



Shrewsbury Street Pastors Annual Report 2024/2025

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the period ended 31st March 2025. Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in 2005 in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is constituted as an unincorporated association and is governed by a Trust Deed dated 8 August 2011. It was registered with the Charity Commission on 28 October 2011, with operational activities commencing on 12 November 2011.

Governance is entrusted to a group of appointed trustees, none of whom hold any financial interest

in the charity. Oversight and strategic management are provided by a Management Committee, which convenes bi-monthly. The process for appointing trustees is outlined in the Trust Deed.

Objectives and activities

As a Local Initiative of the Global Street Pastor Movement, our mission is to engage, train and mobilise Christian volunteers from diverse church backgrounds. We seek to be a relevant and compassionate presence in public life — acting as salt and light — by addressing vulnerability and social exclusion through the principles of caring, listening, and helping.

We work collaboratively with the police, local authorities, and voluntary

organisations to promote positive engagement and foster greater social cohesion within 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



Our Office Space

Our offices at White Hart House, 1 Hill's Lane, Shrewsbury SY1 1QU are now rented premises.

HQ Volunteers

Volunteers regularly assist with charity operations in our office, supported by the Director of Operations.

Fundraising is managed by the Friends of Shrewsbury Street Pastors Group, who organise events like concerts, jumble sales, and raffles.

Shrewsbury Street Pastors

Legal and administrative information

31 March 2024

Working name of charity

Shrewsbury Street Pastors

Trustees

Pete Lawton, Chairman

Pauline Jones, Secretary

Jo Neale

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.shrewsburystreetpastors.org.uk

Email address :

shrewsbury@streetpastors.org.uk

Independent Examiner:

RLW Accountants

Castle Green,
Ludlow Road,
Little Stretton,
Church Stretton,
Shropshire,
SY6 6RB

Bankers:

The co-operative bank

P.O.Box 250

Delf House

Southway

Skelmersdale

WN8 6WT

Mission Statement

We train church volunteers to offer support and practical help to those in need. Our team patrols Shrewsbury's streets on Friday and Saturday nights, working with police, councils, and other organisations to assist anyone requiring help. While our work is inspired by the Gospel, we focus on providing non-judgmental aid to all.

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 plays a key role in supporting Shrewsbury Street Pastors, focusing on strength, guidance, safety, financial provision, and ongoing development.

A Prayer Co-ordinator leads eight regular supporters who pray together or with teams before patrols.

Each Street Pastor has a Prayer Partner for regular support, though there are currently no Prayer Pastors available for mentoring during challenging times.

Additionally, several churches and home groups regularly pray for the team and those working in Shrewsbury's night-time economy.

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.

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 4th August 2025 on its behalf.

Stephen Jones

Director of Operation

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

Shrewsbury Street Pastors

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees of Shrewsbury Street Pastors

On accounts for the year ended 31st March 2025

Charity number 1144473

Set out on pages 7-9

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st March 2025

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustess, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

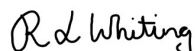
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination other than that disclosed below which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Ruth Whiting FCA, DCha
RLW Accountants
Chartered Accountant

Castle Green, Ludlow Road
Little Stretton, Shropshire
SY6 6RB

Date 4th August 2025

Shrewsbury Street Pastors

Receipts and Payments Account Year ended 31st March 2025

Hotspots		Total 2025	Unrestricted 2024 Total
Restricted 2025	Unrestricted 2025		

Receipts

Grants from organisations	30,000	-	30,000	2,750
Donations including Gift Aid	-	15,969	15,969	25,325
Contributions for training and uniform	-	-	-	400
Employment allowance claims 2023 and 2024	-	-	-	1,754
Insurance refunds	-	-	-	3,804
Total receipts	30,000	15,969	45,969	34,033

Payments

Charitable activities

Uniform	607	30	637	273
Training and recruitment	544	806	1,350	458
Consumables	164	799	963	710
Telephone and radio expenses	-	1,125	1,125	687
Ascension Trust licence	-	1,234	1,234	882
Repairs and maintenance	-	438	438	500
Travel and subsistence	-	838	838	150
Rent	-	4,667	4,667	3,333
Light and heat	-	380	380	160
Insurance	-	86	86	245
Postage and stationery	5	440	445	266
Computer consumables	-	117	117	520
Meeting costs	167	-	167	-
Wages and salaries	2,250	16,063	18,313	15,727
Employers NI	-	-	-	1,041
Employers Pension	-	333	333	339
Pension service charges	-	180	180	180
Payroll	-	195	195	165
Sundries	399	-	399	272

Fundraising and publicity	547	733	1,280	1,372
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Governance costs - Accountancy	-	900	900	840
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4,683	29,364	34,047	28,120
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Asset and investment purchases

Fixtures, fittings and equipment	1,666	-	1,666	1,056
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Total payments	6,349	29,364	35,713	29,176
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Net payments	23,651	(13,395)	10,256	4,857
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Cash funds last year end	-	28,613	28,613	23,756
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Cash fund this year end	23,651	15,218	38,869	28,613
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Shrewsbury Street Pastors

Statement of Assets and Liabilities Year ended 31st March 2025

	Hotspots			2025	2024
	Restricted	Unrestricted			
	£	£	£		£
Cash Funds					
Bank Accounts	23,651	15,041	38,692		28,218
Cash in hand	-	177	177		395
Total cash funds	<u>23,651</u>	<u>15,218</u>	<u>38,869</u>		<u>28,613</u>

Assets retained for charities own use

Fixtures, fittings and equipment at cost	<u>1,666</u>	<u>7,855</u>	<u>9,521</u>	<u>7,855</u>
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Sundry debtors

West Mercia Hotspots continuation grant	£10,000
Sahnnon Comm	£399

Sundry creditors

HMRC PAYE	£755
Ascension Trust	£358
Stephen Jones	£1,296
RLW Accountants	£600

The receipts and payments accounts were approved by the Trustees on 4th August 2025 and are signed on their behalf by:

Stephen Jones
Director of Operations