

BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH

England & Wales · Charity number 1145615

Details

Other names BLESS

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [07886329](#)

Registered 2012-01-25

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 5 Balmoral Gardens
London
W13 9UA

Phone 02085698333

Email enquiries@blesscc.org

Website www.blesscc.org

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION, EITHER IN THE UNITED KINGDOM OR OVERSEAS

Activities: Our objects are to advance Christianity in the UK or overseas by proclaiming and furthering the gospel of Jesus Christ and promoting interdenominational Christian work. We seek to bless others whether or not they are Christians and to live out Jesus' command to love God with all our heart and soul and mind and to love our neighbours as we love ourselves.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Religious Activities
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Ealing
- Hounslow

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£192,063	£196,147	-	-
2023-12-31	£178,954	£175,499	-	-
2022-12-31	£171,989	£166,504	-	-
2021-12-31	£145,885	£145,959	-	-
2020-12-31	£134,713	£143,197	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANGELA MARGARET FARMER		2016-10-01
Daniel Blackwell		2024-02-12
Lydia Constance Clare Sewell		2025-02-03
Madeline Bird		2019-05-13
PAUL SPENCER		2012-01-13

BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1145615

Accounts

**BLESS
COMMUNITY CHURCH**

**ANNUAL REPORT
AND
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

COMPANY REGISTRATION No: 07886329

CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1145615

Independent Examiners Ltd
2 Broadbridge Business Centre
Delling Lane
Bosham
West Sussex
PO18 8NF

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

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**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER	1145615	
COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER	07886329	
DATE OF INCORPORATION	19th December 2011	
START OF FINANCIAL YEAR	1st January 2024	
END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	31st December 2024	
DIRECTORS	Angela Farmer Timothy Paul Spencer Madeline Bird Jessica Livingstone Daniel Blackwell	Resigned 28.10.24 Appointed 12.2.24
CHURCH LEADER	Tom Callister	
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Memorandum and Articles of Association Incorporated 19th December 2011.	
OBJECTS	To advance the Christian religion either in the United Kingdom or overseas and furtherance of that objective: a) The proclamation and furtherance of the Gospel of God concerning his son Jesus Christ our Lord and the preaching and teaching of the Word of God. b) The organisation sponsorship and promotion of interdenominational Christian work throughout the United Kingdom and elsewhere the object of which of which shall be: i. To seek to present the Gospel to every creature by every means possible and lead men and women and children to saving faith by our Lord Jesus Christ and help and encourage them in the service of God. ii. To promote organise and conduct meetings for this purpose.	
WEBSITE	www.blesscc.org	
REGISTERED ADDRESS	5 Balmoral Gardens Ealing London W13 9UA	
BANKERS	Barclays Bank plc 53 The Broadway Ealing London W5 5JS	
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Independent Examiners Ltd 2 Broadbridge Business Centre Delling Lane Bosham West Sussex	

Bless Community Church

Annual Report of the Trustees 2024

Overview

Bless Community Church is a charismatic community church in West London and part of the Pioneer Network. The church has a vision to live up to its name and Bless the City. The church encourages people to embrace the love shown through the person of Jesus and endeavor to equip people for Christian life in the 21st Century.

It seeks to follow Jesus by sharing the gospel, worshipping, serving, learning, and sharing life together. The church is deeply involved in our local community, often taking a leading role in ecumenical inter-church activities and also within the Pioneer Network and Pioneer London Region.

Bless meets in person at Christ the Saviour Church of England Primary School in the heart of Ealing but also now have an online presence. For more information or to contact us go to www.blesscc.org.

Structure, governance and management

Bless Community Church (Bless) is a charitable company (no: 07886329) under Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 23rd October 2011 and a registered charity (no: 1145615).

Trustees normally serve for three years after which they can put themselves forward for reappointment by the board of trustees. New trustees are recruited from Bless members by interview. The induction and training of trustees is set out in the Trustee Agreement and will vary according to the needs of the individual trustee. In addition, training is provided for specific areas such as safeguarding, GDPR and other legal changes. We carry out biennial trustee reviews and provide in-house or external training as necessary.

The day-to-day work of Bless is delegated to the staff led by the Church Leader and assisted by many church members acting in a voluntary capacity. The trustees make decisions needed between the quarterly trustees' meetings by extra meetings, usually telephone conferences.

The trustees and leadership are aware of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. They review the financial position at each meeting of trustees and take action accordingly. They continue to develop policies and procedures to manage risk and use risk map analysis for review and action, reviewing this annually. They updated our Safeguarding Policies in April 2021 alongside which we updated our Safeguarding Statement which can be found on our website <https://blesscc.org/safeguarding>. At the same time, they created a new Social Media policy and created an additional statement on our website. <https://blesscc.org/social-media-statement>

Bless is a part of the Pioneer Network and of the Evangelical Alliance. Bless also plays a significant role in the interdenominational activities of churches in West London both in leadership and through the service of Bless members.

Public Benefit

The trustees consider that the work of the charity continues to comply with S4 of the Charities Act 2006. It is considered that the following summary of our activities demonstrates their public benefit.

Bless Community Church is a Christian Church that is part of and active in the local community. They hold meetings of worship, prayer, proclamation, encouragement and teaching the good news of Jesus Christ both in person and online. They proclaim the gospel together with other churches. They provide training courses and special events. They run groups and activities for children, youth and adults both within the church and open to anyone in the community. They are actively involved in serving the community with other churches

through Ealing Street Pastors, the Churches' Winter Night Shelters in Ealing, and Ealing Foodbank, youth work and through other local charities and organisations. They support the work of specific organisations, other churches and those working in line with our objects both locally and internationally. They support church members in short- and long-term Christian work overseas. Many visitors, both Christian and non-Christian, attend Bless church services and social events. All the activities described above, and others are carried out on an unpaid voluntary basis by church members with support from a team of part-time staff. They also encourage individual public service by our members which includes service on other charity boards, magistrates, school governors and prison workers.

Bless ensures that the public can benefit not only from community service activities but also by participating in church services and many other activities. Most activities are open to all irrespective of race, colour, origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age or disability. A few are restricted to one sex or age group by virtue of the subject matter or to specific groups as they provide training, for example for potential leaders or specific roles within the church.

Accessibility to activities includes physical accessibility and the use of accessible venues wherever possible. By meeting at 'Christ the Saviour' Church of England Primary School on Sundays the church is visible to people who might not otherwise be aware of the charity, and all visitors are warmly welcomed. By choosing to meet in the school the church also contributes into the funds of the school through rent. Most activities are free although there is a fee for a few activities, such as church weekends; however, the church ensures that activities are accessible to all wherever possible through subsidies.

Objects and Activities

Objects

Bless' objects are to advance Christianity in the UK or overseas by proclaiming and furthering the gospel of Jesus Christ and promoting interdenominational Christian work. The church seeks to bless others of any or no faith and to live out Jesus' command to 'love God with all our heart and soul and mind, and to love our neighbours as we love ourselves'.

Spiritual Leadership

The Church Leader Tom Callister was commissioned into his role on 7th January 2023, and has regularly met with a leadership team throughout the year. They guide the spiritual direction of the church and act as the organising body for Bless activities.

The leadership team have continued to draw from the Leader of Pioneer International, Billy Kennedy for 'outside oversight', meeting him four times during the year, to ensure the health of the team, and their ability to speak candidly about any concerns they might have.

The leadership team also drew from the Bless Advisors group, meeting twice in 2024, for discussion and feedback in key vision areas of Church life.

The leadership team invited three individuals to join them monthly to explore senior leadership within the Church going forward, helping expose them to senior leadership experience, to gauge capacity, calling and team dynamics, before discerning together whether their involvement should be made permanent in 2025. At the end of the year, Linda Ward stepped back from her role on the leadership team and Ella Simpson, following this year of discernment was invited to join the leadership team for 2025.

More widely, most church members are also volunteers. They share the work of the church whether in setting up the hall; welcoming visitors or managing the sound desk on a Sunday; leading or helping with the children's and youth work; teaching; helping lead worship; leading groups; providing hospitality; serving the community; or in one of many other tasks or roles without our gatherings and community.

Meetings

The church continues to have Sunday teaching which is designed to help us understand the practical aspects of

being a Christian as well as developing our understanding of God through the Bible. Our teaching is accessible on the Bless website at www.blesscc.org and on YouTube for anyone who wishes to view it.

Bless also operates with mid-week Connect groups which enable members to share together, to encourage and support each other to grow in Jesus and serve him. The church runs weekly and occasional prayer meetings. Bless continues with a hybrid of face to face and online access, although encouragement to attend in person is now featured, to get the most out of being community together whenever possible.

Achievements and Performance

The aims for 2024 progressed as follows:

Church Overview

- 2024 was a year of consolidation for Bless Community Church.
- Throughout the year the Church continued to see many visitors each week and new people joined the community.
- The Church continued to become more reflective of the local community it serves in diversity of its membership and its reach via community focused projects.
- On average at the end of 2024 there were around 60 people in person each week with another 5 or so devices live on YouTube.

Leadership team and Governance

- 2024 was a year for exploration within the leadership of the Church – both exploring new potential leaders and new potential structures, both of which would be delivered in 2025.
- The leader of Pioneer International met with the Bless leadership team throughout 2024 to provide input and support (see spiritual leadership report above).
- In relation to the trustees, Madeline Bird (Chair), Angela Farmer, Jessica Livingstone and Timothy Paul Spencer continued to closely monitor finances and worked through a rolling programme of compliance review of policies and procedures. Jessica Livingstone stepped down from the Trustees in September due to giving birth to her first child. While one new Trustee was appointed - Daniel Blackwell.
- A 4% Cost of Living rise for our staff was agreed and implemented in 2024, and it was agreed that both Tom Callister and Jacob Simpson would receive an uplift in grade and salary in 2025.
- The staff continued to manage expenditure and reduce costs where possible due to the challenging financial position supported by the trustees.

Embracing God

- The Church continued to develop and grow diverse ways for people to encounter God together both through large gatherings, small groups, and virtual opportunities.
- Teaching for Sundays was planned a term ahead by the leadership team and they introduced several new meeting leaders and speakers to the team. The church also enjoyed a number of guest speakers from within the Pioneer Network.

- 'Bless Kids' has been established as the Sunday morning children's work for all children of a primary school age. We have a strong team of volunteers serving in this area. We continue to run Messy Church gatherings regularly which attract additional families who connect with the Church for the first time.
- The Children and Families pastor continued to meet parents on a one- to-one basis each week.
- 'Bless Young Adults' (20-30s) group continued to run a monthly gathering called 'Spirit filled lives' which included a meal together, a talk from a member of the community to encourage a more holistic spiritual walk, and prayer opportunities.
- Bless hosted a Weekend Away in January just outside Swindon and invited fellow local Pioneer Churches 'Latymer' and 'Refresh Church Molesey' to join us, as we started the new year. We had a guest speaker who joined the churches to bring teaching for the weekend. We had over 100 people join us for the weekend.
- The Church paused the monthly 'Embrace' worship evenings mid-way through 2024, to allow space for a new gathering to emerge, following poor attendance. The future vision is to bring the Church into a prophetic encounter with God through worship, prayer and the impartation of the Holy Spirit.
- Occasional Encounter Prayer sessions continued online with 6 – 10 people at each event and included those from other churches.
- The monthly prayer calendar continued to be used by many Church members.
- Bless developed a series of Podcasts to further equip and encourage the Church in its Christian teaching and understanding of the Bible.
- The Church also continued our 'Wild Church' gatherings, helping people engage with God through the outdoors, and nature. This happened four times in 2024.
- Bless participated in a unity service with various Anglican and Pentecostal Churches on Easter Sunday, contributing in the worship, teaching and prayer as a Church.
- In September Bless held a very special Celebration afternoon of Baptisms at which two young adults were baptised, which was attended by around 60 people.
- A large group from the Church attended the Wildfires Festival in August, including members of the youth group who attended as their 'youth summer camp'.

