
THE COTTERIDGE CHURCH

Annual Report & Financial Accounts
For The Year End 31st December 2023

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2023 TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

The Cotteridge Church Annual Report 2023 Year ended 31 December 2023

Our Mission Statement

The Cotteridge Church aims to be:

A place of reconciliation

- where hurts are healed, and barriers broken down

A place of proclamation

- where beliefs are respected, and dialogue encouraged

A place of service

- where community needs are met

A place of celebration

- where the good things of life are celebrated

Our Vision Statement

Striving to be a vibrant, challenging Christian community celebrating and sharing in the life of God's kingdom.

Inclusive

Welcoming all: ourselves, our community, and the worldwide community

Intentional

Living the gospel in word and deed

Inviting

Offering the opportunity to explore the Christian faith

Interactive

Enabling all to find and celebrate their place in the life of the Church

Church members will be aware that a Strategy Group is currently consulting with all those associated with the Church on its Mission Statement, its Vision Statement and an Action Plan for the future. There will be an update on progress at the AGM.

The Cotteridge Church

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Tel: 0121 433 5518 Fax: 0121 459 6909

Email: administrator@thecotteridgechurch.org.uk

www.thecotteridgechurch.org.uk

Trustees who served during the year

Ex officio

Rev. Michael Claridge (Anglican Minister)

Rev. Roger Collins (Non-stipendiary Anglican Minister and vice chair of PCC)

Rev. Barbara Calvert (Methodist Supernumerary minister)

Dorothy Audley (Treasurer)

Co-opted

Neil Walters (Church Warden)

Mike Meadows (Methodist Steward)

Dorothy Audley (URC Elder) and Chair of JCC

Elected

Neil Walters

Stephen Audley

Jane Stephens

Chris Pascal

Sandra Walton

Pam Waddell

Non-trustees

Rev. Cleopas Sibanda (Methodist Superintendent)

Marje Roper (Methodist Circuit Steward)

Introduction

Welcome to the Annual Reports and Accounts as they relate to 2023. The contents of this document represent a lot of hard work by a lot of people and, in terms of the accounts, the generosity of all who support The Cotteridge Church financially. Please take time to read and examine the report and accounts. There will be an opportunity at the Annual Meeting on Sunday 12th May (after the 10.30am service) to ask any questions for clarification. Please make every effort to attend the worship that morning, and the meeting that will follow it. This is an important time in the life of The Cotteridge Church as we are seeking God's direction as we look to serve Christ and the community in appropriate ways.

Mike Claridge, Minister

Minister's Notes

The year of 2023, which the reports in this document relate too, was a busy year in which we continued to try and 'bounce back' after the three years of different levels of lock down due to Covid-19. At the heart of our common life together is of course worship. Our main act of worship at 10.30am on Sundays has seen a number of new faces, and more new ones are always welcome. As well as myself we have had worship led by Roger Collins, Barbara Calvert, John Cooper and Sue Spencer among others. Worship must always be at the heart of our common life - as we praise God for the love revealed in Jesus Christ. We do this on Sunday mornings face-to-face, Wednesday evening on Zoom, Tuesday mornings for Holy Communion and, in the final third of 2023 Sunday Evening Worship was restarted on the first Sunday of the month.

Worship is only part of the ministry of The Cotteridge Church. Hospitality and welcome are an important part of our life and the ministry of the Cotteridge Church Café is vital. On Monday to Saturday mornings, and Tuesday evenings, we welcome all who come for refreshment. The café is part of the wider catering ministry for which we give thanks.

During 2023 we said goodbye to the ministry of the Day Centre for Older Adults. This was for various reasons. We give thanks for its ministry over many years and for the devotion of those who worked there.

The Cotteridge Church serves the community in many ways, some of which feature in this report. In all this we seek to live out our calling to respond to God's love in Christ and to live out our discipleship in worship and mission.

Mike Claridge, Minister

Safeguarding

The Safeguarding Lead stepped down during the year. It was decided that the setting up of a Safeguarding Team was the way forward to ensure the Church fulfilled Safeguarding requirements.

Members wishing to join the team are encouraged to contact the Chair of JCC.

Thank you to those who have helped with the administration of Safeguarding this year. Also, to those who have completed training as required and obtained DBS checks. We ensure that both training and DBS checks are up to date as required.

During 2023 there were no safeguarding concerns or incidents that required action by The Cotteridge Church Safeguarding Team.

Mike Claridge, Minister

Membership

The number of members, as reported to the Church Council on 31st December 2023, was 118 (2022 - 125).

During the preceding twelve months seven members sadly died.

The current membership is 115.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Cotteridge Church is a Local Ecumenical Partnership between the Church of England, the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church. Its premises are subject to a sharing agreement between the three denominations and its structure, governance and management is ordered by an updated constitution adopted at the 2020 AGM in April 2020.

Throughout the year the Trustees pay due regard to the Charity Commissions guidance on Public Benefit and in particular the specific guidance provided to charities involved in the advancement of religion.

Congregational Meeting

The meeting is chaired by the minister and is a vehicle for consulting with the congregation about all aspects of Church life, and for communicating the decisions of JCC to the wider Church congregation.

The annual meeting usually taking place around April/May is not only the Church AGM but also the time when the three denominational AGMs are held. It is at this meeting when the Annual report and Accounts are received.

Joint Church Council

The legal responsibility for The Cotteridge Church rests with the Joint Church Council (JCC), which is elected on denominational lines as defined in the Sharing Agreement. The Stipendiary minister, and non-stipendiary ministers are ex-officio, co-opted members, (the C of E Church warden, the Methodist Steward, the URC Elder), serve until the next AGM, and elected members serve for three years retiring in rotation. The JCC is also the body of Trustees and membership is as per the list at the beginning of this report.

The JCC is responsible for the Church finances, its management and control, including the appointment of a Treasurer. Currently, the Trustees have appointed joint Treasurers, who, together with the Administrator, keep the accountancy records which are used to ascertain the financial position of the Church. The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy, and enable them to ascertain, the financial position of the Church, while ensuring that the financial statements comply as follows:

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) published on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The JCC is responsible for safeguarding Church assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. Due to the level of income of the Charity, JCC is required to have the financial statements independently examined prior to publication.

