



## Shrewsbury Street Pastors Annual Report 2022/2023

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the period ended 31st March 2023. Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Charities (SORP) (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities': Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011 in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

### Structure, governance and management

The charity is constituted as an unincorporated charity and is governed by its Trust Deed dated 8 August 2011. The charity was registered with the Charity Commission on 28 October 2011 and activities

commenced on 12 November 2011.

The trustees are the group of people charged with the governance of the charity. No trustee had any financial interest in the charity. The charity is governed and managed by a Management Committee which meets every two months. The method of appointment of trustees is set out in the Trust Deed.

### Objectives and activities

The purposes of the charity are:

1.To advance education in accordance with Christian principles by such means as the Management Committee may consider appropriate in Shrewsbury and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Management Committee may from time to time think fit and to fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the law of England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the Charity.

2.To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to

promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind including through the provision of counselling and support in Shrewsbury and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Management Committee may from time to time think fit.

3.To advance the Christian Faith in accordance with the License Agreement executed with Ascension Trust and the Core Values and Mission.

### Core Values

Street Pastors embrace Christians from a range of denominations with a passion for Jesus and for the betterment of the community, who adhere to the following five core values:

- 1.The sacredness and sanctity of human life
- 2.Respect for the community
- 3.Honesty and integrity
- 4.Personal responsibility
- 5.The promotion of the growth and development of the individual to their fullest potential.

We have a suite of offices  
in what was the old  
reference library in the  
centre of Shrewsbury



#### HQ Volunteers

We now have some  
volunteers who come into our  
offices to provide support for  
the workings of the charity.  
These volunteers are  
supported by the Director of  
Operations.

Our fund-raising activities are  
organised by our Friends of  
Shrewsbury Street Pastors  
Group. They arrange events  
such as concerts, jumble  
sales and raffles.

All the activity in the office  
stopped during parts of the  
year due to Covid 19. The  
public face of the building  
was closed by Shropshire  
Council and remains closed.

## Shrewsbury Street Pastors

Legal and administrative information

**31 March 2023**

### Working name of charity

Shrewsbury Street  
Pastors

### Trustees

Pete Lawton, Chairman

Jo Neale

Pauline Jones

Bernard Knopp

Carole Donoghue

Ivan Hacking

Dee Ploszay

Christine Tinker

### Registered Charity

**Number:** 1144473

### Registered Address:

White Hart House, 1 Hill's  
Lane, Shrewsbury, SY1  
1QU

### Website:

[www.streetpastors.org.uk/locations/shrewsbury](http://www.streetpastors.org.uk/locations/shrewsbury)

### Email address :

shrewsbury@streetpastors.  
org.uk

### Independent Examiner:

Helen Pierce FCA  
Caerwyn Jones  
Chartered Accountants  
Emstrey House  
Shrewsbury Business  
Park  
Shrewsbury  
Shropshire  
SY2 6LG

### Bankers:

The Co-operative bank  
P.O.Box 250  
Delf House  
Southway  
Skelmersdale  
WN8 6WT

## **Mission Statement**

Our mission is to train volunteers drawn from Christian churches of different denominations to provide a listening ear and practical help to the socially marginalised and the needy.

We typically patrol the streets of Shrewsbury on Friday and Saturday nights and work in partnership with the police, local councils and a range of voluntary and statutory organisations in order to reach and help all those in need.

The Gospel is the reason for what we do but is not at the forefront of what we say.

We are non-judgmental and will give time and help to anyone and everyone we meet.

## **Support from local churches**

Since its formation, Shrewsbury Street Pastors has been actively supported by the following churches. This vital support is greatly appreciated.

Albert Road, Evangelical Church, Oswestry.  
All Saints and St Michael's Church, Castlefields.  
Wem Baptist Church.  
St Lawrence's Church, Church Stretton.

Barnabas Community Church, Shrewsbury.  
Holy Trinity Church, Much Wenlock.  
Belle Vue Methodist Church.  
Bayston Hill Methodist Church  
Catholic Cathedral, Shrewsbury.  
St Giles & St Eata's Church, Shrewsbury.  
Christ Church, Bayston Hill.  
Bomere Heath Methodist Church  
Church of the Holy Spirit, Harlescott.  
Emmanuel Church, Harlescott.  
Holy Trinity Church, Belle Vue.  
Hope Church, Harlescott.  
Riversway Elim Church, Harlescott.  
Salvation Army, Shrewsbury.  
Shelton and Oxon Christ Church, Bicton.  
Shrewsbury Abbey.  
St Andrew's Church, Craven Arms.  
St Chad's Church, Shrewsbury.  
St Peter's Church, Monkmoor.  
St. Winifred's RC Church, Crowmoor.  
Holy Trinity Churches, Meole Brace.  
Shrewsbury United Reformed Church, Shrewsbury.  
St Cuthbert's Church, Clungunford.