Equipping the Church

- We continued to run 'Bless You' introductory sessions - for newer attendees at Bless – on an ad-hoc basis, as new members emerged in Church life.
- We also re-established monthly welcome lunches for newcomers exploring or joining Bless on Sundays.

- Connect groups, the business group, 20s to 30s, youth group and children and families' groups continued to do an excellent job at helping people connect and care for one another.
- The Church all took part in a new course called 'The Life Course' which featured Sunday and Connect Group Teaching – around fully living for God in today's culture.
- Bible literacy was also invested in, with connect groups studying the 'Bible course' in the autumn term.
- The church hosted a 'equipping day' with teaching and discussions on human sexuality and relationships.
- The teenagers continued to enjoy weekly sessions on a Wednesday with the youth team, looking at issues impacting them. Each young person continued to receive monthly sessions with a mentor too.
- One of the young people began a part time internship at Bless in September, with a focus on communications, social media, and youth work. This internship was voluntary and unpaid. The intern has been provided with a mentor, line manager, and external training, provided by New Wine.
- A new support group for creatives in the Church called 'The Space' was formed – and which met 4 times in 2024. This space helped encourage artists, writers, songwriters, poets, actors and musicians to creatively develop their gifts, and culminated in a private 'concert' for friends and family of new material written and presented.
- A new 'Village People' group for adults exploring having families, providing them with a space for discussion, support and advice was formed.
- The Church hosted a thank you 'Volunteer Sunday' in the summer to recognise, thank (with a small gift) and celebrate all those who make Bless the community it is, with their volunteering and service.
- Members of the leadership team have strategically mentored some young leaders, as they further consider Church Leadership.

Blessing the City

- The Alpha course continued as a regular opportunity for people to explore faith and the big questions of life. Alpha ran twice in 2024 – in the Spring and Autumn. These courses were held in person. The Spring course was well attended and several of the cohort on the course have joined Bless as a result.
- The Church hosted a Light party with bouncy castle, face painting, free food, drink and music for the local community which was well attended with over 70 guests there.
- The Parent and Toddler group 'Playtime' continues to thrive. The group regularly has attracted up to 40 families a week. We have a strong team led by paid staff and assisted by volunteers.
- Alongside 'Playtime', a 'Basement Kids' children's drop in club has been formed – for primary school kids at the Ealing Project. A number of families have brought their kids and this project is expected

to grow considerably in 2025.

- An ever-increasing number of Playtime families attended “Messy Church” services. This was due in no small part to the hard work and relationships built by the Playtime team.
- Bless’s youth leader, continued to visit Ealing Fields Secondary school with the church’s intern, facilitating a weekly Alpha course there for students.
- The ‘Basement’ youth café has continued to draw young people to its weekly sessions, with significant connections and contact made with over 200 teenagers in 2024. The charity successfully received further funding from the Young Ealing foundation and a Christian donor who donated £10k to the project which has helped pay for a lot of the activities run there.
- The ‘Basement’ young people were invited to a special Fireworks, Dinner, and Games night at Haven Green Baptist Church, which was attended by over 120 young people, and this was followed up with an invitation to our Christmas Carol Service, where over 15 young people attended Church for the first time in their lives.
- The Christmas services – ‘Messy Christmas’ and ‘Christingle’ for families, and our annual ‘Carol Service,’ were attended in total by over 300 people, many of whom were guests new to Church and to Bless. The Christmas events were a real highlight of the year and helped the Church engage more significantly with the local community.
- On the morning of the Carol service a team of Bless members connected with the local community, giving away free hot drinks, mince pies, offering to pray for people and chatting to passers-by. Several people who the team connected with returned that evening to attend the Carol Service.

Training Opportunities

- A large group from the Church attended the Annual Pioneer Leadership Conference in the Spring. This conference encourages spiritual development, networking, and is regarded as a time of retreat and refreshing for leaders, both paid and volunteers. Over 15 Bless members attended.

West London Leaders

- Bless helped facilitate over 50 local church leaders meet regularly together with other local stakeholders (including the Police and Council) to discuss and potentially develop new local resources in various areas.

Pioneer London Leaders’ Gatherings

- Regular Church Leader gatherings continued, helping Pioneer Church leaders to gather for networking, support, prayer and strategic planning for the region.

Financial review

- **Reserves policy** – In 2024 we reviewed our policy to ensure that our reserves will always cover the costs of all obligations if we had to close. Currently this figure is £29,637.00
- **Funding sources** – Almost all our income is given by members and increased with Gift Aid. Most of this is given monthly. We also had a vision offering for the work of the church which in 2024 raised £12,577 in one off gifts and £1,030 in new monthly/increase monthly giving. Our donations Income remained steady at £138k and income from Charitable activities increased by £14k

- We received the following grants for outside our organisation:
- Pathways £9,766.51
- Young Ealing Foundation £5,000 (Nov 23 to fund work in 23/34)
- Just Sow £840.00 (now continuing at £420/mth)
- In addition, we raised funds from our members for a number of missions trips and funds to help other organisations such as Winter Night Shelter and the Children’s society.
- **Expenditure** - The largest single item of expenditure is on salaries and external contractors, followed by hall hire. Please see our financial statement for details. The annual budget, including all giving, is recommended by the Church Leader after consultation with the Leadership Team and approved by the trustees. We continue to keep a careful control on our expenditure and in 2024 only exceeded our income by £4k.

Plans for 2025

- In addition to the ongoing work of the charity, the church have the following plans for 2025:

Church Overview

- The leadership is keen to keep a focus on all three strands of our vision: Embracing God, Equipping the Church, and Blessing the City.
- Overall, Bless is passionate about seeing the Church grow both spiritually in depth and numerically with new members. To achieve this, there will be a review of structural factors including – venue (do our venues remain fit for purpose – could the Church have more of a visible ‘home’?), how does the Church grow its income (through better discipleship and looking at charitable funding grants), and staffing (how does the Church run its operations?) in 2025 onwards.

Leadership team and Governance

- The Church is restructuring some of its day-to-day leadership, by the creation of a new Core Ministry Team, renewal of our Advisors group, and review of its external oversight.
- The trustees and leadership will continue to manage the expenditure and reduce costs where possible due to the challenging financial position.

Embrace God

- The Core Ministry Team will seek to ‘sharpen’ Sunday Morning gatherings – making sure communication, teaching and the ‘newcomer experience’ are the very best they possibly can be.
- The Church is keen to continue to develop a powerhouse culture of prayer with monthly prayer gatherings on Saturday Mornings.
- The Worship Team are keen to explore ideas of worship songwriting and a possible ‘worship recording’ (album) to encourage creativity from our songwriters and musicians.

- The church is starting a new worship space called 'House of Worship' meeting monthly to encourage freedom and creativity in worship.

Equip the Church

- The Church is planning a couple of 'equipping days' with themes of freedom and adventuring with God being developed.
- There is a desire to re-shape Bless Business to support more members in their daily workplaces and in their entrepreneurial endeavors.
- Groups from Bless are planning to attend the Pioneer Annual Leadership Conference and the Women's Conference.

Bless the City

- Bless are keen to find new ways of connecting with the community – with community events in consideration including a summer BBQ with fun activities and further street work.
- The Basement Youth Club and Kids clubs are thriving. The charity is keen to build stronger relationships with those teens and children who are regular and is planning a number of overt faith sharing events and are exploring the idea of a residential with the teenagers too.
- Our youth worker is also helping to coordinate Borough Wide Youth Work initiatives across the Churches in 2025, which may well include worship gatherings for young people, and more outreach events.
- The Church is planning on partnering with Transform Europe Network to send a short term mission trip team to Kosovo to support the Churches in that nation.

West London Leaders

- Bless continues to lead and influence the Unity movements of 'West London Leaders' and 'Pioneer London.'

Other Developments

- The charity is looking to explore buildings for a missional base for the Church to help the church be more accessible (particularly midweek) to our community.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

STATEMENT OF DIRECTOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Charities Act and the Companies Act require the Board of Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the Board is required to :-

- i. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ii. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- iii. prepare financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business;
- iv. state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The directors are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and comply with regulations made under the Charities Act. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The directors are also responsible for the contents of the Report of the Directors, and the responsibility of the independent examiner in relation to the Report of the Directors is limited to examining the report and ensuring that, on the face of the report, there are no inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

I approve the attached statement of financial activities and balance sheet for the period ended 31st December 2024, and confirm that I have made available all information necessary for its preparation.

Approved by the Directors on : 28th April 2025

Signed on their behalf by Director :



Print Name: Timothy Paul Spencer

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2024.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the charity's trustees of the Company (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act).

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

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.

K Gomes MAAT FCIE
Independent Examiners Ltd
2 Broadbridge Business Centre
Delling Lane
Bosham
West Sussex
PO18 8NF

Signed : 

Date: 16 June 2025

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

(Incorporating Income & Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
INCOME						
Income from:						
Donations and Legacies	3a	122,856	13,650	1,545	138,051	138,116
Charitable Activities	3b	695	2,149	51,168	54,012	40,838
TOTAL INCOME		123,551	15,799	52,713	192,063	178,954
EXPENDITURE						
Expenditure on:						
Charitable Activities	4a	125,573	15,625	54,949	196,147	175,499
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		125,573	15,625	54,949	196,147	175,499
NET INCOME/ EXPENDITURE		(2,022)	174	(2,236)	(4,084)	3,455
Transfers between Funds		-	-	-	-	-
Funds Brought Forward		45,727	4,191	13,463	63,381	59,926
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		43,705	4,365	11,227	59,297	63,381

Movements on all reserves and all recognised gains and losses are shown above. All of the organisation's operations are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 16 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	31-Dec-24 Total	Restated 31-Dec-23 Total
Note	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	2,544	-	-	2,544	2,964
	<u>2,544</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,544</u>	<u>2,964</u>
Current Assets					
Debtors & Prepayments	14,268	-	-	14,268	27,699
Cash at Bank and in Hand	29,618	4,365	11,227	45,209	55,321
Total Current Assets	43,886	4,365	11,227	59,477	83,020
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(2,724)	-	-	(2,724)	(22,603)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	41,162	4,365	11,227	56,753	60,418
TOTAL ASSETS less current liabilities	43,705	4,365	11,227	59,297	63,381
NET ASSETS	43,705	4,365	11,227	59,297	63,381
Funds of the Charity					
General Funds	43,705	-	-	43,705	45,727
Designated Funds	-	4,365	-	4,365	4,191
Restricted Funds	-	-	11,227	11,227	13,463
Total Funds	43,705	4,365	11,227	59,297	63,381

Directors' Responsibilities:

For the financial year ending 31 December 24 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements on pages 14 to 21 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue and signed on their behalf by:

Approved by the Directors on : 28th April 2025

Signed on their behalf by Director : 

Print Name: Timothy Paul Spencer

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis of accounting in accordance with Charities Act 2011, Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2015), applicable accounting standards and Companies Act 2006. The accounts are prepared on an ongoing concern basis. The church meets the public benefit entity definition (FRS102). Restatement was not required in making the transition to FRS102. The date of transition was 1st January 2015.

