lord's prayer and I hope it has blessed us and encouraged us to persevere in our own praying, both individually and corporately. I firmly believe that prayer is a key that unlocks many doors in the kingdom of heaven, and I am encouraged to see glimpses of where God is at work, in our wider community, in the collaboration with our friends at the parish church, and in our own slowly growing fellowship. I encourage you all to take hold of the opportunities which He provides, to share our faith and to grow His Kingdom, giving Him the glory in all that we do.

Our verse for the year is Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and he will direct your paths". As we move forward together as his body of believers at GSFC let us continue to acknowledge Him as Lord in all that we do, and to trust Him to direct our paths for the way ahead.

Diana Parr

Pastor

Church Secretary's Report

It is always quite daunting starting with a blank piece of paper trying to do justice to the work of the church in the last year. And what a year it has been. As Diana mentioned in her letter, the year 1st April 2023 to the 31st of March 2024 spanned two Easters giving us an opportunity to worship the risen Christ in a fresh way but also enabling us to include the village children in that worship.

In 2023 we hosted children and teachers from Shelford School for an "Experience Easter Outdoors" behind Cara Coffee. This is a children's version of the stations of the cross and was a wonderful opportunity to tell the children the Easter story. Additionally, during the holidays we made Easter Gardens with families in the community, again another opportunity to share our faith.

In 2024, "Experience Easter" was brought into the sanctuary and children from the school spent a day travelling round 6 stations learning the Easter story and asking questions. The stations were then available for church members and the wider community to use in prayerful contemplation. This led into our Maundy Thursday services, reflections at Cara coffee following hot cross buns and coffee for the community, then on to our Easter Sunday Service. We were delighted that a number of people from outside the church joined with us, for many of these events, but I'm getting ahead of myself, the church calendar was packed between the two Easters.

As I write this list, I'm aware it is a dangerous activity. I am bound to miss something that members have worked so hard on to serve both the church community and our friends in the wider community. Please forgive me if I have inadvertently missed your event. It certainly wasn't deliberate and hopefully across all the reports it will have been mentioned. The good thing is God misses nothing, even if I have.

We were present at the Feast weekend allowing people to spin a wheel to 'win' a prize based on the miracles of Jesus. No one went home empty handed; everyone took home the story of the miracle, a little more knowledge about Jesus and a prize.

The autumn proved a busy season.

There was a community café outing for a pub lunch at Upware. We had a wonderful service joined by Diana's family and friends to celebrate her induction as our Pastor in September. Coffee was provided from Cara Coffee during the fun run, and we celebrated Harvest at a Café Church thanking God for his bountiful provision as we ate bread made by a lady at the WI market who wanted to support our harvest. We ran a very popular All Hallows' Eve event for the village children and had some really good conversations. A bring and share lunch allowed us to enjoy each other's company and we joined with St Mary's for Remembrance Sunday.

As Christmas approached, we had a shoe box packing day for Operation Christmas Child in the church and a cake sale to pay for postage, went on a travelling nativity, made

Christingles as the Christmas lights were switched on and sang carols at the Cambridgeshire Care Home and community carols. Several members also went to Great Chesterford Congregational Church to join with them for their carol service; and that was before we had our own church services praising God for the birth of His Son our Saviour. Additionally, we helped GenR8 celebrate their 21st birthday making our premises available for that event and on other occasions.

As a church we took part in the LICC Frontline Course, looking afresh at who was on our frontline and how we could interact with them, sharing our faith with people who don't yet know Jesus. All this was supported by prayer, both personal and collective.

As the new calendar year started, we had a week of prayer, and the Barkers visited us from Nepal. A very successful Tear Fund Quiz was held raising a superb amount for Tear Fund and allowing many people who don't normally cross our threshold a "safe way" to enter our building.

As we end the year, we have more members than when we started and more connections. We continue to pray for families to join us and that God will direct His person to join us as Assistant Minister to work alongside Diana.

Membership

On 31st March 2024 the church had 77 members, two of whom do not currently worship with us. We are awaiting a request to transfer their membership to their new church.

We welcomed into membership Chris Cooper, Gillian Overitt, Greg Stevenson, Jamie and Lynn Taylor.