Risk Management

The Joint Church Council recognises the need for appropriate policies and procedures to manage risk (including Health & Safety), across all areas of activity for which it is responsible, including its buildings and facilities, as well as a wide range of activities and events. Subject to policies agreed by the JCC, each

Committee has responsibility for the effective day to day implementation of the relevant agreed risk management processes covering the areas of activity for which they are responsible.

The Church's exposure to risk is being managed and monitored through the Risk Register agreed by the JCC in 2014 and covers five major areas:

1. Strategic and Reputational Risk
2. Financial Risk
3. Compliance Ongoing Risk
4. Operational Risk
5. Property/premises

The major risks to which the JCC is exposed are identified in the above-mentioned document and the JCC are ultimately responsible to ensure that there are procedures established to reduce and manage those risks.

The Risk Register is reviewed on a regular basis as determined by the Property and Management Committee and was last updated in 2022.

Financial Review

The total unrestricted income for the year is £125,242 which is slightly higher than for 2022. Designated income has risen slightly, from £30,007 to £38,627. The total income for 2023 is £219,804 which is lower than the total income for 2022 which stood at £240,166 due to restricted income funds being considerably lower during 2023. This in part is due to Foodbank no longer being part of the church accounts and also down to the closure of the Day Centre.

Church expenditure continues to be higher than income, meaning reserves have to be called upon.

Room Hire continues to generate a sizeable income due to the outstanding effort of our church Administrator. It is our hope that room hire will continue to grow.

Donations have been received from BB, Tuesday Fellowship and the Book Centre.

There has been some Legacy gifts and Grants received during the year.

Thanks go to our church staff for the work they do, and in particular, thanks go to our church volunteers who work tirelessly throughout the year.

The income from donations for books, and financial donations via the Café are very gratefully received.

We continue to carry out essential work on the building. In order to deliver on the Action Plan adopted from the work of the Strategy Group, financial investment is needed.

Fundraising of various means and Grant applications will be required in the coming years to help in fulfilling our mission to and in the Community.

A reduction in our Common Fund contribution for the next year has been successfully negotiated which will help enormously.

The Treasury Team.

Reserves Policy

The Reserves Policy of The Cotteridge Church is currently being reviewed. The reserves are calculated as follows:

“Six to Twelve Months Average Monthly Expenditure, plus the evaluated 5-year forecast of property expenditure, plus any restricted or designated funds, plus five percent of annual income for mission projects”.

Administrator's Report

One of my main objectives for 2023 was to increase the room hire revenue.

This has been successful and in 2023 we invoiced in excess of £45.5k which was an increase of 45% compared to 2022 when we invoiced £31.3k.

The closure of the Day Centre was very emotive for the Church; however, we have been able to use the space very well since October and the sale room and new hire opportunities are generating an average of £720.00 per month.

Although we are benefiting from a new revenue stream, the brief is not simply to make money.

Most of the room hire is to groups who are supporting members of the local community. An alcohol addiction support group, a teacher & student having 1-2-1 sessions and we are running an exercise class in the space too.

We still very much want to upgrade and improve certain areas of the church building.

My personal view is that the toilets and both the 'front' and 'funeral' doors need to be improved with some urgency. Unfortunately, I haven't had any update from the Building Steering Group in relation to these items that have been on the agenda for the last year. (*Note: One of the key outcomes of the Strategy Group consultation was the need to refurbish the toilets.*)

One of the biggest obstacles I face is when requesting support from the church community. Everything that we do here relies so heavily on the goodwill of others. That maybe volunteering some of their time or participating in some of the events that we run. I understand that we all live very busy lives but without the support from the church members we do struggle to do all of the things that we want to.

Sarah Canning

Church Committees

The Church is supported by a limited number of Committees and Working Groups:

Worship and Pastoral Committee

Regular worship and on-going pastoral care would not happen without the contributions of a large team of people, a lot of the time and effort is unseen but is vital to the life of The Cotteridge Church.

Pastoral

- Pastoral links maintained their contact with members despite significantly reduced ministerial support.
- Prayer cards have continued to be delivered to members.

Services

- Midweek services at key celebrations continued including many people from the community and classes from Cotteridge School.
- Sunday morning services now include:
 - The re-introduction of alcoholic wine to communion on 2nd Sunday of the month with non-alcoholic wine also available.
 - A children's activity table with colouring sheets linked to the service.
 - The request for the congregation to remain quiet and seated while the organist plays at the end of the service has helped but isn't always followed.

- Lent Groups were led by our Queen's College placement student Judith which produced some interesting conversations.
- Evening services restarted in the chapel on 1st Sunday evening of each month alternating between Communion and Evening Prayer.
- Welcome cards for visitors are now available and offered to people attending services for the first time.

Witness

- As a sign of hope a light is now permanently on in the church tower (using a low energy bulb).
- Walk of Witness organised by Churches Together in B30 on Good Friday took place peacefully and with a good spirit. Starting at The Cotteridge Church, pausing outside Cotteridge Friends Meeting House where members from St Joseph's and St Helen's also joined, along Watford / Linden Road, then pausing again in Beaumont Road where members from Rowheath Church joined and progressing then to St. Francis, Bournville for a Bible reading and prayers.

Ongoing developments

- Inclusion in services is being looked at to ensure access to services is as wide as possible. As a result of this the text for the congregation on the screen is in yellow on a black background because our members with dyslexia and dyspraxia find this the most helpful colour combination.
- An update to the audio-visual system is being worked on.

Jane Stephens

Property and Management Committee

Property & Management (P & M) have met every two months since the last AGM. Membership comprises Peter Childs (chair) Dorothy & Steve A (JCC), Sandra W(JCC) and Mike C (JCC). The church administrator Sarah C may also attend or provide reports.