Advantage has been taken of Section 396(5) of The Companies Act 2006 to allow the format of the financial statements to be adapted to reflect the special nature of the charity's operation and in order to comply with the requirements of the SORP.

The company has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement.

Changes in Accounting Policies and Previous Accounts

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year and no changes in the previous accounts.

Incoming Resources

Recognition of Incoming Resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the Directors are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming Resources with Related Expenditure

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resource and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.

Grants and Donations

Grants and Donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Tax Reclaims on Donations and Gifts

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SOFA in the same financial period as the gift to which they relate.

Contractual Income and Performance Related Grants

This is only included in the SOFA once the related goods or services has been delivered.

Gifts in Kind

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SOFA as incoming resources when received.

Donated Services and Facilities

These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

3. INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
a) Donations and Legacies					
Gifts & Donations	77,898	13,650	-	91,548	93,363
Gift Aid	23,984	-	1,545	25,529	23,561
Faith Target Income	20,974	-	-	20,974	21,192
	122,856	13,650	1,545	138,051	138,116
b) Income from other Charitable Activities					
Events Income	621	2,149	30,165	32,935	5,002
Grants	-	-	21,003	21,003	35,807
Miscellaneous	74	-	-	74	29
	695	2,149	51,168	54,012	40,838

4. EXPENSES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2024 £	TOTAL 2023 £
a) Expenditure on Charitable Activities					
Bank Charges & Interest	336	-	-	336	277
Children/Youth/Students Outreach	2,472	463	4,507	7,442	9,165
Church Giving	-	13,454	9,007	22,461	22,502
Depreciation	848	-	-	848	988
Events	3,011	1,708	29,100	33,819	9,720
Hall Hire	12,448	-	-	12,448	13,684
Hospitality	1,340	-	21	1,361	1,350
Independent Examiners Fee	1,144	-	-	1,144	1,056
Insurance	593	-	-	593	748
Miscellaneous	234	-	-	234	606
Office	1,862	-	-	1,862	1,452
PA/Music	682	-	-	682	642
Payroll Expenses	93,744	-	11,258	105,002	106,044
Publicity	1,844	-	45	1,889	1,707
Speakers	1,300	-	-	1,300	120
Telephone	43	-	-	43	43
Training	3,163	-	1,011	4,174	4,668
Travel	508	-	-	508	727
	125,573	15,625	54,949	196,147	175,499

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

5. RESTRICTED FUNDS	Balance 01-Jan-23 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Dec-24 £
Australia Mission Trip	-	1,971	1,946	-	25
Bursary Fund	235	-	47	-	188
Basement Youth Café	-	1,300	-	-	1,300
Children's Society	-	30	-	-	30
Egypt	-	1,031	31	-	1,000
Intern	-	438	375	-	63
Special Needs Fund	-	2,056	2,056	-	-
Pathways	2,409	9,767	8,143	-	4,033
Pioneer Leaders Events	-	3,221	3,309	-	(88)
DNA/Training	849	-	188	-	662
Youth Ealing Fund	4,388	-	3,511	-	877
Weekend Away 2024	-	29,737	29,737	-	-
Wedding	(12)	12	-	-	-
Winter Night Shelter	-	318	-	-	318
Wildfires	-	287	287	-	-
Youth Work Grant - Just Sow	5,594	1,350	4,123	-	2,821
USA Mission Trip	-	1,196	1,196	-	-
	13,463	52,713	54,949	-	11,227

The restricted funds are wholly represented by the Charity's cash reserves.

6. DESIGNATED FUNDS	Balance 01-Jan-23 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Dec-24 £
Bless Time church meetings	-	328	328	-	-
Church Giving	3,010	13,650	13,455	-	3,205
Football Ministry	-	790	790	-	-
Pioneer events	156	362	518	-	-
Playtime	879	569	317	-	1,131
West London Leaders	-	100	71	-	29
Youth Summer Camp	146	-	146	-	-
	4,191	15,799	15,625	-	4,365

The designated funds are wholly represented by the Charity's cash reserves.

Church Giving - The church allocates 10% of unrestricted voluntary receipts for this purpose.

7. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 31-Dec-24 £	Restated Total 31-Dec-23 £
Current Account	29,618	4,365	11,227	45,209	55,321
	29,618	4,365	11,227	45,209	55,321

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

8. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 31-Dec-24 £	Total 31-Dec-23 £
Prepayments	1,482	-	-	1,482	14,289
Accounts Receivable - Gift Aid	12,786	-	-	12,786	13,410
	14,268	-	-	14,268	27,699

9. CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 31-Dec-24 £	Total 31-Dec-23 £
Accounts Payable - Staff Floats	(498)	-	-	(498)	185
Accruals and Prepaid Income	2,179	-	-	2,179	21,365
Independent Examination	1,080	-	-	1,080	1,050
Payroll Liabilities	(37)	-	-	(37)	3
	2,724	-	-	2,724	22,603

10. CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE IN MORE THAN ONE YEAR

There were no Creditors or Accruals falling due in more than one year during this financial year (2023: None).

11. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

	2024 £	2023 £
Gross Wages and Salaries	102,425	103,506
Employer's National Insurance Costs	-	-
Pension	1,500	1,295
Other	1,077	1,243
	105,002	106,044

Employees who were engaged in each of the following activities:
(Full time equivalent)

	2024 TOTAL	2023 TOTAL
Activities in furtherance of organisation's objects	2.5	2.0
Management and administration	0.5	0.4
Total	3	2.4

No employees (2023: None) received emoluments in excess of £60,000. Staff are paid through the PAYE system.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024**

12. DIRECTORS AND OTHER RELATED PARTIES

No payments were made to directors or any persons connected with them during this financial period. No material transaction took place between the organisation and a trustee or any person connected with them.

Donations received from the trustees and related parties during the year were £14,065(2023: £13,895)

13. RISK ASSESSMENT

The directors actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated, combined with the annual review of the controls over key financial systems carried out on an annual basis will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The directors have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

14. RESERVES POLICY

See Report of the Directors.

15. PUBLIC BENEFIT

See Report of the Directors .

BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1145615

Accounts

BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
ANNUAL REPORT
AND
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

COMPANY REGISTRATION No: 07886329

CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1145615

Independent Examiners Ltd
2 Broadridge Business Centre
Delling Lane
Bosham
West Sussex
PO18 8NF

BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER: 1145615

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 07886329

DATE OF INCORPORATION: 19th December 2011

START OF FINANCIAL YEAR: 1st January 2023

END OF FINANCIAL YEAR: 31st December 2023

DIRECTORS: Angela Farmer, Timothy Paul Spencer, Madeline Bird (formerly Thomson), Jessica Livingstone

CHURCH LEADER Tom Callister

GOVERNING DOCUMENT Memorandum and Articles of Association Incorporated 19th December 2011.

OBJECTS

To advance the Christian religion either in the United Kingdom or overseas and furtherance of that objective:

a) The proclamation and furtherance of the Gospel of God concerning his son Jesus Christ our Lord and the preaching and teaching of the Word of God.

b) The organisation, sponsorship and promotion of interdenominational Christian work throughout the United Kingdom and elsewhere the object of which shall be:

i. To seek to present the Gospel to every creature by every means possible and lead men and women and children to saving faith by our Lord Jesus Christ and help and encourage them in the service of God.

ii. To promote, organise and conduct meetings for this purpose.

WEBSITE: www.blesscc.org

REGISTERED ADDRESS: Grove Mews, 42 The Grove, Ealing, London, W5 5LH

BANKERS: Barclays Bank plc, 53 The Broadway, Ealing, London, W5 5JS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER: Independent Examiners Ltd, 2 Broadbridge Business Centre, Delling Lane, Bosham, West Sussex

Bless Community Church

Annual Report of the Trustees 2023

Overview

Bless Community Church is a charismatic community church in West London and part of the Pioneer Network. The church has a vision to live up to its name and Bless the City. The church encourages people to embrace the love shown through the person of Jesus and endeavour to equip people for Christian life in the 21st Century.

It seeks to follow Jesus by sharing the gospel, worshipping, serving, learning, and sharing life together. The church is deeply involved in our local community, often taking a leading role in ecumenical inter-church activities and also within the Pioneer Network and Pioneer London Region.

Bless meets in person at Christ the Saviour Church of England Primary School in the heart of Ealing but also now have an online presence. For more information or to contact us go to www.blesscc.org.

Structure, governance and management

Bless Community Church (Bless) is a charitable company (no: 07886329) under Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 23rd October 2011 and a registered charity (no: 1145615).

Trustees normally serve for three years after which they can put themselves forward for reappointment by the board of trustees for two further terms. New trustees are recruited from Bless members by interview. The induction and training of trustees is set out in the Trustee Agreement and will vary according to the needs of the individual trustee. In addition, training is provided for specific areas such as safeguarding, GDPR and other legal changes.

The day-to-day work of Bless is delegated to the staff led by the Church Leader and assisted by many church members acting in a voluntary capacity. The trustees make decisions needed between the quarterly trustees' meetings by extra meetings, usually telephone conferences.

The trustees and leadership are aware of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. They review the financial position at each meeting of trustees and take action accordingly. They continue to develop policies and procedures to manage risk and use risk map analysis for review and action, reviewing this annually. They updated our Safeguarding Policies in April 2022 alongside which we updated our Safeguarding Statement which can be found on our website <https://blesscc.org/safeguarding>. Our Social Media policy and an additional statement are found on our website. <https://blesscc.org/social-media-statement>

Bless is a part of the Pioneer Network and of the Evangelical Alliance. Bless also plays a significant role in the interdenominational activities of churches in West London both in leadership and through the service of Bless members.

Public Benefit

The trustees consider that the work of the charity continues to comply with S4 of the Charities Act 2006. It is considered that the following summary of our activities demonstrates their public benefit.

Bless Community Church is a Christian Church that is part of and active in the local community. They hold meetings of worship, prayer, proclamation, encouragement and teaching the good news of Jesus Christ both in person and online. They proclaim the gospel together with other churches. They provide training courses and special events. They run groups and activities for children, youth and adults both within the church and open to anyone in the community. They are actively involved in serving the community with other churches through

Ealing Street Pastors, the Churches' Winter Night Shelters in Ealing, and Ealing Foodbank, youth work and through other local charities and organisations. They support the work of specific organisations, other churches and those working in line with our objects both locally and internationally. They support church members in short- and long-term Christian work overseas. Many visitors, both Christian and non-Christian, attend Bless church services and social events. All the activities described above, and others are carried out on an unpaid voluntary basis by church members with support from a team of part-time staff. They also encourage individual public service by our members which includes service on other charity boards, magistrates, school governors and prison workers.

Bless ensures that the public can benefit not only from community service activities but also by participating in church services and many other activities. Most activities are open to all irrespective of race, colour, origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age or disability. A few are restricted to one sex or age group by virtue of the subject matter or to specific groups as they provide training, for example for potential leaders or specific roles within the church. Accessibility to activities includes physical accessibility and the use of accessible venues wherever possible. By meeting at 'Christ the Saviour' Church of England Primary School on Sundays the church is visible to people who might not otherwise be aware of the charity, and all visitors are warmly welcomed. By choosing to meet in the school the church also contributes into the funds of the school through rent. Most activities are free although there is a fee for a few activities, such as church weekends; however, the church ensures that activities are accessible to all wherever possible through subsidies.