Appointment of new Pastor

Diana Parr was elected Pastor at a Special Church members meeting on the June 26th 2023, and her induction ceremony was held on 23rd September 2023 led by the Regional Minister Gale Richards.

Leadership Team

The Leadership Team and the Elders met approximately every fortnight during the year, moving to monthly meetings once we had appointed our new pastor. The Moderator (Rev'd John Smith) also attended meetings until the end of June 2023

Chris Smith was re-elected as Deacon at the March 2024 meeting. Fiona Joel was also newly elected as a Deacon at that meeting.

Short ministry reports now follow

Children's work

Sunday morning sessions for children and young people have been many and varied. We all start with families in the church, and there is prayer for the whole group before we leave. Gradually, we have introduced some sessions in which the youth group meets separately, to enable our teens and nearly-teens to have their own space, topics and discussion opportunities (see Youth Work below). The two groups were properly established in January 2024, and although this places more demand on adult leaders, it has generally worked well.

Diana Parr and Clive, the much-loved orangutan puppet, continue to feature in some services, linking the church and children's programmes. Teaching material has been based upon biblical narrative, reflecting the church year when appropriate. We continue to ensure that the Café Church sessions specifically include our younger people and their families.

Another well-attended All Saints' Eve celebration took place behind Cara coffee, with some children who were very young indeed. Families were invited to sign up on the church website and those who came enjoyed a BBQ, and a wide variety of activities. This was a good opportunity to meet and serve members of the wider village community, several of whom simply saw what was happening and came to join in.

Another opportunity for our children and young people has been their inclusion in the church Eco-Project: we have been taking advice upon the land behind Cara Café, helping to clear and tidy the area, listening to and recording children's views, raking grass and sowing wildflower seeds. The work will expand in the months to come.

Open Space

Open Space is a relatively new venture run in collaboration with St. Marys' Church. It provides opportunity for families to meet in outdoor spaces to explore faith through a variety of activities and connect with one another and with God, in an informal time of worship. The sessions take place on Sunday afternoons, once per month, whatever the weather, alternating between the grounds of St. Mary's church and the church garden behind Cara Coffee. Since we began this initiative last year, we have had several families from both churches and from

the wider community join us for these sessions, and we continue to build on relationships forged with families, as we explore different aspects of our faith.

Little Steps

The Little Steps team has continued to serve the under 3s in the area, with their parents and carers. The number of registered families has risen to 30, some of whom have graduated from Tiny Toes.

Weekly newsletters have been discontinued, and email communications are now only when needed to announce specific events. We have, however, continued our outdoor trails on Great Shelford recreation ground at least once per half term. It is good to get outside with our small people and gives us a great opportunity to connect with the wider community.

Our Freecycle has continued, and parents bring clothes, toys or equipment that they no longer need, and give them away through Little Steps or Tiny Toes. Items can then be taken by other parents, and any leftover are passed on to other charities – most going to the Vineyard Cambridge 'Growkids' initiative.

Indeed, we thank God for all the blessings that we have experienced, not only for children, but also for parents, carers and the dedicated team too. Feedback from adults makes it clear that they value the warm welcome, the immediate acceptance and consistent support.

Tiny Toes

Tiny Toes is a group for parents and carers with babies up to one year old. It continues to be well attended by new mums with their babies who welcome the opportunity to meet up and connect with other people in the same situation for mutual support and encouragement. The opportunity to support and pray for and with these new mums has been a real blessing. We have been pleased to see a number of these Mums and babies transfer into Little Steps during the course of the year.

Community Café

Community Café continues to thrive as people meet on a Monday morning sitting around the tables in the sanctuary chatting to friends. The Café is really well attended and most Mondays there is the opportunity for a conversation with someone new. Similar to last year, we have been delighted to see people we first met at Community Café joining us for worship on a Sunday morning and attending other events put on by church, exploring their faith. During the morning, the thought for the day, provided by a small group of church members, is well received by all who attend.

Over the course of the year, we have had a couple of opportunities to share a simple meal together after the Community Café. These events were enjoyed by all who attended.