Eco Group, led by Sandra, is incorporated into P & M. They group successfully applied for and were awarded silver level in recognition of achieving benchmark goals.

Roof Repairs and Condition: Dev Samplar of Building Kontrol repaired and re-pointed several areas on the north side of the roof in February 2023, removed debris from valleys to assist drainage, and made lead flashing repairs. Internal water stains especially above the altar had been noted before the work. As far as P & M can see the stains have stabilised and the repairs have held, but ideally, we should move to replacing the stained plasterwork.

The Methodist Circuit annual return submitted August 2023 noted a slate was missing on the south side roof above the coffee bar, and a persistent stain on the wall of the Cheviot room was not responding to cosmetic decorating. Mr Samplar has been asked to quote and subsequently undertake work to remedy these problems.

Some areas of plaster from a lath roof above the south exit steps have fallen away and need to be repaired.

Windows: Single glazed windows noted in the 2021 quinquennial inspection should ideally be upgraded to double glazing. The kitchen window frame facing the garden needs replacing.

Heating and Lighting: The gas boiler and lighting are generally up to satisfactory condition but the heating controls are still not clear to the operators. Mapping the system to better understand it would make it more efficient and less wasteful.

Routine Safety Procedures: Fire Call points test frequency was moved from ¼ year to weekly in September 2023. One box in turn out of the full set of nine is tested at 9 am each Friday. All tap water temperatures are tested monthly to monitor compliance against the build-up of Legionella bacteria. Emergency lighting is tested on a regular basis. Portable Appliances are tested for electrical safety according to regulations.

Equipment: A new upright 'fridge/freezer was purchased and installed in the kitchen. The door seals on the old one had failed.

Rooms: Weatheroak Day Centre closed in September 2023. The former premises have been repurposed as extra meeting rooms. Linda Woodhouse has set up extra stalls selling second hand items. P & M are looking to internally decorate to freshen up some of the rooms. Discussions are taking place to create better access to the Pennine Way.

Solar Panels: Feed in Tariff (FIT) payments had been claimed each ¼ year by sending the solar meter readings to Scottish & Southern Energy (SSE), worth on average £1 500 pa. However, SSE have been taken over by OVO. Since November 2023 it has proved difficult to get OVO to action the FIT payments.

Buddleia was noted to be growing in the stonework on the tower at the 2021 Quinquennial.

A cheap way to remove it has not yet been found.

Peter Childs Chair of P & M

Property Development Working Group

PDWG has not met since March 2022. In part this behaviour continued deliberate caution while new patterns of use emerged and the church's "vision" remains to be finalised.

Our key marker and resource (www.PDWG.weebly.com) have hence barely changed as no significant progress has been possible.

In late May I briefly met the constituency MP and—as he was more in touch than most with community needs—asked what he would like to see provided on the site. No response came.

Membership was due for reconstitution in May 2023 so I asked who was willing to continue. Sandra Walton and Barbara Calvert have stepped back, leaving only myself, Roger Collins, Jane Stephens, and Peter Childs. Roger (alone) said he thought we should meet.

We continue to await a vision from JCC so that we may frame needs, identify relevant professionals, draft proposals and engage with funders. (BCC remains in financial crisis so funding from the local council seems impossible for at least the next few years).

Tim Clayton

Chair of the PDWG

Community Services Warm Welcome Committee

In 2023 CSC was pleased to welcome Cathy Tuckett from the Cotteridge Friends and Bonnie Alcock (a warm welcome volunteer) on to the committee.

Warm Welcome

The Cotteridge Church continues to be place of warm welcome each day through the services of the Pennine Way café thanks to the hard work of Shirley, Tina, Sarah and all the volunteers. Working with Cotteridge Quakers an afternoon of 'Warm Welcome' was offered at the Meeting House on a Wednesday. Free refreshments and crafts were provided and volunteers recruited from amongst the Quakers and members of Cotteridge Church. This venture did not attract a lot of custom so now a monthly afternoon craft session is offered to all.

Barbara Calvert

Catering Working Group

It is very clear from the recent community survey (as part of the strategy work) that the church coffee bar continues to be highly valued by our customers as offering good food, at good value and offering a friendly

environment. It has attracted a good number of new customers this year, many of whom have become part of the regular clientele.

Catering sales have increased substantially over the last year (at least 30% increase and consistently over £3,000/week by the end of the year), as the coffee bar continues to get busier, and contributed to by a price rise in spring 2023. Unfortunately, without full accounts available for the whole of 2023 it is difficult to be accurate, but despite increased sales we are still in deficit, though by the end of the year we were covering about 70% of food and staff costs. At the start of the year, it was hoped that the Day Centre would be contributing about 30% of staff costs, but with the closure of the Day Centre, we will have to make up the difference by increased sales. There will be a further price increase too, but we strongly wish to continue to provide an affordable offer for the community.

Improvements in 2023, which have doubtless contributed to increase sales, have included a revised and expanded menu, smartening up of the look of the café and some new equipment (funded by some grant funding). There have been more large-group booking, including but not only at Christmas, with the Catering Manager/ Administrator really helping to link room hire and catering more strongly.

There were some long-term absences amongst staff and volunteers during the year, but everyone pulled together for which we are extremely grateful. A good number of new volunteers have been brought on board throughout the year, including a small team of 'cover volunteers', so not only did we manage to stay operating throughout absences, but we are now consistently open from 08.30-14.00 Monday to Friday (except Bank Holidays) and 10.00-12.00 of Saturdays for drinks and snacks. The slightly extended and more consistent hours have recently been helped by a changed arrangement whereby one of the kitchen staff is present on the coffee bar most of the time. This has also helped with consistency in service and hygiene.

New Volunteers are always welcome, and if we continue to get busier during the week will be very necessary. We are also encouraging more regular catered group events, including Saturdays, so will need additional weekend help.

Pam Waddell
Chair of Catering Working Group

Older Adults Working Group

Day Centre

Sadly, the Day Centre closed in October 2023. Since Covid it had proved impossible to build numbers to a sustainable level. With Michelle and Simon moving on to other jobs it was decided the Centre had to close.