Objects and Activities

Objects

Bless's objects are to advance Christianity in the UK or overseas by proclaiming and furthering the gospel of Jesus Christ and promoting interdenominational Christian work. The church seeks to bless others of any or no faith and to live out Jesus' command to 'love God with all our heart and soul and mind, and to love our neighbours as we love ourselves'.

Spiritual Leadership

The Church Leader Tom Callister was commissioned into his new role on 7th January 2023, and has regularly met with a leadership team throughout the year. They guide the spiritual direction of the church and act as the organising body for Bless activities.

The leadership team have continued to draw from the Leader of Pioneer International for 'outside oversight', meeting him three times during the year, including individual feedback opportunities for each leader, to ensure the health of the team, and their ability to speak candidly about any concerns they might have.

The leadership team also drew from the Bless 'Advisers' group, meeting three times in 2023, for discussion and feedback in key vision areas of Church life, including the Church's mission, Funding / resource development, the development of Children and Families work, and other strategic topics.

The leadership team has begun discussions with three individuals about exploring senior leadership within the Church going forward. The plan for 2024 is that they would join the leadership team meetings once a month, to help expose them to that level of leadership experience, to gauge capacity, calling and team dynamics, before discerning together whether their involvement should be made permanent in 2025.

More widely, most church members are also volunteers. They share the work of the church whether in setting up the hall; welcoming visitors or managing the sound desk on a Sunday; leading or helping with the children's and youth work; teaching; helping lead worship; leading groups; providing hospitality; serving the community; or in one of many other tasks or roles without our gatherings and community.

Meetings

The church continues to have Sunday teaching which is designed to help us understand the practical aspects of being a Christian as well as developing our understanding of God through the Bible. Our teaching is accessible on the Bless website at www.blesscc.org and on YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=bless+community+church for anyone who wishes to hear it.

Bless also operate with mid-week Connect groups which enable members to share together, to encourage and support each other to grow in Jesus and serve him. The church runs weekly and occasional prayer meetings. Bless continues with a hybrid of face to face and online access, although encouragement to attend in person is now featured, to get the most out of being community together whenever possible.

Achievements and Performance

The aims for 2023 progressed as follows:

Church Overview

2023 was a year of significant growth for Bless Community Church.

- During 2023 the Church saw more visitors each week and new people joining.
- The Church is delighted to have seen a continued rise in the number of new international households that have joined, continuing to make the Church far more diverse and multicultural in its make up.
- On average at the end of 2023 there were around 60 people in person each week with another 5 or so devices live on YouTube.
- The charity also saw early fruits from a newly devised Children and Families '5 Year Plan' seeing the Children's work more than double in attendance, and far more engagement from 'fringe' families on Sundays, along with the birth of several babies within the Church, all playing their part in transforming the feel of our gatherings as a 'family Church'.

Leadership team and Governance

2023 was a year for consolidation and small but significant adjustments with a new Church leader (Tom Callister) in place after over 25 years of the previous incumbent (Linda Ward) in the role.

- The leader of Pioneer International met with the Bless leadership team throughout 2023 to provide input and support (see spiritual leadership report above).
- In relation to the trustees, (Madeline Bird (formerly Thomson) (chair), Angela Farmer, Jessica Livingstone and Timothy Paul Spencer) continued to closely monitor finances and worked through a rolling programme of compliance review of policies and procedures. In particular, whilst celebrating the work of the Basement project, we identified this as a significant safeguarding risk and requested a separate policy be written and adhered to. This was achieved by the end of 2023. A new regular report format was welcomed - enabling a much more streamlined production for annual report achievements. A 4% Cost of Living rise for our staff was agreed and implemented in 2024, and it was agreed to work towards recognition of Tom Callister's leadership and development to be reflected in a grade and salary uplift in 2025, when he will have been in post for 2 years.
- The staff continued to manage expenditure and reduce costs where possible due to the challenging financial position supported by the trustees.

Embracing God

- The Church continued to develop and grow diverse ways for people to encounter God together both through large gatherings, small groups, and virtual opportunities.
- Teaching for Sundays was planned a term ahead by the leadership team and they introduced several new meeting leaders and speakers to the team.
- 'Bless Little ones' continued as a great resource for our youngest children on Sunday mornings, and 'Bless Kids' was re-established for older children as a weekly resource for families. A new monthly 'Praise Party' for children was started, and the Church saw an increase in the frequency of 'Messy Church' Sunday meetings, which has seen a large increase in families from the community coming to Bless, often from Playtime and other family ministries, for the first time.
- The Children and Families pastor continued to meet parents on a one- to-one basis each week, and has established two new support groups for parents – Playtime Plus for parents of kids aged 1+ and a 'New Mum's group' for brand new parents.
- The leadership team appointed a new volunteer 'Worship Team' Leader. They have developed new team meetings, resources, and encouraged attendance at external training opportunities. They also organised a creative away day for members of the Church in Hampton Wick, which was well attended and featured teaching from an expert in this field.
- 'Bless Young Adults' (20-30s) group ran a monthly gathering called 'Spirit filled lives' which included a meal together, a talk from a member of the community to encourage a more holistic spiritual walk, and prayer opportunities.
- Bless hosted an 'Away Day' in January for Bless and invited fellow local Pioneer Churches 'Latymer' and 'Refresh Church Molesey' to join us, as we started the new year. We had a guest speaker who joined the churches to bring teaching that day.
- The Church have continued to develop monthly 'Embrace' evenings. The vision of Embrace is to bring the Church into a prophetic encounter with God through worship, prayer and the impartation of the Holy Spirit.
- Occasional Encounter Prayer sessions continued online with 6 – 10 people at each event and included those from other churches.
- The monthly prayer calendar continued to be used by many Church members.
- Bless developed a series of Podcasts to further equip and encourage the Church in its Christian teaching and understanding of the Bible.
- The Church also trialled a new form of Church worship called 'Wild Church' helping people engage with God through the outdoors, and nature. This has had a couple of trial sessions so far.
- Bless participated in a unity service with various Anglican Churches on Pentecost Sunday, contributing in the worship, teaching and prayer as a Church.
- In September Bless held a very special Celebration afternoon of Baptisms at which 3 young adults were baptised, which was attended by around 50 people.

Equipping the Church

- The 'Bless You' course - for newer attendees at Bless – was adapted from four sessions previously, to one condensed evening, which seemed to work well, especially for busy working adults.
- Connect groups, the business group, 20s to 30s, youth group and children and families' groups continued to do an excellent job at helping people connect and care for one another.
- The Church helped equip people wanting to explore Mission and Evangelism, with a 'Evangelism Training Day', which was attended by 24 people, with outside input.
- The teenagers continued to enjoy weekly sessions on a Wednesday with the youth team, looking at issues impacting them. Each young person continued to receive monthly sessions with a mentor too.
- One of the young people began a part time internship at Bless in September, with a focus on administration, technical development, and youth work. This internship was voluntary and unpaid. The intern has been provided with a mentor, line manager, and external training, provided by DNA.
- A new support group for creatives in the Church called 'The Space' was formed - and which met 4 times in 2023. This space helped encourage artists, writers, songwriters, poets, actors and musicians to creatively develop their gifts, and culminated in a private 'concert' for friends and family of new material written and presented.
- A new 'Village People' group for adults exploring having families, providing them with a space for discussion, support and advice was formed.
- The Church hosted a thank you 'cheese and wine' event in the summer to recognise, thank and celebrate all those who make Bless the community it is, with their volunteering and service.
- Members of the leadership team have strategically mentored some young leaders, as they further consider Church Leadership.

Blessing the City

- The Alpha course continued as a regular opportunity for people to explore faith and the big questions of life. Alpha ran twice in 2023 – in the Spring and Autumn. These courses were held in person, the autumn one at a new coffee shop managed by a member of Bless. The Autumn course was well attended and several of the cohort on the course have joined Bless as a result.
- The Church hosted a community 'Coronation' party with bouncy castle, face painting, free food, drink and music for the local community which was well attended.
- The Parent and Toddler group 'Playtime' continues to thrive. The group regularly has attracted up to 40 families a week. We have a strong team led by paid staff and assisted by volunteers.
- Alongside 'Playtime', a 'Playtime Plus' group has been formed - for parents looking to explore 'faith, family and friendship' – a small group with a manned creche and discussion space for parents to receive support from one another.
- An ever-increasing number of Playtime families attended "Messy Church" services. This was due in no small part to the hard work and relationships built by the Playtime team.
- Bless's youth leader, continued to visit Ealing Fields Secondary school with the church's intern, and began facilitating a weekly Alpha course there for students.

- Bless served weekly alongside other local Churches to facilitate the 'Winter Night Shelter' in the winter months of 2023.
- The Church held a special Family BBQ on Sunday 4th June, which was attended by around 75 people, including lots of our 'fringe' who we don't see very often. It was regarded as a fantastic Church family event.
- The 'Basement' youth café has continued to draw young people to its weekly sessions, with significant connections and contact made with over 200 teenagers in 2023. The charity successfully received further funding from the Young Ealing foundation and a Christian donor who donated £10k to the project which has helped pay for a lot of the activities run there.
- The 'Basement' young people were invited to a special Fireworks, Dinner, and Games night at Haven Green Baptist Church, which was attended by over 80 young people, and this was followed up with an invitation to our Christmas Carol Service, where over 20 young people attended Church for the first time in their lives.
- The Christmas services – 'Messy Christmas' and 'Christingle' for families, and our annual 'Carol Service', were attended in total by over 250 people, many of whom were guests new to Church and to Bless. Bless also connected with a local community gospel choir 'Sing Gospel' to help us lead the Carol Service. The Christmas events were a real highlight of the year and helped the Church engage more significantly with the local community.

Training Opportunities

- A large group from the Church attended the Annual Pioneer Leadership Conference in Southampton in the Spring. This conference encourages spiritual development, networking, and is regarded as a time of retreat and refreshing for leaders, both paid and volunteers. Over 12 Bless members attended.
- The leadership team attended a one-day conference run by Saint and KXC Churches on revival / awakening within the UK and Churches in the USA, which is helping to shape how we 'host the Holy Spirit' in our meetings and encourage freedom in worship.
- A couple of our leaders were invited to a Pioneer Retreat for young leaders, whilst members of the leadership team were invited to a 'Team Leaders' retreat' for Pioneer Church leaders.

West London Leaders

- Bless helped facilitate over 50 local church leaders meet regularly together with other local stakeholders (including the Police and Council) to discuss and potentially develop new local resources in various areas – with focuses on 'The Police', 'Youthwork' and two discussions on 'Mental Health and well-being', led by experts in their field.

Pioneer London Leaders' Gatherings

- Regular Church Leader gatherings were re-instigated, helping Pioneer Church leaders to gather for networking, support, prayer and strategic planning for the region.

Financial review

Reserves policy – We review our policy each year to ensure that our reserves will always cover the costs of all obligations if we had to close. Currently this figure is £20,664

Funding sources – Almost all our income is given by members and increased with Gift Aid. Most of this is given monthly. We also had a vision offering for the work of the church which in 2023 raised £13,851. Our Income excluding Grants dropped by £5,372.

We received the following grants:

Pathways £10,849

Young Ealing Fund £5,000

Just Sow £10,000

Expenditure - The largest single item of expenditure is on salaries and external contractors, followed by hall hire. Please see our financial statement for details. The annual budget, including all giving, is recommended by the Church Leader after consultation with the Leadership Team and approved by the trustees. We continue to keep a careful control on our expenditure and in 2023 our Income exceeded our expenditure by £3,455.