As in previous years, cakes are provided by church members, and served by a dedicated band of volunteers. We would be delighted if others would like to bake and join the "cake rota".

We would love to see our church family, of any age, using the café. You are most welcome just to come and join in spending time chatting to others. This is a real opportunity to serve our community.

Eco church

Last year the church achieved a Silver Eco church award. This was the culmination of a huge team effort by the church. In particular we have started to focus more on the land behind Cara and have built new compost bins and added a bug hotel, making the area more nature friendly. More to come in 2024. In May the Church Members' Meeting agreed to offset our energy usage by paying to plant 8 trees in the East of England. This meant our 2023 energy usage was all renewably sourced or offset. The same will be done for our 2024 energy usage.

Home Groups

The church currently has 8 home groups meeting weekly for Bible study and prayer, with around 64 participants attending regularly, both church members and others from the congregation. Groups meet mainly in the evenings on days to suit each individual group, but two groups meet during the day. The focus of the studies has primarily been exploring the topic / Bible passage preached on the previous Sunday through questions written either by the preacher or Lou Everard the Home Group Coordinator. Each home group is organised by a group facilitator under the auspices of a Home Group Coordinator and are a great way to go deeper into scripture and pray in smaller units that offer friendship and fellowship. If you are not in a home group and would like to join one, please speak to Diana. All Home groups met together with others in the church family at the home of Chris and Liz Jenkin for a summer social.

Prayer Ministry

The prayer ministry continues with a small but dedicated group meeting via Zoom on a Sunday evening led by Bismark Donkor. Splitting into smaller groups has allowed for meaningful sharing and reflections and discerning on prayer points. We have continued to hold in-person prayer meetings in the church at 6.30pm on the days we have café church.

Our prayer of intercession is led by members of the church on the 2nd and 4th weeks of the month. They lead our prayers for our church, the wider community, our country, the world and prayer needs for people affected by war, conflicts, natural disasters and national issues affecting our daily lives. On the 1st Sunday of the month have a mission focus where prayers are dedicated to that mission during our church service. If you would like to join the rota for our prayer of intercession, please contact Bismark.

The prayer chain continues to be very active, and we have been greatly blessed by answers to our prayers. The prayer chain shares both internal prayer requests, from and about the church family, and external prayer requests. If you would like to be involved in the prayer chain, please speak to Bismark or Maria Begley who will share the email address and WhatsApp numbers.

We had a week of prayer in Holy Week using the prayer stations prepared for the children at Great Shelford Primary School. It was a blessing to see a number of people from the community joining us.

If you would like prayer from the prayer team in person after church or at other times, please contact Bismark Donkor, Maria Begley, Anne Beresford or Penny Pearl who would be delighted to pray with you.

Mission

Following the reinvigorating of our mission focus last year, this year we continued to support eight charities. Four were a given (BMS, GenR8, EBA Home Mission and SSI) and four were voted by members having been proposed by a member with a particular heart for that mission. Each mission rep had a month to share their mission partner with the church through the Link, the church website, a focus noticeboard in church, at least one Sunday morning focus slot, either via video or in person and the opportunity for one official church fundraising event a year, organised by the rep in discussion with the leadership team.

The missions we chose, and the representatives are set out below:

- | | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| • BMS | Lesley Cornell | • Centre of Hope | Graham Briscoe |
| • GenR8 | Penny Kite | • Aquaid Lifeline | Carole Johnson |
| • EBA Home Mission | Diana Parr | • Hands of Mercy | Robin Blee |
| • SSI | Jean Chambers | • Friends International | Jean Chambers |

The church also continued to support Operation Christmas Child. Jane Furlow led this work.

Safeguarding

With the appointment of Diana Parr as our pastor, it was no longer appropriate for her to be one of our Deputy Designated Safeguarding leads, as she holds pastoral oversight for the whole church, although she is still involved in our team. We are grateful that Penny Kite has stepped into this role, joining Barbara Law as Deputy DSL.

A comprehensive self-assessment audit, created by the BU, was carried out in the spring by Liz Jenkin and Diane Baslington. It was pleasing to note that there were no major omissions in our practice, but plenty of points for action; together with Diana a plan for action was put in place, which the leadership team has approved, and which we are now working through.