Pennine Way Trips

The trips are open to anyone who visits our Church, not just church members.

In 2023 the programme included eight half-day trips to Boundary Outlet, Harvington Hall, Arley Arboretum, Winterbourne, Leamington Spa, The Hop Pocket and twice to Melbicks and The Lake at Barston. There were also two daytrips to Oxford and Weston-Super-Mare.

The aim of these trips is to give adults who may not be able to go anywhere under their own steam, the chance to visit interesting places round the Midlands. They offer value for money, a friendly atmosphere, and most of all they contribute towards the quality of life. The fact that so many people want to join in, not only from Cotteridge, but Kings Norton, Bournville, Kings Heath, Northfield etc., shows that the aim is being fulfilled. (Not too many churches can provide such a full programme of trips, which in 2024, will have been running for 20 years.)

When people bring along friends and family, this not only introduces them to the trips programme, but also makes them aware of all the other activities our church provides – especially the café. The first time at Cotteridge will probably not be their last.

My thanks to Sarah, our Administrator, for helping with publicity, as well as taking part in one of the trips to find out more about the aims.

Rita Sutton.

The Church Garden

- After the excitement & enthusiasm of planning, organising & spending money we had been given, the Platinum Garden blossomed.
- I would like to thank Bob for his regular involvement in tidying planting & maintaining the garden., as well as encouraging Sam (a CTU student) to help.
- Help needed. Please offer even a few hours to get involved , so that we can be ready to use the garden to best advantage welcoming groups such as Little Foxes and also using the garden for worship outside when possible.
 - Groups who meet in the garden: Little Foxes, C2U, Craft group, BB/ Brownies
 - SW and CP to arrange meeting of original garden gang.
 - CP to discuss with BB and Brownies activities for them to be involved in garden.
 - Celebration Garden Weekend Saturday 6th July Strawberry teas BC to ask Peter re music.
 - Sunday 7th July morning all age/parade service in the garden.
 - Sunday in August for HC in the garden followed by shared lunch.

Chris Pascal.

Knit and natter

A regular group meet on Thursday mornings in the café. A new knitted nativity set was created in the run up to Christmas with different members knitting different figures. The stipulation was that they must have brown faces. The new set of figures was used effectively as a visual aid in the Christmas midweek service. Some of our knitters also crochet, make cards and have introduced weaving. Sarah has also been donated a Doll's house which needs furnishing. The proposal is to rename the Knit and Natter group the Craft group to be inclusive of all these different activities.

Work with Families and Young People

The Young People Working Group

The Young People Working Group oversaw all young people services provided by the Church and links to other young people in our community and groups who hire rooms throughout most of 2023. The group was dissolved in the Autumn term, with the Community Services Committee taking over the role.

Sue Clayton (Chair)

Saplings Stay & Play Group

Saplings Stay & Play Group offers friendship and support to carers and their pre-school children, with both secular and Christian themes. This group continues to be very popular with young families in our locality, welcoming 133 families with multiple children and adults during 2023. Parents are very appreciative of the group and the opportunity to talk to the leaders, other parents and Cathy Leigh, our contact from the Early Years Alliance. We are particularly grateful to the new volunteers who

joined us during the year and Rev Barbara Calvert, who welcomes and provides a wonderful listening ear to the families.

Sue Clayton (Saplings Coordinator)

Cotteridge Primary School

Cotteridge School Choir were a delight when they sang 4 songs at our Christmas midweek Service on Thursday 14th December. The children were also very keen to read and to offer thoughts for prayers. A Mother's Day midweek service is planned for Thursday 7th March and Cotteridge school choir will be invited.

Assemblies at Cotteridge School . Barbara Calvert was invited and led a Christmas assembly on Monday 18th December and has been invited again 18th March. Good and positive relationships are being forged with the school.

Boys' Brigade

Another successful year at Boys Brigade with the highlight being the Queens badge awarded to Finlay Attrill. The sleepover and BB week in November again proved popular with the money raised helping to continue Boys Brigade at Cotteridge.

Our General Knowledge Quiz at Easter raised a substantial amount which was shared between The Birmingham Hospice and The Cotteridge Church. The summer Peckwood week-end for all sections was enjoyed by everybody and all the boys are looking forward to our 2024 visit in June. In July the coach outing to Weston-Super-Mare took place and a near full coach had a great time despite the damp weather.

We continued to meet every Friday and all this would not be possible but for the loyalty of our leaders who support the company.

Bob Hotchkiss

Youth Café

Although towards the beginning of 2023 Youth Café was still appearing on the Notice Sheet in reality it didn't take place. Whereas before Covid lock downs it was booming, with numbers of participants in double figures, it failed to take off again after lock down. This was despite the hard work in late 2022 of Youth Workers (for whom we were paying £1000 per term). A decision was made to cease to meet and this was the reality in 2023.

Mike Claridge, Minister

Girlguiding and Tuesday Evening Café

Tuesday evenings during term time are busy with Girlguiding groups running in three sections; Rainbows (aged 4-7), Brownies (7-10), and Guides (10-14). There is currently no Rangers (14-18) provision at The Cotteridge Church.

I have continued to open the café when possible, from 6.15pm - 7.30pm, which is the main time that parents choose to wait. The merchandise of the coffee bar is very popular with the parents - and a large amount of cake in particular is sold and consumed!

The Tuesday café has helped to continue to build relationships between The Cotteridge Church and Girlguiding groups. Unlike Boys Brigade, Girlguiding is not a Christian organisation, indeed all reference

to God has now been removed from the promises that girls make. However, our Girlguiding groups continue to build links with the wider church community here.

Mike Claridge, Minister

Communicate to You (C2U)

Our friends at C2U (Communicate to You) continue to be much more than just a room hirer (although their room hire is important!). They continue to support different aspects of church life, for example supporting Summer and Christmas fairs. In addition, they also operate the café, specifically on Tuesday mornings as a training opportunity. The nature of C2U of course means that faces are often changing, especially at the turn of the academic year, and we welcome those new to The Cotteridge Church.