Greek Orthodox Church, Shrewsbury.  
Severn Loop Parishes.



## **Prayer support**

Prayer for the work of the Shrewsbury Street Pastors is vital, as we seek God's strength and motivation for this work, spiritual resources of grace and love, the safety and protection of the Street Pastors, financial provision for the initiative and God's guidance for its development.

Prayer support for Shrewsbury Street Pastors has a Prayer Co-ordinator and other volunteers. There are eight regular Prayer Supporters, who meet with others from time to time or pray with the team before they go out on the streets.

Each Street Pastor volunteer has a Prayer Partner or Buddy, who pray for them regularly, especially when they are on patrol. We had some Prayer Pastors who were able to mentor and pray for the team members where there have been difficult or challenging incidents. But we have no volunteers in this position at the moment.

Several Churches also offer prayer for Shrewsbury Street Pastors and involve home groups, who offer support and prayers for the Town and all who work in the night-time economy in Shrewsbury Town Centre.



A primary function is the protection of young adults who come from a wide catchment area to socialise in Shrewsbury's town centre. While many of Shrewsbury's venues provide a relatively safe place for people to meet, inevitably some encounter difficulty following a heady cocktail of too much alcohol, recreational drugs, high emotions and relationship difficulties. Part of the mission is to intervene before people call the emergency services, providing pre-emptive support for people in the town centre.

The service is welcomed for being direct and impartial, providing support in a non-judgmental way. Additional services include the referral of individuals with mental health issues to supporting organisations such as The Samaritans and Shropshire Mental Health Charity known locally as "Sanctuary". Our training includes Suicide Prevention, First Aid, Radio Training, Drugs and Alcohol, Youth Culture and Mental Health First Aid. This training is provided by professional specialists.

We monitor twelve rough sleepers, ensuring that The Shrewsbury Ark Day Centre for homeless people is notified when necessary and we do what we can to keep them safe. There has been an expansion of the support provided to the homeless with a greater emphasis on those with mental health issues as well as those who are now referred to as street homeless.

We have a support vehicle, called the Donkey, which we use as a Safe Place to get vulnerable people off the streets. This is used alongside our walking patrols which consist of 3-6 trained volunteers, accompanied by a driver and helper on our support vehicle. The vehicle broke down on New Year's Eve and it has now been confirmed that we are going to be receiving a new vehicle from the OPCC and Chief Constable of West Mercia Police.

Our teams keep an eye on everyone out at the weekends to ensure they are as safe as possible, keeping those inebriated away from the potential danger of the River Severn. We can provide water to those dehydrated, flip-flops to those who cannot walk in their shoes, a space blanket to those who are cold, a sick bag so taxis will take them home, or a phone call to those who are separated from friends or family to reunite them, or lollipops to diffuse aggression. More challenging are those people who have suicide tendencies, mental health issues, or relationship problems. The teams are trained to recognise who needs professional intervention and can make referrals to Sanctuary, a partnership with Shropshire Mental Health Charity, Samaritans, the local Neighbourhood Policing team and us.

Our teams are trained to listen and be non-judgmental in their approach to everyone, helping with whatever is needed, whether it is a plaster, a tissue or a prayer if requested. We work with any of the homeless people at the weekend when all other support is unavailable. We can offer hot drinks, biscuits, blankets, a Winter Survival kit, which includes socks, a hat, gloves etc. and referral to other professional agencies if required. We carry first aid equipment with us, so we can clean wounds, supply plasters, call an ambulance if necessary or do whatever is required.

The River Severn runs in a loop through the centre of our town, which means all the nighttime venues are within two minutes' walk from a very fast flowing river prone to flooding, so keeping revellers safe, and people who are at significant risk of committing suicide is a life-threatening reality. Shrewsbury's vibrant night-time economy serves a large rural area of our county.