Worship

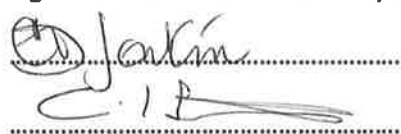
Last year's report ended with us looking forward to more of our Friday Evening Praise sessions, and it has been a real blessing to hold these, which have been well received by our congregation and also guests. As a team, we have met and considered which songs we use in our Sunday sessions, as ever trying to strike a balance between the old and the new, while also being mindful of the need to balance songs that point towards praising God, our personal need for transformation and compassion for the wider world. Our team of singers and musicians continues to be varied, and as ever, is ably supported by our flexible (and at times long-suffering) tech team.

Youth work

The youth work on Sunday mornings has been reinvigorated over the past year by Carole and Bismark, with Penny, Stephen and Chris in support. Our group is still small, but the young people are keen to meet separately from Kids' Club when possible, and have enjoyed a mixture of games, videos, discussions, prayer time and excellent snacks.

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees:


.....
.....

Date 23/06/24

Date 23/06/24

Financial review

Financial policies

The Church has established systems and controls for receipts and expenditure, in accordance with the Constitution and Charity Law.

These procedures have been approved by Trustees and Members for the protection of the Church's finances and assets and also for the protection of individual members of the Leadership Team. The guidelines stipulate what authority is required when purchasing goods or services and who may authorise payments from the bank accounts.

Annual budgets are discussed, prepared and approved by the Trustee leadership team before being presented, discussed and approved by Church members.

The Church Treasurer who is appointed in accordance with the Church Constitution presents an income and expenditure statement with explanation of significant movement to budget for review by the leadership team at least 6 times a year and four times a year to the Church Members. This assists in forecasts and treasury management.

The annual church accounts are prepared and examined by external, qualified accountants.

Reserves Policy

The General Fund Reserves have been set at 50% of the current year's budgeted expenditure.

We have also started to rebuild the Fabric and Development Funds due to not having a ministerial assistant post since August 2022 and the temporary renting of the manse. These designated reserves are for the improvement of the manse in particular and for the overall maintenance of the church.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

Charity Law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for the financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources of the year and the application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue on that basis.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the church and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which GSFC faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen any risks of which at present none have been identified. No money is paid or received from abroad.

Pensions Policy

The Church pays pension contributions for its Minister, and staff members to the Baptist Ministers Pension Trust Limited, defined contribution scheme.

This amount is included within the staff and admin expense in Note 6 to the account.

Principal Funding Sources

GSFC derives its funding from voluntary gifts, free-will offerings, community activities and legacies which are received from its members and others who worship at the Church. Tax refunds are also reclaimed on any offerings given under the Gift Aid scheme.

As we await the recruitment of an assistant minister the manse has provided temporary rental income, at below market rate.

The Church is heavily dependent on its membership working as volunteers in all aspects of the church's activities, many of which run with little or no impact on the church's expenditure, but nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the church's objectives.

Expenditure is incurred to enable the church's programme of services and activities to be held.

As part of our outreach we give 12.5% of the General Fund's offerings to other charitable organisations as nominated and voted on by the Church Membership. The rest of the General Fund expenditure is in respect of the Minister's stipend and salary costs of other employees of GSFC, the maintenance and running costs of the Church, the Manse and general administrative requirements.

Unrestricted Funds

The Church has a General Fund, which is an unrestricted fund. This Fund is used to finance the regular activities of the Church, and its principal income is from the free-will offerings given to the Church by its members and other regular worshippers who attend the services and activities. It is used to transfer to designated funds as the need arises.

Designated Funds

Social Action Fund

Designated fund under the Charities Act and is intended to be used for grants and loans to members and others in special financial need.

Building & Fabric Fund

Designated fund under the Charities Act and has been used for the refurbishment/repair of Church buildings. As it depends on transfers from the unrestricted general fund the Trustees decided during the year that when the fund was depleted, refurbishment/ repair costs should be charged direct to the general unrestricted fund.

Special Projects Fund

Designated fund under the Charities Act and can only be used for any purpose approved by the Church membership.