Mike Claridge, Minister

Other Church Activities

Book Centre and Traidcraft

In January 2023 Traidcraft went into receivership. The signs were there in late 2022. Deciding to keep the fair trade going in the Bookcentre we needed to find new suppliers which was fairly straight forward. JTS (TRUE ORIGIN) provided the jars, EQUAL EXCHANGE provided the whole foods ETHICAL SUPERSTORE provided most of the rest together with WE ARE FAIR TRADE (who sold most of the Traidcraft stock and TRANSFORM TRADE the charity that took over the TRAIDCRAFT name. What became clear was that discounts were not going to be as good as Traidcraft although during the year discounts did improve slightly on bulk buying. We have kept going and by the end of the year we had taken £5598 and has spent £4755. The difference of £863 was transferred to the church

Roger Collins.

Praying through Change Group

The Praying through Change Group was started in the early 2000's by Hazel Nash and Gill Salkeld who felt the need at the time to pray for the church as it went through a period of great change. The group has continued since this time and we still pray for the church locally and globally as well as praying for different situations in the world and the nation as they arise. We meet fortnightly on Tuesday morning after the communion service. The dates of our meetings are advertised in the notice sheet. We are always happy to welcome other members.

Linda Mann

The Tuesday Fellowship

Tuesday Fellowship is a group of people who meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday afternoon of each month. We have a regular average attendance of 9 with up to 15 for popular speakers. Over the last year we have covered a range of topics from Louise Ryland and Josiah Mason to old bottles, musicals, Palestine and Isle of Man Railways, interspersed with music and poetry afternoons. We ran the cake stall for the Christmas Fair, as usual, and managed to raise nearly £200. Our programme for 2024 is advertised in the Pennine Way. We are a diverse group, and we invite anyone of any age or gender to join us. If you need more information please contact me.

Linda Mann.

Flower Ministry

It was a joy to be able to celebrate an Easter Wedding in Church this year. The flowers used were all ready for Easter day and what a joyful celebration it made. Thank you, Emily and Ollie.

I have been so thankful to everyone who has donated this year to the flower ministry. You have all made it possible for us to enjoy seeing flowers in church that does enhance our worship. Please continue to support in the coming year, it is so appreciated.

I want to say a big thank you to all those who have helped me with the flowers this year. Linda Woodhouse, Rita Sutton and Chris Pascal, and a special thank you to Peter, Tony, Stephen and Dorothy for supporting and helping whenever needed. Working as a team brings the best results for us all to share, and I am so grateful to everyone. There is always room for others to join us so please come and chat to me about the possibilities. Thank you again for all your encouragement.

Sandra Walton.

Roundabout

This is published every two months:- i.e. January, March, May, July, September and November.

I would like to thank wholeheartedly all the contributors who have made it an interesting and informative record of the life of our church and its members. One of its most important aims is to foster a community spirit, and, hopefully, to increase the number of people visiting our church. I would like to encourage more people to submit an article, ideally relating to faith or our community. I am always open to new ideas, so if there is anything you would particularly like to see in Roundabout, please let me know.

Celia Lester

Eco Church Report

We are still a small group supporting and encouraging the agenda of climate change and eco matters in church. Peter Childs, Carole Allen and myself comprise the group but we are always looking for new members to join us. Please think about this.

We had several meetings during the year, illness, holidays and time somehow have limited the times we have met ... and of course the Eco Church group reports directly to P&M group so issues are discussed and raised there throughout the year.

We have continued to make a contribution to church life through the articles in Roundabout..."What we can do however small makes a difference". We celebrated Big Green week differently this year through a time of worship led by Barbara and also everyone present was given a bookmark celebrating and reminding us of the Big Green week agenda. Our Sunday services continue to remind us in prayer and worship of the climate agenda and Roger and Mike have included issues in prayers and readings throughout the year.

Our main focus has been on looking at ways to become energy efficient and to this end what insulation is present in our building. We therefore applied to the Footsteps charity for a grant to enable us to have an energy assessment... this will be reported in in 2024 report.

We were thrilled to progress to our Silver Award in the Eco church supported by "A Rocha" this year, and received notification of this in December. We have yet to celebrate our success and this of course will be reported on in our next AGM report. As a church we are mindful of all we need to do. We are thankful for the Fairtrade products sold in church, the dedicated work performed by Peter, Tony, Stephen and Dorothy Audley on our building. We are constantly thinking of ways we can reduce our carbon footprint.... and include sustainability in what we do.

Can I encourage everyone to consider what they can do personally in lifestyle choices. Thank you for all your encouragement and articles passed to me for reading. The more we have knowledge, the more we can do.

What you do makes a difference. Keep goingthank you.

Sandra Walton

Fundraising

Since January 2023 there has been a new initiative for raising much needed funds for our church. A room has become available specifically for selling items, kindly donated for this purpose. This is in conjunction with the existing book room/library. The aim is to try and open each day for customers, but we are in need of volunteers to give up a few hours on days to suit. Feedback has been positive for the sale room, evidenced by the number of customers who visit to buy. A small team, between January and April, has raised over £1000. Please support us through donations and offer some of your time so that we can open each day.

Thank you.

Linda Woodhouse.

The Cotteridge Church

Annual Report and Accounts 2023

Signed and dated after approval by the members of the Joint Church Council after their meeting on 24/09/24

Signed  Date 25th September 2024

MRS DOROTHY AUDLEY

Chair of the Joint Church Council of The Cotteridge Church

Signed  Date 25th September 2024

Trustee of The Cotteridge Church MR MICHAEL MEADOWS

Independent Examiner's Report

Independent Examiner's unqualified report to the members of The Cotteridge Church, Kings Norton, Birmingham B30 3EJ in respect of the Financial Statements of the Joint Church Council for the year ended 31st December 2023 as set out on pages 17 to 18 of this Report.

Charity Commission Registration Number 1143091.

Respective responsibilities of the JCC and the examiner.

The Joint Church Council members acting as the charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for the year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

Examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the Independent Examiner's statement.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required for an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement.