We have problems with individuals bringing drugs from Liverpool and The Wirral, now part of 'County Lines' influencing both our night-time economy and our more vulnerable members of our community. We also have instances of "grooming" in our town. This is not a big issue

and is one that is monitored regularly by the local Community Safety Partnership. There has been an acceptance by the homeless community that deaths due to drugs and alcohol are an expected outcome of sleeping rough on the streets. Recently the community has been shaken by a death that has been recorded as murder, this understandably has led to additional support being given by our patrols during the nighttime hours at the weekend. Last year the town was shaken by the deaths of two young men in the River Severn. Both were because of them leaving their friends and going off on their own. We have worked with partners to promote staying together with your friends when you are out. The result is the males are now much better at staying with their mates and looking after them each other.

Shrewsbury has just had it confirmed as retaining the prestigious Purple Flag award in recognition of a 'Safe Place' to party. Street Pastors was influential in achieving this award.

All volunteers remain motivated and committed to our work on the streets. Street Pastor teams are a constant factor now in town as we are out every weekend. Our local young people generally go out for the evening with friends, but they know that Shrewsbury Street Pastors are there if things get difficult and start to go wrong. We have a proven track record, and we are now recognised by young people who can trust that we are there to support and help them, as necessary. Young people are now proactive in finding us when they need us and will approach the door staff to call us on their radios. We have established links and have a good reputation with all the main support agencies in the locality such as Shrewsbury Mental Health services, Samaritans, Police, Ambulance and Fire and Rescue services.

The door staff contact us, using their Pub-Watch radios, a recognised method of communication when they need help with issues involving alcohol, drugs, minor first aid requirements, suicide threats, mental health crisis as they know our teams are trained and able to help.

Prior to COVID, breakfasts were provided at the weekends by the nuns from Shrewsbury Convent on a Sunday morning and a team from Bellevue Methodist Church on a Saturday. These services closed due to COVID and failed to restart when we started to open activity again afterwards. We worked with ten of the town centre churches and Shrewsbury School and started a breakfast provision called Sunrise. This initiative brought together volunteers from across the town centre, and they cooked a full English breakfast in Saint Chad's church hall. Unfortunately, there was no take-up of this provision by the homeless community. The volunteers will now respond to specific requests from the local community to run events such as the picnic in the quarry park for the Ukrainian community now living in Shropshire.

We have now moved out of 1A Castlegates, these offices were in the gift of Shropshire Council, and we were given notice to quit at the end of last year. We now have premises by Rowley's House - White Hart House, 1 Hill's Lane, Shrewsbury SY1 1QU however, we now have to pay rent for these offices.

Our trustees have established a fundraising working group. The aim of this group is to raise funds to pay office rental but also to equip the new support vehicle that is being supplied by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

At the start of the new year, we launched a recruitment campaign with the local churches, and this has resulted in three new Street Pastors starting their training last weekend. We also have 5 volunteers who have indicated that they will serve as support vehicle drivers and buddies. We will continue to work with the local churches to recruit more volunteers to serve as Street Pastors out on the streets of Shrewsbury.

During the year ahead we intend to:

- Our priority is to recruit more volunteers as Street Pastors and Prayer Pastors through promotion to churches throughout Shropshire. A recruitment event is being planned for the Autumn 2023.
- We wish to continue to promote "The Friends of Shrewsbury Street Pastors", which was launched on 28 November 2013. Its aim is to encourage all Shropshire people, companies and organisations, to become involved with SSP, raise regular funds and promote the initiative.
- Continue to promote SSP and raise awareness of the initiative amongst the local media, churches and other relevant organisations in Shropshire. To attend local events to have a presence and promote SSP, with a view to recruiting new volunteers and raising funds. Most of this task will invariably be carried out by the Friends of SSP volunteer group.
- Collaborate with other SPIs in West Mercia (there are now 6), the Midlands and Wales Regions, in training volunteers. Refresher training for existing trained volunteers is planned in 2023, and also other relevant training, such as First Aid, Suicide Prevention and River Safety.
- Continue to attend meetings of Team Shrewsbury, West Mercia Police, Churches Together Shrewsbury, Pubwatch and other relevant organisations with a view to working in partnership on local initiatives, to help keep the streets of Shrewsbury safer for all who live and work in, and visit the town centre, particularly on weekend nights.
- Continue to be an active member of Team Shrewsbury.
- Continue to invite and encourage any interested persons, in particular potential recruits, to join the Street Pastors patrol as an Observer.
- Advise and assist other Shropshire towns, and towns within West Mercia Police area, with the setting up of an SPI in those areas.