Plans for 2024

In addition to the ongoing work of the charity, the church have the following plans for 2024:

Church Overview

The leadership is keen to keep a focus on all three strands of our vision: Embracing God, Equipping the Church, and Blessing the City.

Overall, Bless is passionate about seeing the Church grow both spiritually in depth and numerically with new members. To achieve this, there will be a review of structural factors including – venue (do our venues remain fit for purpose – could the Church have more of a visible ‘home’?), how does the Church grow its income (through better discipleship and looking at charitable funding grants), and staffing (how does the Church run its operations?) in 2024 onwards.

Leadership team and Governance

- The Church is exploring widening our leadership team with three exceptional candidates meeting with the existing team to explore their leadership calling.
- The Trustees hope to recruit a new trustee and to ensure that as a charity it remains compliant, safe and holds to the objects of the charity. The trustees and leadership will continue to manage the expenditure and reduce costs where possible due to the challenging financial position.

Embrace God

- Bless are also planning a Weekend Away for the Church for January 2024, at Alexandra House near Swindon, with special guest speakers who head up Pioneer UK and Fusion. This will be in conjunction with Latymer and Refresh Churches from the Pioneer Network.
- The leadership want to ‘sharpen’ and ‘polish’ Sunday Morning gatherings – making sure communication, teaching and the ‘newcomer experience’ are the very best they possibly can be.
- The Church is keen to continue to develop a powerhouse culture of prayer.
- The Worship Team are keen to explore ideas of worship song writing and a possible ‘worship recording’ (album) to encourage creativity from our songwriters and musicians.
- The Church has a committed group of people skilled in the prophetic. They are hoping to train and equip others in the prophetic, and offer regular prophetic appointments in 2024.

Equip the Church

- There is a need to create at least two new Connect Groups to add capacity for those wanting to join midweek discipleship groups.
- The leadership would like to continue to invest in the next generation of leaders, with a new 'Women's Learning Community' and mentoring for key young leaders in 2024.
- The leadership are planning a special teaching series called 'The Life Course' which will feature in Sunday and Connect Group Teaching – around fully living for God in today's culture.
- There is a desire to support creatives through 'The Space' and see what might emerge in terms of new creative projects and work.

Bless the City

- Bless are keen to find new ways of connecting with the community – with community events in consideration including a summer BBQ with fun activities.
- The Basement Youth Club is thriving. The charity is keen to build stronger relationships with those teens who are regular, and is planning a number of overt faith sharing events, and are exploring the idea of a residential with the teenagers too.
- Our youth worker is also helping to coordinate Borough Wide Youth Work initiatives across the Churches in 2024, which may well include worship gatherings for young people, and more outreach events.

West London Leaders

- Bless continues to lead and influence the Unity movements of 'West London Leaders' and 'Pioneer London'.

Other Developments

- The charity is looking to explore buildings for a missional base for the Church to help the church be more accessible (particularly midweek) to our community.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

STATEMENT OF DIRECTOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Charities Act and the Companies Act require the Board of Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the Board is required to :-

- i. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ii. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- iii. prepare financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business;
- iv. state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.


The directors are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and comply with regulations made under the Charities Act. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The directors are also responsible for the contents of the Report of the Directors, and the responsibility of the independent examiner in relation to the Report of the Directors is limited to examining the report and ensuring that, on the face of the report, there are no inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

I approve the attached statement of financial activities and balance sheet for the period ended 31st December 2023, and confirm that I have made available all information necessary for its preparation.

Approved by the Directors on : 15 August 2024

Signed on their behalf by Director : 

Print Name: M Thomson

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2023.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the charity's trustees of the Company (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act).

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT


I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

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.

K Gomes MAAT FCIE
Independent Examiners Ltd
2 Broadbridge Business Centre
Delling Lane
Bosham
West Sussex
PO18 8NF

Signed :



Date: 15.8.24

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

(Incorporating Income & Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
INCOME						
Income from:						
Donations and Legacies	3a	121,904	13,576	2,636	138,116	158,857
Charitable Activities	3b	73	2,689	38,047	40,809	13,126
Other Income	3c	29	-	-	29	6
TOTAL INCOME		122,006	16,265	40,683	178,954	171,989
EXPENDITURE						
Expenditure on:						
Charitable Activities	4a	128,744	12,916	33,839	175,499	166,504
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		128,744	12,916	33,839	175,499	166,504
NET INCOME/ EXPENDITURE		(6,738)	3,349	6,844	3,455	5,485
Transfers between Funds		-	-	-	-	-
Funds Brought Forward		52,465	842	6,619	59,926	54,441
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		45,727	4,191	13,463	63,381	59,926

Movements on all reserves and all recognised gains and losses are shown above. All of the organisation's operations are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 16 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	31-Dec-23 Total	Restated 31-Dec-22 Total
Note	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	2,964	-	-	2,964	3,952
	<u>2,964</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,964</u>	<u>3,952</u>
Current Assets					
Debtors & Prepayments	27,699	-	-	27,699	8,705
Cash at Bank and in Hand	37,667	4,191	13,463	55,321	53,825
Total Current Assets	65,366	4,191	13,463	83,020	62,529
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(22,603)	-	-	(22,603)	(6,555)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	42,763	4,191	13,463	60,417	55,975
TOTAL ASSETS less current liabilities	45,727	4,191	13,463	63,381	59,926
NET ASSETS	45,727	4,191	13,463	63,381	59,926
Funds of the Charity					
General Funds	45,727	-	-	45,727	52,465
Designated Funds	-	4,191	-	4,191	842
Restricted Funds	-	-	13,463	13,463	6,619
Total Funds	45,727	4,191	13,463	63,381	59,926

Directors' Responsibilities:

For the financial year ending 31 December 23 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements on pages 14 to 21 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue and signed on their behalf by:

Approved by the Directors on : 15 August 2024

Signed on their behalf by Director



Print Name: M Thomson

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis of accounting in accordance with Charities Act 2011, Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2015), applicable accounting standards and Companies Act 2006. The accounts are prepared on an ongoing concern basis. The church meets the public benefit entity definition (FRS102). Restatement was not required in making the transition to FRS102. The date of transition was 1st January 2015.

Advantage has been taken of Section 396(5) of The Companies Act 2006 to allow the format of the financial statements to be adapted to reflect the special nature of the charity's operation and in order to comply with the requirements of the SORP.

The company has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement.

Changes in Accounting Policies and Previous Accounts

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year and no changes in the previous accounts.

Incoming Resources

Recognition of Incoming Resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the Directors are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming Resources with Related Expenditure

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resource and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.

Grants and Donations

Grants and Donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Tax Reclaims on Donations and Gifts

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SOFA in the same financial period as the gift to which they relate.

Contractual Income and Performance Related Grants

This is only included in the SOFA once the related goods or services has been delivered.

Gifts in Kind

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SOFA as incoming resources when received.

Donated Services and Facilities

These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

3. INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
a) Donations and Legacies					
Gifts & Donations	79,287	13,576	500	93,363	121,024
Gift Aid	21,425	-	2,136	23,561	24,322
Faith Target Income	21,192			21,192	13,511
	121,904	13,576	2,636	138,116	158,857
b) Income from other Charitable Activities					
Events Income	73	2,689	2,240	5,002	13,126
Grants	-	-	35,807	35,807	-
	73	2,689	38,047	40,809	13,126
Miscellaneous	29		-	29	6
	29	-	-	29	6

4. EXPENSES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
a) Expenditure on Charitable Activities					
Bank Charges & Interest	277	-	-	277	191
Children/Youth/Students Outreach	2,305	564	6,296	9,165	4,570
Church Giving	-	10,593	11,909	22,502	25,563
Depreciation	988	-	-	988	1,439
Events	6,204	1,119	2,397	9,720	15,226
Hall Hire	12,764	-	920	13,684	10,698
Hospitality	1,350	-	-	1,350	1,642
Independent Examiners Fee	1,056	-	-	1,056	1,153
Insurance	748	-	-	748	739
Loss on disposal of asset	-	-	-	-	367
Miscellaneous	606	-	-	606	650
Office	1,452	-	-	1,452	3,858
PA/Music	642	-	-	642	561
Payroll Expenses	94,861	-	11,183	106,044	93,322
Publicity	1,707	-	-	1,707	1,367
Speakers	120	-	-	120	520
Telephone	43	-	-	43	422
Training	2,975	640	1,053	4,668	3,279
Travel	646	-	81	727	936
	128,744	12,916	33,839	175,499	166,504

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

5. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance 01-Jan-22 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Dec-23 £
Away Day 2023	-	2,081	2,081	-	-
Bursary Fund	235	-	-	-	235
Youth Work Grant - Just Sow Ten	- 37	10,160	4,566	-	5,594
Wedding	(312)	300	-	-	(12)
Pathways	2,491	10,849	10,931	-	2,409
DNA/Training	-	1,825	976	-	849
Youth Ealing Fund	-	5,000	612	-	4,388
Special Needs	959	9,604	10,563	-	-
Basement Youth Café	2,764	-	2,764	-	-
Gift -Linda Ward	445	864	1,309	-	-
	6,619	40,683	33,839	-	13,463

The restricted funds are wholly represented by the Charity's cash reserves.

6. DESIGNATED FUNDS

	Balance 01-Jan-22 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Dec-23 £
Bless Time church meetings	-	512	512	-	-
Church Giving	27	13,576	10,593	-	3,010
Faith Sharing Workshop	-	82	82	-	-
Creative Day	-	67	67	-	-
Pioneer events	40	756	640	-	156
Playtime	629	814	564	-	879
West London Leaders	-	458	458	-	-
Youth Summer Camp	146	-	-	-	146
	842	16,265	12,916	-	4,191

The designated funds are wholly represented by the Charity's cash reserves.

Church Giving - The church allocates 10% of unrestricted voluntary receipts for this purpose.

7. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 31-Dec-23 £	Restated Total 31-Dec-22 £
Current Account	37,667	4,191	13,463	55,321	53,825
	37,667	4,191	13,463	55,321	53,825

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

8. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 31-Dec-23 £	Total 31-Dec-22 £
Prepayments	14,289	-	-	14,289	3,101
Other Debtors	13,410	-	-	13,410	5,604
	27,699	-	-	27,699	8,705

9. CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 31-Dec-23 £	Total 31-Dec-22 £
Accounts Payable	185	-	-	185	367
Accruals and Prepaid Income	22,415	-	-	22,415	6,022
Payroll Liabilities	3	-	-	3	165
	22,603	-	-	22,603	6,555

10. CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE IN MORE THAN ONE YEAR

There were no Creditors or Accruals falling due in more than one year during this financial year (2022: None).

11. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

	2023 £	2022 £
Gross Wages and Salaries	103,506	90,959
Employer's National Insurance Costs	-	-
Pension	1,295	985
Other	1,243	1,378
	106,044	93,322

Employees who were engaged in each of the following activities:
(Full time equivalent)

	2023 TOTAL	2022 TOTAL
Activities in furtherance of organisation's objects	2	1.8
Management and administration	0.4	0.3
Total	2.4	2

No employees (2022: None) received emoluments in excess of £60,000. Staff are paid through the PAYE system.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**

12. DIRECTORS AND OTHER RELATED PARTIES

No payments were made to directors or any persons connected with them during this financial period. No material transaction took place between the organisation and a trustee or any person connected with them.