In connection with my examination, no material matter has come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act, or the accounts do not accord to the accounting records.

I have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attentions should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts is reached.

Signed. *Alan A Clements* Date *26th September 2024*
Name Revd. A. A. Clements.

Fellow Association of Charity Independent Examiners.

Address 15 Carleton Road, Great Knowley, Chorley PR6 8TQ

ACIE PCC CC32

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
Income and endowments from:						
Voluntary income	(2a)	67,755	0	16,994	84,749	115,380
Activities for generating funds	(2b)	45,264	5,638	0	50,902	30,810
Investment income	(2c)	7,222	0	139	7,361	10,077
Church activities	(2d)	1,482	32,985	38,806	73,273	83,861
Internal Contribution – In		3,519	0	0	3,519	38
Total income		125,242	38,623	55,938	219,804	240,166
Expenditure on:						
Church activities	(3a)	144,044	53,491	93,867	291,402	560,734
Costs of generating funds	(3b)	48	4,795	450	5,293	4,988
Internal Contribution - Out		120	0	3,519	3,639	8,928
Total expenditure		144,211	58,286	97,836	300,333	574,651
Net income / (expenditure) resources before transfer		-18,969	-19,663	-41,897	-80,530	-325,558
Transfers:						
Gross transfers between funds - in		1,957	8,610	0	10,567	58,706
Gross transfers between funds - out		-8,610	-1,707	-250	-10,567	-58,706
Other recognised gains / losses						
Gains/losses on investment assets		4,315	0	0	4,315	-29,379
Gains on revaluation, fixed assets, charity's own use		0	0	0	0	0
Net movement in funds		-21,307	-12,761	-42,147	-76,215	-354,938
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		190,801	38,276	59,230	288,307	643,245
Total funds carried forward		169,494	25,516	17,083	212,093	288,307

There may be minor discrepancies in the totals if the pence are not being shown

BALANCE SHEET

	General	Designated	Restricted	At 31/12/2023 £	At 31/12/2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible Assets	4,826	2,087	0	6,913	8,080
Investments	132,977	27,000	0	159,977	165,662
	137,803	29,087	0	166,890	173,742
Current assets					
Stocks And Work In Progress	0	3,500	0	3,500	3,825
Debtors	17,754	0	50	17,804	22,655
Cash At Bank And In Hand	14,236	-7,071	18,515	25,681	109,480
	31,991	-3,571	18,565	46,985	135,960
Liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due In One Year	300	0	1,482	1,782	21,395
	300	0	1,482	1,782	21,395
Net current assets less current liabilities	31,691	-3,571	17,083	45,203	114,565
Total assets less current liabilities	169,494	25,516	17,083	212,093	288,307
Liabilities					
	0	0	0	0	0
Total net assets less liabilities	169,494	25,516	17,083	212,093	288,307

Signed and dated after approval by the members of the Joint Church Council after their meeting on 24/09/24

Signed  Date 25th September 2024
MRS DOROTHY AUDLEY
Chair of the Joint Church Council of The Cotteridge Church

Signed  Date 25th September 2024
MR MICHAEL MEADOWS
Trustee of The Cotteridge Church

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Summary of Accounting Policies

General Information and basis of preparation

The Joint Church Council of the Cotteridge Church (JCC) is a public benefit entity with the meaning of FRS102. The financial Statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 and under FRS102 (2016) as the applicable accounting standards, and the 2016 version of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Report by Charities (SORP(FRS102)).

Assets:

Consecrated and benefice property.

Consecrated and benefice property is excluded and not capitalised in the financial statements in accordance with Charities Act 2011.

Fixed Assets

Depreciation has been provided as follows:

Solar Panels	Straight line over 25 years.
Equipment & Vehicles	Straight line over 4 years.

Investments

Investments are recognised at their quoted market price. Unrealised gains or losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value.

Funds:

The financial statements have been prepared using fund accounting. Whereby income, expenditure, assets & liabilities are classified by fund. The 2 types of fund classification present in these accounts are:

1. **Unrestricted Funds** (General & Designated):
 - a. General Funds are available for use at the discretion of the JCC in delivering the aims and objectives of the charity.
 - b. Designated Funds are funds that have been set aside by the JCC for a particular purpose from the general fund.
2. **Restricted Funds** represent grants, donations and legacies received which are allocated by the donor for a specific purpose.

The purpose of funds held by the charity are set out in notes to the financial statements.

2. Incoming Resources

	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Fund	Restricted Funds	Year Total	Last Year Total
a) Voluntary Income					
Planned Giving	52,282	0	288	52,570	55,596
Collections At Service	601	0	0	601	189
Donations & Appeals	732	0	908	1,640	6,521
Gift Aid	10,890	0	197	11,087	12,936
Legacy gifts received	1,250	0	0	1,250	0
Grants	2,000	0	15,601	17,601	40,138
Voluntary income total	67,755	0	16,994	84,749	115,380
b) Activities for Generating Funds					
Events Fundraising	1,091	0	0	1,091	953
Regular Fundraising	2,445	20	0	2,465	1,623
Hire	41,728	0	0	41,728	22,905
Book Centre Sales	0	5,618	0	5,618	5,329
Activities for generating funds total	45,264	5,638	0	50,902	30,810
c) Investment Income					
Bank & Deposit Account Interest	306	0	139	444	189
Dividends	6,377	0	0	6,377	7,683
Solar Panel Income	539	0	0	539	2,205
Investment income total	7,222	0	139	7,361	10,077
d) Church Activities					
Other Income	914	0	0	914	628
Parochial Fees	568	0	0	568	1,175
Catering Services Sales	0	32,985	60	33,045	24,678
Boys' Brigade	0	0	1,888	1,888	3,286
Saplings	0	0	2,128	2,128	693
Pennine Way Trips	0	0	6,596	6,596	6,946
Flower Guild	0	0	479	479	358
Tuesday Fellowship	0	0	315	315	424
Day Centre Attendance	0	0	27,340	27,340	45,673
Church activities total	1,482	32,985	38,806	73,273	83,861
Internal Contributions - In	3,519	0	0	3,519	8,966
Internal Contributions - In	3,519	0	0	3,519	8,966
Total Income and endowments from:	125,242	38,623	55,938	219,804	249,092