Special Projects (Mission) Fund

Designated fund under the Charities Act and can only be used for any mission-associated purpose approved by the Church membership.

Church Tithe Fund

This designated fund is used to support the work of those involved in Christian service/aid work locally, nationally and internationally. The monies in this fund are provided for annually to be paid the following year. Allocation is agreed by the Church Meeting in the year of payment. The Church Tithe is currently set at 12.5% of 'free will offerings'.

Training Fund

Designated fund under the Charities Act and to be used for costs of those preparing for Christian work either in the UK or overseas.

Development Fund

As this designated fund was used for the refurbishment of the toilets last year it was agreed by the trustees to increase it as appropriate for the potential improvement and development of the manse and other Church buildings.

Restricted Funds

- 'Other' Funds donated for a variety of 'restricted' purposes.
- **Development of Premises Fund.**

This is restricted under the Charities Act and can only be used for the development, but not the maintenance, of the facilities, premises and land at Great Shelford Free Church (Baptist).

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

On the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Great Shelford Free Church

I report on the financial statements of the Church for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Receipts and Payment Account, the balance sheet and the Notes to the Accounts.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Church's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 examiners' 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 in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.



John Stirrat FCCA
Hardcastle Burton (Newmarket) Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
90 High Street
Newmarket
Suffolk

Date: 24 June 2024

Receipts and Payment Account
For the period from 01 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

		Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total Funds	Total Funds
	Note	Funds	Funds	Funds	2023/24	2022/23
Incoming Resources						
Voluntary Income	2	104,461.80	0.00	0.00	104,461.80	101,855.52
Investment Income	3	31,630.32	0.00	0.00	31,630.32	23,203.71
Charitable Activities	4	2,718.98	180.00	0.00	2,898.98	2,441.70
Other Incoming Resources	5	29,389.96	0.00	0.00	29,389.96	27,733.43
Total incoming resources		168,201.06	180.00	0.00	168,381.06	155,234.36
Resources Expended						
Charitable activities	6	102,322.79	19,066.89	0.00	121,389.68	132,542.01
Governance costs	7	1,300.00			1,300.00	1,200.00
Total Resources Expended		103,622.79	19,066.89	0.00	122,689.68	133,742.01
Net Incoming (Outgoing) Resources		64,578.27	-18,886.89	0.00	45,691.38	21,492.35
Transfers						
Net transfers between funds	8	-50,824.00	50,824.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net incoming/outgoing before other gains/losses		13,754.27	31,937.11	0.00	45,691.38	21,492.35
Net movement in Funds		13,754.27	31,937.11	0.00	45,691.38	21,492.35
Totals brought forward		48,830.25	483,784.02	303.80	532,918.07	511,425.72
Total funds carried forward		62,584.52	515,721.13	303.80	578,609.45	532,918.07

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Note	General Fund	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023/24	Total Funds 2022/23
Fixed Assets					0	
Intangible Assets						
Freehold Property	12		450,340.68		450,340.68	450,340.68
Fixed Assets		0.00	450,340.68	0.00	450,340.68	450,340.68
Current Assets						
Debtors		6,366.64	0.00		6,366.64	10,472.27
Cash at bank and in hand		62,579.95	65,380.45	303.80	128,264.20	88,434.56
Current Assets		68,946.59	65,380.45	303.80	134,630.84	98,906.83
Current Liabilities						
Creditors:		6,182.07			6,182.07	3,829.44
Deferred Income		180.00			180.00	12,500.00
Current Liabilities		6,362.07	0.00	0.00	6,362.07	16,329.44
Net current assets		62,584.52	65,380.45	303.80	128,268.77	82,577.39
Net assets	9	62,584.52	515,721.13	303.80	578,609.45	532,918.07
Represented by						
Unrestricted General Fund		62,584.52			62,584.52	48,830.25
Designated Funds	10				0.00	0.00
Designated - Social Action			3,332.63		3,332.63	4,337.63
Designated - Training for ministry			2,000.94		2,000.94	2,000.94
Designated - Building and Fabric			469,710.32		469,710.32	451,210.32
Designated - Special Projects			0.00		0.00	0.00
Designated - Church Tithe			17,298.53		17,298.53	15,174.53
Designated - Development			23,378.71		23,378.71	11,060.60
Restricted - Other	11			303.80	303.80	303.80
Funds of the church		62,584.52	515,721.13	303.80	578,609.45	532,918.07

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Financial Statements.