Donations received from the trustees and related parties during the year were £13,895(2022: £12,772)

13. RISK ASSESSMENT

The directors actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated, combined with the annual review of the controls over key financial systems carried out on an annual basis will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The directors have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

14. RESERVES POLICY

See Report of the Directors.

15. PUBLIC BENEFIT

See Report of the Directors .

BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1145615

Accounts

BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
ANNUAL REPORT
AND
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

COMPANY REGISTRATION No: 07886329

CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1145615

Independent Examiners Ltd
2 Broadridge Business Centre
Delling Lane
Bosham
West Sussex
PO18 8NF

BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER: 1145615

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 07886329

DATE OF INCORPORATION: 19th December 2011

START OF FINANCIAL YEAR: 1st January 2022

END OF FINANCIAL YEAR: 31st December 2022

DIRECTORS: Angie Farmer, Timothy Paul Spencer, Madeline Thomson, Jessica Livingstone, Martin Truss

CHURCH LEADER Linda Ward

GOVERNING DOCUMENT Memorandum and Articles of Association Incorporated 19th December 2011.

OBJECTS

To advance the Christian religion either in the United Kingdom or overseas and furtherance of that objective:

a) The proclamation and furtherance of the Gospel of God concerning his son Jesus Christ our Lord and the preaching and teaching of the Word of God.

b) The organisation sponsorship and promotion of interdenominational Christian work throughout the United Kingdom and elsewhere the object of which shall be:

i. To seek to present the Gospel to every creature by every means possible and lead men and women and children to saving faith by our Lord Jesus Christ and help and encourage them in the service of God.

ii. To promote, organise and conduct meetings for this purpose.

WEBSITE: www.blesscc.org

REGISTERED ADDRESS AND PRINCIPAL OFFICE:

Grove Mews, 42 The Grove, Ealing, London, W5 5LH

BANKERS: Barclays Bank plc, 53 The Broadway, Ealing, London, W5 5JS

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER: Independent Examiners Ltd, 2 Broadbridge Business Centre, Delling Lane, Bosham, West Sussex

Bless Community Church

Annual Report of the Trustees 2022

Overview

Bless Community Church is a charismatic community church in West London and part of the Pioneer Network. The church has a vision to live up to its name and Bless our City. We encourage people to embrace the love shown through the person of Jesus and endeavour to equip people for Christian life in the 21st Century.

We seek to follow Jesus by sharing the gospel, worshipping, serving, learning, and sharing life together. We are deeply involved in our local community, often taking a leading role in ecumenical inter-church activities and also within the Pioneer Network and Pioneer London Region.

We meet in person at Christ the Saviour Church of England Primary School in the heart of Ealing but also have an online presence. For more information or to contact us go to www.blesscc.org.

Structure, governance, and management

Bless Community Church (Bless) is a charitable company (no: 07886329) under memorandum and articles of association dated 23rd October 2011 and a registered charity (no: 1145615).

Trustees normally serve for three years after which they can put themselves forward for reappointment by the board of trustees for two further terms. New trustees are recruited from Bless members by interview. The induction and training of trustees is set out in the Trustee Agreement and will vary according to the needs of the individual trustee. In addition, training is provided for specific areas such as safeguarding, GDPR and other legal changes. We carry out biennial trustee reviews and provide in-house or external training as necessary.

We delegate the day-to-day work of Bless to the staff led by the Church Leader and Leadership Team, assisted by a large number of church members acting in a voluntary capacity. We make decisions needed between the quarterly trustees' meetings by extra meetings, usually telephone or Zoom conference calls.

We are aware of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. We review the financial position at each meeting of trustees and take action accordingly. We continue to develop policies and procedures to manage risk and use risk map analysis for review and action, reviewing this annually. We updated our Safeguarding Policies in April 2021 alongside which we updated our Safeguarding Statement which can be found on our website <https://blesscc.org/safeguarding>. We reviewed this policy in April 2022. We also have a related Social Media policy with a statement, also on our website. <https://blesscc.org/social-media-statement>

Bless is a part of the Pioneer Network and of the Evangelical Alliance. Bless also plays a significant role in the interdenominational activities of churches in West London both in leadership and through the service of Bless members.

Public Benefit

The trustees consider that the work of the charity continues to comply with S4 of the Charities Act 2006. It is considered that the following summary of our activities demonstrates their public benefit.

We are a Christian Church that is part of and active in our local community. We hold meetings of worship, prayer, proclamation, encouragement and teaching about the good news of Jesus Christ both in person and online. We proclaim the gospel together with other churches. We provide training courses and special events. We run groups and activities for children, youth and adults both within the church and open to anyone in the community. We are actively involved in serving the community with other churches through Ealing Street

Pastors, the Churches' Winter Night Shelters in Ealing, and Ealing Foodbank, youth work and through other local charities and organisations. We support the work of specific organisations, other churches and those working in line with our objects both locally and internationally. We support church members in short- and long-term Christian work overseas. Many visitors, both Christian and non-Christian, attend our church services and events. All the activities described above, and others are carried out on an unpaid voluntary basis by our members with support from a team of part-time staff. We also encourage individual public service by our members which includes service on other charity boards, magistrates, school governors and prison workers.

We ensure that the public can benefit not only from our community service activities but also by participating in our church services and many of our activities. Most of our activities are open to all irrespective of race, colour, origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age or disability. A few are restricted by virtue of the subject matter or to specific groups as they provide training, for example for potential leaders or specific roles within the church. Accessibility to our activities includes physical accessibility and the use of accessible venues wherever possible. By meeting at 'Christ the Saviour' Church of England Primary School on Sundays we are visible to people who might not otherwise be aware of us and all visitors are warmly welcomed. By choosing to meet in the school we also contribute into the funds of the school through our rent. Most activities are free although we charge a nominal fee or the actual cost for a few activities, such as church weekends; however, we ensure that our activities are accessible to all wherever possible through subsidies.

Objects and Activities

Objects

Our objects are to advance Christianity in the UK or overseas by proclaiming and furthering the gospel of Jesus Christ and promoting interdenominational Christian work. We seek to bless others of any or no faith and to live out Jesus' command to love God with all our heart and soul and mind and to love our neighbours as we love ourselves.

Spiritual Leadership

Our Church Leader in 2022 - Linda Ward - continued to meet regularly with the leadership team, comprising of Ian Brown, Jacob Simpson and Tom Callister. Together they guided the spiritual direction of the church and acted as the organising body for Bless activities.

Over the last few years, Linda Ward, Tom Callister, Jacob Simpson and Ian Brown have been exploring (with Chair of Trustees, trustees and some advisors) leadership succession for Linda. Linda had been slowly releasing more responsibility to Tom Callister over the past few years, with Tom acting as Associate Leader of the Church in this period. In 2022 this leadership discernment process accelerated at a strategy retreat on 25-26 January 2022 when Tom said he felt ready to take on the role of team leader.

The leadership team continued to meet on 28th March, 9th May and 24th August, specifically to continue the future leadership discernment process. Billy Kennedy (the Church's 'Pioneer Oversight') met the team on 18th May 2022 to give outside oversight and support to the process.

The Bless Advisors met on 9th July 2022 whereby the leadership team updated the Advisors that Linda would like to step back from her Team Leader role, and seeking input from the Advisors around the suggestion that Tom Callister becomes the next leader of Bless supported by a leadership team of his choice. The advisors were very supportive of Tom and his call to leadership, and extremely thankful for Linda's years of service as Team Leader.

This news was then brought to the church at Bless Time Monday 5th September 2022 whereby the whole church could be involved in this process of discernment. This was not to ask the church to vote but rather consider, pray and feedback thoughts and perspectives.

Tom Callister then met with the leadership and a couple of advisors to hear feedback from this process on 24th October 2022 and finalise Tom taking on the role of Leader of Bless Community Church from 7th January 2023.

Linda Ward agreed to stay on the leadership team at the request of Tom.

The Church also began planning a celebratory event marking Linda Ward's 26 years of leadership of the Church, which would take place on the evening of 6th January 2023.

Wider Leadership

More widely, most church members are also volunteers. They share the work of the church whether in setting up the hall; welcoming visitors or managing the sound desk on a Sunday; leading or helping with the children's and youth work; teaching; helping lead worship; leading groups; providing hospitality; serving the community; or in one of many other tasks or roles.

Meetings

We continue to meet on Sunday Mornings, for worship, prayer and teaching which is designed to help us understand the practical aspects of being a Christian as well as developing our understanding of God through the Bible.

Our teaching is accessible on the Bless website at www.blesscc.org and on you tube at https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=bless+community+church for anyone who wishes to hear it.

We continue with mid-week connect groups which enable members to share together, to encourage and support each other to grow in Jesus and serve him. We run weekly and occasional prayer meetings including Embrace evenings of exploration in worship, prayer, and prophecy.

Achievements and Performance

Our aims for 2022 progressed as follows:

Church Overview

2022 was a year of growth and a time of significant change for Bless Community Church.

- During 2022 we saw numerous visitors each week and a number of new people joining the church. A number of households have joined Bless with many different nationalities represented, making the Church far more multicultural in its make up.
- The Church successfully navigated a huge change in its senior leadership, Linda Ward having led various iterations of the Church for around 26 years previously.
- On average at the end of 2022 there were 50/60 people in person each week with another 5-10 devices live on you tube and zooms pre and post meeting so approximately 60-70 people each week live. Subsequently, many access our services through you tube.

Leadership team and Governance

- 2022 was a significant time of transition and planning for the future leadership of the Church, with Linda Ward preparing to step back from overall leadership of the Church, and this responsibility being passed onto the Associate Leader, Tom Callister.
- Billy Kennedy from Pioneer regularly met with the leadership team throughout 2022 to provide input and support through the leadership discernment process (see spiritual leadership report above).

- Maddy Thomson, chair of trustees, regularly met with Linda Ward during this period to support the development of the transition process from a governance and management perspective.
- The trustees worked through a rolling programme of compliance review of policies as well as introducing new feedback opportunities for various key leaders at Trustee meetings.
- The staff continued to manage our expenditure and reduce costs where possible due to the challenging financial position supported by the trustees.
- We continued to negotiate a 50% reduction in our office rent which ran until June 2022. We then agreed to work without any office space as most staff were used to working from home, due to COVID, allowing us to make a significant budget saving.
- We started a new monthly staff gathering for operations.
- We deliver fortnightly newsletters, designing key publicity and publications for the Church, and continuing to update and develop our website.

Embracing God

- We continued to develop and grow diverse ways for people to encounter God together both through large gatherings, small groups and virtual opportunities.
- Teaching for Sundays were planned a term ahead by the leadership team and we introduced a number of new meeting leaders and speakers to our team. This included young adults (in their 20s and 30s) participating in that way for the first time. Themes included a series on 'Living free from... (past, addiction, porn etc)'; a series on Pioneer Values and a Series on 'Unexpected Heroes from the Bible'.
- Bless Little ones and the creche developed well with the team of volunteers growing. A regular team of helpers who read a bible story, craft, and free play during the service for the little ones, was created.
- Bless kids met on Sunday evenings prior to Embrace, being led by Ann Clifford in a local cafe.
-
- Our Children and Families pastor has continued to meet parents or nannies on a one- to-one basis most weeks. These are either a parent or nanny that has shown a particular interest in meeting or someone who might need additional support.
- Bless Young Adults (20-30s) group has continued to build a sense of community and belonging through socials, such as summer BBQs, games nights and worship evenings.
- We hosted a Weekend Away for Bless on 14th - 16th Jan 2022 and invited fellow local Pioneer Churches 'Latymer' and the leadership of 'Refresh Church Molesey' to join us at Ashburnham. We focussed on a theme of 'Deeper Discipleship' and had input from Guest speakers for adults and youth. Around 94 people attended the weekend.
- We continue to develop our monthly 'Embrace' evenings. The vision of which was to bring the Church into a prophetic encounter with God through worship, prayer and the impartation of the Holy Spirit.
- Monthly Encounter Prayer sessions continued online with 6 – 12 at each event and including those from other churches. These were led by Greg and Cheryl George.
- Our monthly prayer calendar created and prepared by Hazel Vinson, continued to be used by many Church members.