3. Expended Resources

a) Church Activities

	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Fund	Restricted Funds	Year Total	Last Year Total
Common Fund	55,260	0	0	55,260	55,260
Methodist Apportionment	8,856	0	0	8,856	8,856
URC Apportionment	8,856	0	0	8,856	9,156
Charitable Giving	0	0	0	0	50
Pastoral Costs	43	0	0	43	50
Ministry Expenses & Costs	529	1	0	530	1,078
Vicarage Costs	921	0	0	921	892
Youth & Family Work	0	0	0	0	126
Mission & Outreach Work	20	0	0	20	42
Children & Families Work	17	0	0	17	0
Community Work	0	0	0	0	146
Church Service Costs	1,875	0	0	1,875	2,878
	76,377	1	0	76,378	78,534
Staffing Costs					
Staff Wages & Payments	27,881	29,748	72,292	129,920	142,561
	27,881	29,748	72,292	129,920	142,561
Office & Admin Costs	5,765	0	0	5,765	4,662
Communication Costs	175	0	0	175	175
Maintenance & Improvements	2,004	975	0	2,979	16,367
Garden Costs	0	0	38	38	0
Cleaning & Hygiene	5,009	0	0	5,009	5,023
Insurance	4,242	0	0	4,242	3,864
Safety & Security	4,109	0	0	4,109	625
Church Utilities	15,615	0	0	15,615	16,317
Church Major Repairs & Additions	0	5,950	0	5,950	0
Professional Fees	300	0	0	300	300
Other Expenditure	613	0	0	613	253,214
Christmas Tree & Lights	491	0	330	821	255
Depreciation	1,167	0	0	1,167	1,574
	39,490	6,925	368	46,783	302,376
Catering Services Direct Costs	296	16,817	3,249	20,363	15,924
Day Centre Direct Costs	0	0	6,884	6,884	8,369
Foodbank Direct Costs	0	0	0	0	3,017
	296	16,817	10,133	27,247	27,310
Saplings	0	0	2,258	2,258	491
Boys' Brigade	0	0	1,607	1,607	1,832
Pennine Way Trips	0	0	6,596	6,596	7,056
Tuesday Fellowship	0	0	170	170	85
Flower Guild	0	0	442	442	489
	0	0	11,073	11,073	9,953
	144,044	53,491	93,867	291,402	560,734

b) Costs of generating funds

	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Fund	Restricted Funds	Year Total	Last Year Total
Fundraising Costs	48	0	0	48	131
Book Centre	0	4,795	0	4,795	3,622
Staff Wages & Payments	0	0	450	450	1,235
Costs of generating funds total	48	4,795	450	5,293	4,988
Internal Contributions - Out	120	0	0	120	8,928
Total Internal Contribution - Out	120	0	0	120	8,928
Total Expenditure on:	144,211	58,286	97,836	300,333	574,651

c) Unrestricted Fund Movements

Fund	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Fund balances Carried forward
General						
Unrestricted	190,801	125,242	144,211	-6,653	4,315	169,493
Sub-totals	190,801	124,328	143,297	-6,653	4,315	169,493
Designated						
Book Centre	7,020	5,618	4,795	-1,707	0	6,136
Catering Services	0	32,985	46,565	8,610	0	-4,970
Diocesan Decorating Fund	655	0	0	0	0	655
Garden Project	3,602	20	66	0	0	3,556
QM - Cook & Wolstenholme	27,000	0	6,860	0	0	20,140
Sub-totals	38,277	38,623	58,286	6,903	0	25,517

Unrestricted Fund Purposes:

General Fund:

- Available for use at the discretion of the JCC in delivering its aims and objectives.

Designated Funds:

- **Book Centre Fund** is used for the income & expenditure associated with the book centre selling books & Fairtrade products.
- **Catering Services** is for used for the running of the coffee bar & kitchen at the church and any income & expenditure associated with those services.
- **Diocesan Decorating Fund** is for any internal decorating to the vicarage.

d) Restricted Fund Movements

Fund	Fund balances brought forward	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Transfers	Gains and Losses	Fund balances Carried forward
BCC - Catering	0	3,060	3,249	0	0	-189
CP - Childrens Party	233	0	0	0	0	233
C&Y Work	83	0	0	0	0	83
Garden	0	150	38	0	0	112
HF - Hardship Fund	522	505	0	0	0	1,027
Holiday Club	1,578	0	0	0	0	1,578
IonaTrip	235	0	0	0	0	235
WS - Warm Spaces	1,000	1,651	0	0	0	2,651
Xmas Tree	1,694	455	330	0	0	1,819
Trips	0	6,596	6,596	0	0	0
	5,345	12,417	10,213	0	0	7,549
Church Group's Restricted						
BB - Boys Brigade	8,457	1,888	1,607	0	0	8,738
Saplings	340	2,128	2,258	0	0	209
Flowers	167	479	442	0	0	204
TF - Tuesday Fellowship	404	315	170	-250	0	299
	9,368	4,810	4,477	-250	0	9,450
Day Centre Restricted						
DC-Gen	26,458	38,712	65,087	0	0	83
	26,458	38,712	65,087	0	0	83
Sub-totals	14,796	17,227	14,690	-250	0	17,082

Day Centre Restricted

Apprentice	11,985	0	11,985	0	0	0
We are all Making a Difference	768	0	768	0	0	0
Door	3,030	0	3,030	0	0	0
Mem Act	1,754	0	1,754	0	0	0
NP ??	520	0	520	0	0	0
	18,057	0	18,057	0	0	0

Church Restricted Fund Purposes:

- **Trip to Iona** – Donations towards individuals going on a pilgrimage to Iona (Scotland).
- **Cotteridge Christmas Tree** – Donations towards the costs associated with installing a Christmas tree outside the church.
- **Summer Holiday Club** – From a grant towards the running of a club for children over the summer holidays.
- **Children's Party** – From a grant towards running a children's party..
- **Children & Youth Work** – Proceeds from one third of the total fundraising of the bookstore to be used towards youth & children work.
- **Food Ministry** – Fundraising & Donations towards catering's food ministry initiative which aims to engage with the community through the use of food.

