



Shrewsbury Street Pastors Annual Report 2023/2024

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the period ended 31st March 2024. 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 12th November 2011.

The trustees are the group of people charged with the governance of the charity. No trustee has 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

As a Local Initiative of the Global Street Pastor Movement, our mission is to engage, train and mobilize Christian volunteers from different churches, to be relevant in public life as salt and light addressing issues of vulnerability and social exclusion through the principle of caring, listening and helping

people. We work in partnership with the police, local authorities and other voluntary organisations to achieve our goals and attain greater social cohesion in our community.

Street Pastors Core Values

The Street Pastor Movement embraces Christians from a range of denominations with a passion for Jesus and for the betterment of the community, who adhere to the following five (5) core values:

1. The Sacredness and Sanctity of Human Life
2. Valuing and Honouring the Community
3. Being a Person of Integrity
4. Taking Personal Responsibility
5. Promoting the Growth and Development of the Individual to their Fullest Potential

Shrewsbury Street Pastors

Legal and administrative information

31 March 2024

Independent Examiner:

Working name of charity

Shrewsbury Street Pastors

Helen Pierce FCA
W R Partners
Chartered Accountants
Belmont House
Shrewsbury Business Park
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY2 6LG

Trustees

Pete Lawton, Chairman
Pauline Jones, Secretary

Bankers:

The Co-Operative bank

Jo Neale

P.O.Box 250

Bernard Knopp

Delf House

Carole Donoghue

Southway

Ivan Hacking

Skelmersdale

Dee Ploszay

WN8 6WT

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

Email address :

shrewsbury@streetpastors.org.uk



Our Office Space

We have premises by Rowley's House - White Hart House, 1 Hill's Lane, Shrewsbury SY1 1QU where we now pay rent for these offices.

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.

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 in our approach 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, Bickton.

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 when 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 on a weekend. 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 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 sleepers.

We have a support vehicle, called The Donkey shared with West Mercia Police, 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.

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 defuse 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.

Shrewsbury has retained 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. We also liaise closely with Taxi Marshalls to ensure people get home safely.

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 or a mental health crisis as they know our teams are trained and able to help.

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 has been 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 5 new Street Pastors starting their training recently. 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:

- Our priority is to recruit more volunteers as Street Pastors and Prayer Pastors through promotion to churches throughout Shropshire.
- We will 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 2024, 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 here 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.

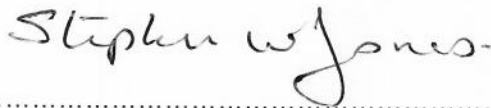
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
For the year ended 31 March 2024

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 07 October 2024 and signed on its behalf.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephen W Jones". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above 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 2024

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 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
WR Partners
Chartered Accountants
Belmont House
Shrewsbury Business Park
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY2 6LG

Signature



Date 7th October 2024

SHREWSBURY STREET PASTORS
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds <u>2024</u> £	Unrestricted Funds <u>2023</u> £
RECEIPTS			
Voluntary receipts:			
Receipts from donors			
Grants from organisations		2,750	17,269
Other donations		25,198	14,101
Contributions for training and uniform		400	-
Gift aid		127	358
		<u>28,475</u>	<u>31,728</u>
Investment income	2	-	-
Employment allowance: 2023		713	-
Employment allowance: 2024		1,041	
Insurance refunds		3,804	
Total receipts		<u>34,033</u>	<u>31,728</u>
PAYMENTS			
Charitable activities	3	27,280	27,851
Governance costs	4	840	780
		<u>28,120</u>	<u>28,631</u>
ASSET AND INVESTMENT PURCHASES			
Fixtures, fittings and equipment		1,056	4,478
Total payments		<u>29,176</u>	<u>33,109</u>
CASH FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		23,756	25,137
INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH FOR THE YEAR		4,857	(1,381)
CASH FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>28,613</u></u>	<u><u>23,756</u></u>

SHREWSBURY STREET PASTORS
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

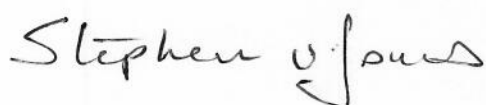
at 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted Funds <u>2024</u>	Unrestricted Funds <u>2023</u> £
CASH FUNDS		
Bank accounts	28,218	23,602
Cash in hand	395	154
Total cash funds	<u>28,613</u>	<u>23,756</u>

ASSETS RETAINED FOR THE CHARITY'S OWN USE

	Unrestricted Funds <u>2024</u>	
	Cost	Current value
	£	£
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	<u>7,855</u>	<u>4,470</u>

Signed on behalf of the trustees:



Stephen Jones
 Director of Operations

Date: 7th October 2024

SHREWSBURY STREET PASTORS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2024

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank interest receivable	-	-

SHREWSBURY STREET PASTORS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 March 2024

3. Payments: Charitable activities

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Street patrols				
Uniform	273		273	76
Training and conferences	458		458	-
Consumables	710		710	798
Telephone and radio expenses	687		687	1,101
Ascension Trust licence	882		882	1,146
Repairs and maintenance	500		500	1,183
Postage and stationery		266	266	133
Computer consumables		520	520	617
Wages and salaries		15,163	15,163	16,532
Employer's NI		1,041	1,041	1,065
Payroll costs		165	165	180
Employee Pension contributions		564	564	494
Employer Pension contributions		339	339	297
Pension service charges		180	180	180
Vehicle expenses	38		38	2,200
Mileage and travelling claims	112		112	295
Insurance		245	245	24
Sundries		272	272	78
Fundraising and publicity		1,372	1,372	745
Rent		3,333	3,333	667
Light and heat		160	160	40
	3,660	23,620	27,280	27,851

SHREWSBURY STREET PASTORS
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2024

4. Payments: Governance costs

Accountancy

2024

2023

£

£

840

780

840

780