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees

Signed J Harrowick Full Name JILLIAN HARROWICK

Trustee

Signed Stuart James McSweeney Full Name STUART JAMES MCSWEENEY

GSFC Treasurer

NOTES TO ACCOUNTS - Year ended 31st March 2024

1. Accounting policies

a. *Basis of Preparation*

The accounts of the church, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 (FRS 102), Financial Reporting Standard 102 and Accounting Regulations set out under the Charities Act 2011. They are prepared in sterling (£).

b. *Donations*

Donations are accounted for gross when received.

c. *Legacies*

Legacies are accounted for when their receipt is certain and can be properly quantified.

d. *Investment Income*

Investment Income is included in the accounts in the year in which it is receivable.

e. *Fund Raising and publicity costs*

The Church does not make formal appeals for funds, therefore there is no expenditure.

f. *Grants Payable*

The Church does not make grants but gifts donations to other organisations whose charitable objects complement its work. They are accounted for in the year in which they are paid.

g. *Payments to Trustees (Note 6)*

Remuneration is paid to the following trustees: the Pastor and the Ministerial Assistant for their roles within the church. The total amount is £34237 (2023 £36183). It is not the Church's policy to disclose the amounts paid to each individual in this statement.

Expenses of £ 794.9 (2023 £475.58) were reimbursed to the Trustees during the year. These all relate to costs incurred by the Trustees in the course of their duties as members of the Leadership Team.

h. *Governance Costs*

This represents the Independent Examiner's fee for the year. The salary and associated costs of the Administrator is reflected in **note 6**.

In general, most of the management is carried out without charge by volunteers and the Trustees of the church. This intangible cost is not included in the Statement of Financial Activities, since there is no measurable cost to these people for their service.

i. *Fixed Assets*

Freehold Property is included in the balance sheet at cost. The trustees do not consider it beneficial to the users of these accounts to obtain valuation that would incur significant costs. The insurance value is reported in the note to the accounts.

Items of equipment are written off when acquired.

j. *Depreciation*

Depreciation has not been charged on the Church or Manse premises because, in the opinion of the Trustees, the residual value of the asset is not less than the original cost price.

k. *Investment Assets*

If applicable, quoted investments would be stated at market value.

Notes

2. Voluntary Income

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	2023/24 Total	2022/2023 Total
Gift Aid Offering	95,768.00			95,768.00	89,493.00
Other offering	7,330.64			7,330.64	7,350.64
Donations	1,363.16			1,363.16	5,011.88
	104,461.80	0.00	0.00	104,461.80	101,855.52

3. Investment income

Rent ##	28,662.00			28,662.00	22,800.00
Interest	2,968.32			2,968.32	403.71
	31,630.32	0.00	0.00	31,630.32	23,203.71

4. Charitable Activities

Evangelism	1,000.17			1,000.17	1,074.85
Junior Church	1,718.81			1,718.81	1,366.85
Youth				0.00	0.00
Church Weekend				0.00	0.00
Leaders Conference				0.00	0.00
Other		180.00		180.00	0.00
	2,718.98	180.00	0.00	2,898.98	2,441.70

5. Other incoming resources

Gift Aid recovered	24192.01			24,192.01	22,348.25
Legacies	5,000.00			5,000.00	1,000.00
Other contributions	197.95			197.95	4,385.18
	29,389.96	0.00	0.00	29,389.96	27,733.43

6. Charitable Activities

Staff Cost	48065.41			48065.41	44,981.13
Employers costs	3,987.46			3987.46	3,025.83
Pension deficit	12.00			12.00	1,433.00
	52,064.87			52064.87	49,439.96
Staff expenses	184.48			184.48	695.30
Youth and Children	292.06			292.06	486.29
				0	
Evangelism	2,131.35			2131.35	1,984.46
				0	
Prayer Ministry	439.10			439.10	431.08
Sanctuary Resources	1,150.47			1150.47	1,289.84
Pulpit & moderator expenses	218.35			218.35	1,380.65
Fellowship	1,347.54	585.00		1932.54	1,091.28
Training Resources	734.80			734.80	1,175.00
Leaders Conference				0.00	0.00