Church Group Fund Purposes:

- **Boy's Brigade** – Donations & Subscriptions towards the running of the Boy's Brigade.
- **Saplings** – Donations & Attendance Fees towards the running of the weekly term-time saplings groups for children.
- **Flower Guild** – Donations & Contributions towards the flowers at services & special events.
- **Tuesday Fellowship** – Donations & Contributions towards the costs & activities of the Tuesday Fellowship group.
- **Pennine Way Trips** – Contributions towards the regular organised coach trips covering both coach hire & attendance.

Day Centre Restricted Fund Purposes:

- **Day Centre – General Fund** - Available for use at the discretion of the Day Centre in delivering its aims and objectives.
- **Apprentice** is the result of grants towards the employment of an apprentice.
- **Entertainment & Therapy** was of grants and an ongoing appeal towards the program of activities the Day Centre runs for members. This includes costs associated with the hiring activity facilitators and material costs of some activities.
- **Door** is the result of several grants into replacing the entrance fire door that is currently a full wood door with the aim of making the entrance way more welcoming.
- **We Are All Making A Difference 2020 & 2021** is a donation to be used towards an expenditure that directly impacts the members are the Day Centre not to be used for general day to day expenditure.
- **Nostalgia Posters** is the Result of a grant towards nostalgia and familiarity posters / canvases to be hung around the centre.
- **Rempod Immersive** is the result of a grant from Birmingham City Council towards the buying of a Rempod System.
- **Christmas & Trips** is the result of grants towards the yearly Christmas festivities as well as Day Trips usually in the summer months.

6. Transfers Between Funds

	Note	General	Designated	Restricted	Total
General Fund to Catering Designated Fund	1	-8,610	8,610		0
Tuesday Fellowship Restricted to Church General Fund	2	250		-250	0
Designated Book centre to General fund	3	1,707	-1,707		0
		-6,653	6,903	-250	0

- 1** £8,610 transferred from General fund to Designated Catering Fund to cover shortfall between caterings income & core expenditure during 2023.
- 2** £250 transferred from Tuesday Fellowship Restricted Fund to General Fund as a contribution to church overheads.
- 3** £1,707 transferred from Designated Book centre to General fund.

7. Staff Costs & Payments

	Church	Catering	Day Centre	This Year Total	Last Year Total
Administrator Wages	16,026	0	0	16,026	15,063
Cleaning Wages	6,868	0	2,002	8,870	9,269
Catering - Kitchen Wages	0	30,723	3,115	33,838	29,875
Catering - Manager Wages	0	1,592	0	1,592	1,134
Catering - DC Wages Contribution	0	-2,567	0	-2,567	0
Day Centre - Carer Wages	0	0	60,062	60,062	68,242
Treasurer Payments	0	0	1,938	1,938	2,318
Agency Cover	0	0	4,182	4,182	0
Redundancy Payment	0	0	0	0	8,928
	22,894	29,748	71,299	129,922	127,103
Social Security Costs	3,891	0	0	3,891	5,312
Pension Costs	1,096	0	994	2,089	2,421
	4,987	0	994	4,987	7,733
The average number of employees	3	3	4	7	9

During the year, no employee earned £60,000 per annum or more.

There are no other disclosable transactions in respect of JCC members, persons closely connected with them or other related parties.

8. Fixed Assets

	Solar Panels	Garden Furniture	Total
Cost			
As at 1 January 2023	10,701	2,782	13,483
Additions	—	—	—
Disposals	—	—	—
As at 31 December 2023	10,701	2,782	13,483
Depreciation			
As at 1 January 2023	4,708	696	5,404
Charge for year	471	696	1,167
As at 31 December 2023	5,179	1,392	6,571
Net Book Value 31 December 2023	5,522	1,390	6,912

9. Investments

	Share Fund	Property Fund	Total
Market Value – 1 st January	90,166	75,497	165,662
Additions	—	—	—
Disposals (Sales)	-10,000	—	-10,000
Revaluation gain / (loss)	7,834	-3,520	4,314
	88,000	71,977	159,977

10. Cash At Bank & In Hand

	This Year Total	Last Year Total
<u>Church:</u>		
Current Account	2,779	32,077
Church Soldo Account (Petty Cash)	2,199	16
Church Petty Cash (Cotteridge Church)	20	20
CCLA Deposit Account	5,729	16,046
Diocesan Decorating Fund	0	655
	10,727	48,815
 <u>Other Groups:</u>		
Catering	1,736	2,500
Catering Soldo Account (Petty Cash)	5	1,073
Catering – Square (Till)	365	1,475
Food Ministry	527	522
Book Centre	3,077	3,920
Flower Guild	204	167
Boy's Brigade	6,995	6,729
Boy's Brigade Reserve	1,744	1,728
Saplings	2	87
Tuesday Fellowship	298	404
	14,953	18,604
 Total Cash At Bank & In Hand	25,681	67,419

11. Stock

	Book Centre	Catering	Total
Cost:			
Brought forward 1 st December 2023	3,100	725	3,825
Additions	—	—	—
Disposals	—	-325	-325
Book Value 31 st December 2023	3,100	400	3,500

12. Debtors

	This Year Total	Last Year Total
Trade Debtors	9,317	11,949
Other Debtors	3,955	6,356
Prepayments	4,533	4,351
Total Debtors & Prepayments	17,804	22,655

13. Creditors

	This Year Total	Last Year Total
Church Liabilities:		
Other Creditors	300	6,732
Utility Creditors	0	2,510
Agency Collections	1,482	11,536
Total Creditors	1,782	20,778
Deferred Income	—	—
Total Creditors & Deferred Income	1,782	20,778