**This is also known as Church in action on the streets.**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**For the year ended 31 March 2023**

**Reserves policy**

The Trustees are of the opinion that the charity should have unrestricted reserves equivalent to approximately three to six months expenditure, and the charity intends to build up the free reserves and maintain them at such a level.

**Approval**

This report was approved by the board of trustees on 01 December 2023 and signed on its behalf.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Stephen Jones", written over a horizontal dotted line.

**Stephen Jones**  
**Director of Operations**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF  
SHREWSBURY STREET PASTORS**

**for the year ended 31 March 2023**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 set out in this report.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period 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,
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in 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 matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act,
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met: or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Helen Pierce FCA  
Caerwyn Jones  
Chartered Accountants  
Emstrey House  
Shrewsbury Business Park  
Shrewsbury  
Shropshire  
SY2 6LG

**Signature**

  
.....

**Date** 01 December 2023



**SHREWSBURY STREET PASTORS**  
**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds <u>2023</u> £	Unrestricted Funds <u>2022</u> £
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
Voluntary receipts:			
Receipts from donors			
Grants from organisations		17,269	2,495
Raffle		-	775
Other donations		14,101	11,587
Gift aid		358	221
		<u>31,728</u>	<u>15,078</u>
Investment income	2	-	-
Employment allowance		-	1,017
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme grant		-	5,991
<b>Total receipts</b>		<u>31,728</u>	<u>22,086</u>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>			
Charitable activities	3	27,851	24,664
Governance costs	4	780	720
		<u>28,631</u>	<u>25,384</u>
<b>ASSET AND INVESTMENT PURCHASES</b>			
Fixtures, fittings and equipment		4,478	580
<b>Total payments</b>		<u>33,109</u>	<u>25,964</u>
<b>CASH FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD</b>		25,137	29,015
<b>(DECREASE)/INCREASE IN CASH FOR THE YEAR</b>		(1,381)	(3,878)
<b>CASH FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u>23,756</u>	<u>25,137</u>

**SHREWSBURY STREET PASTORS**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**  
**at 31 March 2023**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds <u>2023</u></b>	<b>Unrestricted Funds <u>2022</u> £</b>
<b>CASH FUNDS</b>		
Bank accounts	23,602	24,988
Cash in hand	154	149
<b>Total cash funds</b>	<u><u>23,756</u></u>	<u><u>25,137</u></u>

**ASSETS RETAINED FOR THE CHARITY'S OWN USE**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds <u>2023</u></b>	
	Cost	Current value
	£	£
<b>Fixtures, fittings and equipment</b>	<u><u>6,799</u></u>	<u><u>4,537</u></u>

Signed on behalf of the trustees:



**Stephen Jones**  
Director of Operations

Date: 01 December 2023

**SHREWSBURY STREET PASTORS**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**for the year ended 31 March 2023**

**1. Accounting policies**

**1.1 Basis of accounting**

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

**1.2 Assets retained for the charity's own use**

Assets retained for the charity's own use are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost or valuation of fixed assets, less any residual value, over their useful lives as follows:

Fixtures, fittings and equipment - 20% on a reducing balance basis.

Vehicle - 25% on a reducing balance basis.

**2. Investment income**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Bank interest receivable	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

## SHREWSBURY STREET PASTORS

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 March 2023

## 3. Payments: Charitable activities

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Street patrols</b>				
Uniform	76		76	-
Training and conferences			-	284
Consumables	798		798	581
Telephone and radio expenses	1,101		1,101	1,036
Ascension Trust licence	1,146		1,146	682
Repairs and maintenance	1,183		1,183	1,178
Postage and stationery		133	133	378
Computer consumables		617	617	175
Wages and salaries		16,532	16,532	15,713
Employer's NI		1,065	1,065	1,017
Payroll costs		180	180	180
Employee Pension contributions		494	494	503
Employer Pension contributions		297	297	301
Pension service charges		180	180	180
Vehicle expenses	2,200		2,200	1,646
Mileage and travelling claims	295		295	-
Insurance		24	24	86
Sundries		78	78	173
<b>Fundraising and publicity</b>		745	745	551
Rent		667	667	-
Light and heat		40	40	-
	<b>6,799</b>	<b>21,052</b>	<b>27,851</b>	<b>24,664</b>



**SHREWSBURY STREET PASTORS**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**for the year ended 31 March 2023**

<b>4. Payments: Governance costs</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Accountancy	<b>780</b>	720
	<u><b>780</b></u>	<u>720</u>