Equipping the Church

- We instigated a new course called 'Bless You' – a course for newer attendees at Bless – where they could get to know more about the Church, its vision and values, and ask questions about how they could get involved. Each Bless You course would take place over four sessions, with meals provided at each. Once newcomers had attended Bless You, they'd then be placed in Connect Groups.
- Our connect groups, business group, 20s to 30s youth group and children and families continued to do an excellent job connecting and caring for one another.
- The Church helped equip people wanting to explore a teaching gift, with a 'Preaching Training Day, on 17th September, which was attended by 18 people, both experienced and inexperienced in public speaking – all of whom had the opportunity to speak publicly on the day and receive peer to peer feedback.
- Our teenagers continued to enjoy weekly sessions on a Wednesday with our youth worker, and our youth team, looking at issues impacting them. Each young person continued to receive monthly sessions with a mentor too.

Blessing the City

- The Alpha course continued as a regular termly offer for people to explore faith and the big questions of life. We continued to run Alpha Courses as planned, three times throughout the year – Spring, Summer and Autumn. The Summer and Autumn Courses were held in person, while the Spring course was largely on zoom.
- There was a successful 'Alpha Reunion' in July for everyone who attended Alpha during COVID.
- Our Parent and Toddler group 'Playtime' funded by a grant from a local charity Pathways continues to thrive. The group regularly has attracted up to 30 families a week. In September we initiated a new group called Playtime Plus for parents looking to explore 'faith, family and friendship'. A small group with a creche and discussion space for parents to receive support from one another.
- A good number of Playtime families attended our "Messy Christmas" service. This was due in no small part to the hard work and relationships built by the Playtime team.
- Our youth leader continued to visit Ealing Fields Secondary school and continued to facilitate a Christian fellowship group there called 'Table Talk'.
- In September, we opened a new youth outreach work called 'The Basement Youth Café'. This drew an average of 30-35 kids each week - playing games consoles, table tennis, board games, drawing, and chatting to youth workers. We successfully received funding from the Young Ealing foundation which helped pay for a lot of the activities run there.

West London Leaders

- The core team of church leaders continued to meet monthly planning towards a recovery and reconstruction phase beyond COVID in 2023.
- We participated in Movement for recovery, a pan London network sharing priorities and resources across churches, councils, and the mayor.

Other developments

- We continued to financially support a particular individual in a challenging situation which we hoped to see resolved by the end of 2022. As of January 2023, this case was still ongoing. Review of the Churches support regularly occurred at a leadership, trustee and advisor level.

Financial review

Reserves policy – In 2022 we reviewed our policy to ensure that our reserves will always cover the costs of all obligations if we had to close. Currently this figure is £29,391

Funding sources – The majority of our income is given by members and increased with Gift Aid. Most of this is given monthly.

Our income for 2022 was £171,989

We received the following grants:

- Pathways £8,500 for our Parent and Toddler Group Playtime and our parent support group Playtime Plus
- Young Ealing Foundation £5,000 for the Basement Youth Cafe

Expenditure - The largest single item of expenditure is on salaries and external contractors, followed by hall hire. Please see our financial statement for details. The annual budget, including all giving, is recommended by the Church Leader after consultation with the Leadership Team and approved by the trustees. We continue to keep careful control on our expenditure and in 2022.

Our expenditure in 2022 was £166,504

Total funds as of 31st December 2022 of £59,926

Plans for 2023

In addition to the ongoing work of the church we have the following plans for 2023:

Church Overview

We are keen to keep a focus on all three strands of our vision: Embracing God, Equipping the Church, and Blessing the City.

Overall, we are passionate about seeing the Church growth both spiritually in depth and numerically with new members. To achieve this, we will review structural factors including:

Venue - do our venues remain fit for purpose – could we have more of a visible home?

How we grow our income - through better discipleship and looking at charitable funding grants

Staffing - how do we run our operations in 2023 onwards?

Leadership team and Governance

- We are planning the transition of leadership from Linda Ward to Tom Callister on Sunday 7th January, with a commissioning of the re-organised Leadership Team that day. Leaders from the Pioneer Network are expected to attend.

- We are also committed to train and release new leaders into the Leadership Team, and are planning a retreat in the summer of 2023 to explore potential leadership candidates, ideas and options.
- We hope to recruit a new trustee and continue to ensure that as a charity we are compliant, safe and hold to the objects of the charity. We will continue to manage our expenditure and reduce costs where possible due to the challenging financial position.
- The Trustees and Leadership will review our admin needs early in 2023 and aim to release a few hours paid work per week, for existing staff members to take on some limited admin work to support the administration of the Church. This will be reviewed in the autumn. Funding to fully cover a more developed role of 'operations administrator' was not deemed to be possible as of the end of 2022.
- The leadership plan to start a new Ministry Leads meeting to help engage and develop key unpaid volunteers in significant leadership roles within the Church.

Embrace God

- We are planning a New Year 'Away Day' themed 'Yesterday, Today and Forever' with Refresh Church and Latymer Christian Fellowship, with guest speaker – Pete Gilbert, and worship leader Luke Hamlyn, at a Church near Syon Park in Isleworth.
- We are also planning a full residential weekend away for the Church for January 2024, at Alexandra House near Swindon.
- We want to review our Children and families Ministries - developing a five-year plan in conjunction with parents and the leadership, to see significant and sustained growth in this area.
- We are keen to develop a powerhouse culture of prayer in the Church, weaving it more thoroughly through our gatherings and increasing the profile of prayer in the Church.
- We are looking to appoint a key volunteer in the role of 'Worship Team Leader' early in 2023 to give fresh leadership to our singers and musicians.
- We are keen to release and encourage 'creatives' within the church – planning an away day and investment in Songwriting, art, poetry etc.
- We want to re-establish a 'cafe' hospitality team after our Sunday gatherings to encourage deeper relationships and foster a sense of family and welcome.

Equip the Church

- There are plans for monthly Bless Young Adults 'Spirit-Filled Lives' evenings, which we are hoping to begin in the new year. These evenings seek to ignite the pursuit of a spirit-filled life and fan the flame of those already living in that pursuit through eating together, inviting someone from the wider Church to explore with us a subject surrounding what it looks like to live spirit-filled, and spending time inviting the Holy Spirit to fill us.
- We are hoping to do a 'soft' relaunch of Connect Groups – with easy to use teaching provided centrally by the leadership team which would largely compliment the Sunday morning teaching schedule, and at least two new groups created to add capacity for those wanting to join midweek connect groups.
- We are planning more 'Bless You' courses to clear a backlog of people wanting to join connect groups and find out more about Bless. Tom Callister and Maddy Thomson will be taking this on from Rich and Linda Ward, streamlining the course.

- We'd like to continue to invest in the next generation of leaders, with a new 'Women's Learning Community' and mentoring for key young leaders in 2023.
- We'd like to develop a new 'Village People' group for adults exploring having families, providing them with a space for discussion, support and advice.

Bless the City

- We are keen to upskill the church in Evangelism and a missional mindset
- We are planning a significant focus on 'Sharing Faith' throughout the Spring term, both in Connect Group and through a special one-off training day.
- With The Basement Youth Club continuing to attract on average around 30-40 teenagers each week, we are keen to build stronger relationships with those teens who are 'regulars', and we are planning a number of overt faith sharing events, and are exploring the idea of a residential with the teenagers too. We intend to apply for grants to further fund this work.
- We'd love to encourage more engagement and interaction with our local community – through 'festival style' family friendly events.

West London Leaders

- We continue to lead and influence in the Unity movements of 'West London Leaders' and 'Pioneer London,' with Linda Ward helping to re-establish these gatherings, post COVID.
- West London Leaders are planning 3 / 4 meetings in person in 2023, with a focus at the spring meeting on engagement with the police and a summer focus on youth work in the Borough.

Other Developments

- We are looking to explore buildings for a missional base for the Church to help us be more accessible (particularly midweek) to our community.
- We are investigating greater connections with Latymer and Refresh Churches in our Network, and they are both looking at deepening relationships, including joining us for a Weekend Away in 2024.

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

STATEMENT OF DIRECTOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Charities Act and the Companies Act require the Board of Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the Board is required to :-

- i. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ii. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- iii. prepare financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business;
- iv. state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The directors are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and comply with regulations made under the Charities Act. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The directors are also responsible for the contents of the Report of the Directors, and the responsibility of the independent examiner in relation to the Report of the Directors is limited to examining the report and ensuring that, on the face of the report, there are no inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

I approve the attached statement of financial activities and balance sheet for the period ended 31st December 2022, and confirm that I have made available all information necessary for its preparation.

Approved by the Directors on9/9/23.....

Signed on their behalf by Director 

Print Name: MADELINE THOMSON

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2022.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the charity's trustees of the Company (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act).

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

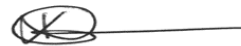
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

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.

K Gomes MAAT FCIE
Independent Examiners Ltd
2 Broadbridge Business Centre
Delling Lane
Bosham
West Sussex
PO18 8NF

Signed :



Date: 11.9.23

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

(Incorporating Income & Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	TOTAL 2021 £
INCOME						
Income from:						
Donations and Legacies	3a	132,648	1,579	24,630	158,857	130,403
Charitable Activities	3b	-	13,126	-	13,126	10,862
Other Income	3c	6	-	-	6	4,620
TOTAL INCOME		132,654	14,705	24,630	171,989	145,885
EXPENDITURE						
Expenditure on:						
Charitable Activities	4a	126,425	18,261	21,818	166,504	145,959
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		126,425	18,261	21,818	166,504	145,959
NET INCOME/ EXPENDITURE		6,229	(3,556)	2,812	5,485	(74)
Transfers between Funds		305	(305)	-	-	-
Funds Brought Forward		45,931	4,703	3,807	54,441	54,515
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		52,465	842	6,619	59,926	54,441

Movements on all reserves and all recognised gains and losses are shown above. All of the organisation's operations are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 16 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31-Dec-22 Total £	31-Dec-21 Total £
Fixed Assets						
Tangible Assets	2	3,952	-	-	3,952	4,708
		<u>3,952</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,952</u>	<u>4,708</u>
Current Assets						
Debtors & Prepayments	8	5,517	3,188	-	8,705	6,603
Cash at Bank and in Hand	7	44,800	112	8,913	53,825	61,946
Total Current Assets		50,316	3,300	8,913	62,529	68,549
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(1,803)	(2,458)	(2,294)	(6,555)	(18,816)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		48,514	842	6,619	55,975	49,733
TOTAL ASSETS less current liabilities		52,465	842	6,619	59,926	54,441
NET ASSETS		52,465	842	6,619	59,926	54,441
Funds of the Charity						
General Funds		52,465	-	-	52,465	45,931
Designated Funds	6	-	842	-	842	4,703
Restricted Funds	5	-	-	6,619	6,619	3,807
Total Funds		52,465	842	6,619	59,926	54,441

Directors' Responsibilities:

For the financial year ending 31 December 22 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements on pages 14 to 21 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue and signed on their behalf by:

Approved by the Directors on : 09/09/2023

Signed on their behalf by Director



Print Name: M Thomson

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis of accounting in accordance with Charities Act 2011, Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2015), applicable accounting standards and Companies Act 2006. The accounts are prepared on an ongoing concern basis. The church meets the public benefit entity definition (FRS102). Restatement was not required in making the transition to FRS102. The date of transition was 1st January 2015.