BU Home Mission		4,000.00		4,000.00	4,000.00
BMS World Mission		4,000.00		4,000.00	4,000.00
SSYI		1,200.00		1,200.00	1,200.00
Friends International		1,200.00		1,200.00	1,200.00
DFN UK		0.00		0.00	1,200.00
Hands of Mercy		1,200.00		1,200.00	1,200.00
GenR8		1,200.00		1,200.00	1,200.00
Centre of Hope		1,200.00		1,200.00	1,200.00
Tearfund		0.00		0.00	1,409.00
Aquaid		1,200.00		1,200.00	0.00
Christmas Hampers		600.00		600.00	600.00
Heating/Ins/Ctax ###	12,305.76			12305.76	10,756.83
Church Cleaning	5,847.17			5847.17	6,670.58
Telephone/Internet	2,612.31			2612.31	2,161.92
Stationery & Postage	187.41			187.41	179.28
Subs & Donations	1,648.33			1648.33	2,881.63
Rental Agents Fees & Insurance Commission	3,891.49			3891.49	3,031.89
Repairs and Renewals	13,100.67	2,681.89		15782.56	27,455.69
Bank Charges	190.10			190.10	201.85
Payroll, DBS, other fees	1,806.42			1,806.42	1,740.00
Computer Software				0	0.00
Equipment & lease	1,330.96			1330.96	1,807.62
Other	839.15			839.15	471.86
	102,322.79	19,066.89	0.00	121,389.68	132,542.01

### Heating /Ins/Ctax breakdown					
Heating/Lighting	8,007.60				5,154.85
Water Charges	575.97				1,242.47
Insurance	3,722.19				3,345.97
Council Tax	0.00				1,013.54
Total	12,305.76				10,756.83

7. Governance costs

Independent Examination	1,300.00	1,200.00
-------------------------	----------	----------

8. Gross transfers between funds

	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total	Total
General fund	-50824			-50824	-15174.53
Social Action				0	
Designated Development		15000		15000	0
Building and Fabric		18500		18500	0
Church Tithe		17324		17324	15,174.53
	-50824	50824	0	0	0

9. Analysis of Net assets

		Fixed Asset	Investment	Current Asset	Total
Restricted Funds	(Note 11)			303.80	303.80
Designated Funds	(Note 10)	450,340.68		65,380.45	515721.13
Unrestricted Funds				62,584.52	62584.52
		450340.68	0	128,268.77	578,609.45

10. Designated Funds

	Mar 23	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Total
Social Action	4,337.63	180.00	1,185.00	0	3332.63
Training for ministry	2,000.94	0	0	0	2000.94
Building and Fabric	451,210.32	0	0	18,500.00	469710.32
Church Tithe	15,174.53	0	15,200.00	17,324.00	17298.53
Designated Development	11,060.60	0	2,681.89	15,000.00	23,378.71
	483784.02	180.00	19066.89	50,824.00	515721.13

Designated funds held in

	Fixed Asset	Investment	Current Asset	Total
Social Action			3332.63	3332.63
Training for ministry			2000.94	2000.94
Building and Fabric	450,340.68		19369.64	469710.32
Church Tithe			17298.53	17298.53
Designated Development			23,378.71	23378.71
	450340.68	0	65380.45	515721.13

11. Restricted Funds

	2023-2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Current Asset
Prayer Garden	19.47	0	0	19.47
Sound Desk	284.33			284.33
	303.80	0.00	0.00	303.80

12. Freehold Property

	Historic cost	Insurance Valuation 24	Insurance Valuation 23
Church and Hall	267773	2635075	2313548
Manse		501760	448000
29 High Street	91000	232163	196957
6 Grain Close	91115	264464	256762

Contingent Liability

The contingent liability within the Lease with Romsey Mill Trust ceased on 19th March 2024. Therefore there is no provision in the accounts.