Advantage has been taken of Section 396(5) of The Companies Act 2006 to allow the format of the financial statements to be adapted to reflect the special nature of the charity's operation and in order to comply with the requirements of the SORP.

The company has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement.

Changes in Accounting Policies and Previous Accounts

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year and no changes in the previous accounts.

Incoming Resources

Recognition of Incoming Resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the Directors are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming Resources with Related Expenditure

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resource and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.

Grants and Donations

Grants and Donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Tax Reclaims on Donations and Gifts

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SOFA in the same financial period as the gift to which they relate.

Contractual Income and Performance Related Grants

This is only included in the SOFA once the related goods or services has been delivered.

Gifts in Kind

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SOFA as incoming resources when received.

Donated Services and Facilities

These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

3. INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	TOTAL 2021 £
a) Donations and Legacies					
Gifts & Donations	110,235	1,579	9,210	121,024	99,369
Gift Aid	22,413	-	1,909	24,322	22,774
Grants	-	-	13,511	13,511	8,260
	132,648	1,579	24,630	158,857	130,403

b) Income from other Charitable Activities

Events Income	-	13,126	-	13,126	487
Grants	-	-	-	-	10,135
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	240
	-	13,126	-	13,126	10,862
Coronavirus Job Retention scheme	-	-	-	-	4,594
Miscellaneous	6	-	-	6	26
	6	-	-	6	4,620

4. EXPENSES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2022 £	TOTAL 2021 £
a) Expenditure on Charitable Activities					
Bank Charges & Interest	191	-	-	191	88
Children/Youth/Students Outreach	1,520	624	2,426	4,570	1,565
Church Giving	12,375	3,790	9,398	25,563	19,437
Depreciation	1,439	-	-	1,439	1,720
Events	1,279	13,181	765	15,226	1,294
External Contractors	-	-	-	-	26,679
Hall Hire	10,578	-	120	10,698	10,025
Hospitality	1,642	-	-	1,642	1,398
Independent Examiners Fee	1,153	-	-	1,153	1,177
Insurance	739	-	-	739	733
Loss on disposal of asset	367	-	-	367	571
Miscellaneous	90	-	560	650	171
Office	3,858	-	-	3,858	3,922
PA/Music	561	-	-	561	2,016
Payroll Expenses	85,613	-	7,709	93,322	69,467
Publicity	1,367	-	-	1,367	2,215
Speakers	520	-	-	520	450
Telephone	422	-	-	422	473
Training	1,774	666	840	3,279	2,139
Travel	936	-	-	936	420
	126,425	18,261	21,818	166,504	145,959

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

5. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance 01-Jan-21 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Dec-22 £
J Simpson	-	850	850	-	-
Bursary Fund	1,000	-	765	-	235
Books & Training	300	-	300	-	-
Ten	-	670	633	-	37
Wedding	-	248	560	-	(312)
Pathways	1,375	8,511	7,394	-	2,491
DNA/Training	340	-	340	-	-
Egypt	-	240	240	-	-
Special Needs	792	8,666	8,500	-	959
Basement Youth Café	-	5,000	2,236	-	2,764
Gift -Linda Ward	-	445	-	-	445
	3,807	24,630	21,818	-	6,619

The restricted funds are wholly represented by the Charity's cash reserves.

6. DESIGNATED FUNDS

	Balance 01-Jan-21 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Dec-22 £
Bless Time church meetings	56	506	562	-	-
Church Giving	3,817	-	3,790	-	27
Gazebo fund	305	-	-	305	-
Pioneer events	41	665	666	-	40
Playtime	485	768	624	-	629
Weekend at Home	-	12,587	12,587	-	-
Youth Summer Camp	-	146	-	-	146
Preaching Workshop	-	33	33	-	-
	4,703	14,705	18,261	305	842

The designated funds are wholly represented by the Charity's cash reserves.

Church Giving - The church allocates 10% of unrestricted voluntary receipts for this purpose.

7. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 31-Dec-22 £	Total 31-Dec-21 £
Current Account	44,800	112	8,913	53,825	61,946
	44,800	112	8,913	53,825	61,946

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

8. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 31-Dec-22 £	Total 31-Dec-21 £
Prepayments	308	2,793	-	3,101	2,112
Other Debtors	5,209	395	-	5,604	4,491
	5,517	3,188	-	8,705	6,603

9. CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 31-Dec-22 £	Total 31-Dec-21 £
Accounts Payable	367	-	-	367	4,470
Accruals and Prepaid Income	1,270	2,458	2,294	6,022	12,220
Payroll Liabilities	165	-	-	165	2,126
	1,803	2,458	2,294	6,555	18,816

10. CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE IN MORE THAN ONE YEAR

There were no Creditors or Accruals falling due in more than one year during this financial year (2021: None).

11. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

	2022 £	2021 £
Gross Wages and Salaries	65,054	68,240
Employer's National Insurance Costs	-	-
Pension	985	857
Other	1,378	370
	67,416	69,467

Employees who were engaged in each of the following activities:
(Full time equivalent)

	2022 TOTAL	2021 TOTAL
Activities in furtherance of organisation's objects	1.75	1.5
Management and administration	0.25	1.0
Total	2	2.5

No employees (2021: None) received emoluments in excess of £60,000. Staff are paid through the PAYE system.

BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1145615

Accounts

**BLESS
COMMUNITY CHURCH**

**ANNUAL REPORT
AND
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

COMPANY REGISTRATION No: 07886329

CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1145615

Independent Examiners Ltd
2 Broadbridge Business Centre
Delling Lane
Bosham
West Sussex
PO18 8NF

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

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Page 11	Statement of Financial Activities.
Page 12	Balance Sheet.
Pages 13 to 18	Notes to the Financial Statements.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER	1145615
COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER	07886329
DATE OF INCORPORATION	19th December 2011
START OF FINANCIAL YEAR	1st January 2021
END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	31st December 2021
DIRECTORS	Fiona Coady (Resigned 25th January 2021) Angie Farmer Timothy Paul Spencer Madeline Thomson Martin Truss Jessica Livingstone (appointed 25th January 2021)
CHURCH LEADER	Linda Ward
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Memorandum and Articles of Association Incorporated 19th December 2011.
OBJECTS	<p>To advance the Christian religion either in the United Kingdom or overseas and furtherance of that objective:</p> <p>a) The proclamation and furtherance of the Gospel of God concerning his son Jesus Christ our Lord and the preaching and teaching of the Word of God.</p> <p>b) The organisation sponsorship and promotion of interdenominational Christian work throughout the United Kingdom and elsewhere the object of which of which shall be:</p> <p>i. To seek to present the Gospel to every creature by every means possible and lead men and women and children to saving faith by our Lord Jesus Christ and help and encourage them in the service of God.</p> <p>ii. To promote organise and conduct meetings for this purpose.</p>
WEBSITE	www.blesscc.org
REGISTERED ADDRESS	Grove Mews 42 The Grove Ealing London W5 5LH
BANKERS	Barclays Bank plc 53 The Broadway Ealing London W5 5JS
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Independent Examiners Ltd 2 Broadbridge Business Centre Delling Lane Bosham West Sussex

Bless Community Church

Annual Report of the Trustees 2021

Overview

Bless Community Church is a charismatic community church in West London and part of the Pioneer Network. The church has a vision to live up to its name and bless the city. We encourage people to embrace the love shown through the person of Jesus and endeavour to equip people for Christian life in the 21st Century.

We seek to follow Jesus by sharing the gospel, worshipping, serving, learning, and sharing life together. We are deeply involved in our local community often taking a leading role in ecumenical inter-church activities and also within the Pioneer Network and Pioneer London Region.

We meet in person at Christ the Saviour Church of England Primary School in the heart of Ealing but also now have an online presence. For more information or to contact us go to www.blesscc.org.

Structure, governance, and management

Bless Community Church (Bless) is a charitable company (no: 07886329) under memorandum and articles of association dated 23rd October 2011 and a registered charity (no: 1145615).

Trustees normally serve for three years after which they can put themselves forward for reappointment by the board of trustees for two further terms. New trustees are recruited from Bless members by interview. The induction and training of trustees is set out in the Trustee Agreement and will vary according to the needs of the individual trustee. In addition, training is provided for specific areas such as safeguarding, GDPR and other legal changes. We carry out biennial trustee reviews and provide in-house or external training as necessary.

We delegate the day-to-day work of Bless to the staff led by the Church Leader and Associate Leader and assisted by a large number of church members acting in a voluntary capacity. We make decisions needed between the quarterly trustees' meetings by extra meetings, usually telephone conferences.

We are aware of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. We review the financial position at each meeting of trustees and take action accordingly. We continue to develop policies and procedures to manage risk and use risk map analysis for review and action, reviewing this annually. We updated our Safeguarding Policies in April 2021 alongside which we updated our Safeguarding Statement which can be found on our website <https://blesscc.org/safeguarding>. At the same time, we created a new Social Media policy and created an additional statement on our website. <https://blesscc.org/social-media-statement>

Bless is a part of the Pioneer Network and of the Evangelical Alliance. Bless also plays a significant role in the interdenominational activities of churches in West London both in leadership and through the service of Bless members.

Public Benefit

The trustees consider that the work of the charity continues to comply with S4 of the Charities Act 2006. This will be reviewed in 2022 but it is considered that the following summary of our activities demonstrates their public benefit.

We are a Christian Church that is part of and active in our local community. We hold meetings of worship, prayer, proclamation, encouragement and teaching the good news of Jesus Christ both in person and online. We proclaim the gospel together with other churches. We provide training courses and special events. We run groups and activities for children, youth and adults both within the church and open to anyone in the community. We are actively involved in serving the community with other churches through Ealing Street Pastors, the Churches' Winter Night Shelters in Ealing, and Ealing Foodbank, youth work and through other local charities and organisations. We support the work of specific organisations, other churches and those working in line with our objects both locally and internationally. We support church members in short- and long-term Christian work overseas. Many visitors, both Christian and non-Christian, attend our church services and social events. All the activities described above, and others are carried out on an unpaid voluntary basis by our members with support from a team of part-time staff. We also encourage individual public service by our members which

includes service on other charity boards, magistrates, school governors and prison workers. During 2021 we continued as much as possible working within the restrictions imposed due to Covid19.

We ensure that the public can benefit not only from our community service activities but also by participating in our church services and many of our activities. Most of our activities are open to all irrespective of race, colour, origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age or disability. A few are restricted to one sex or age group by virtue of the subject matter or to specific groups as they provide training, for example for potential leaders or specific roles within the church. Accessibility to our activities includes physical accessibility and the use of accessible venues wherever possible. By meeting at 'Christ the Saviour' Church of England Primary School on Sundays we are visible to people who might not otherwise be aware of us and all visitors are warmly welcomed. By choosing to meet in the school we also contribute into the funds of the school through our rent. Most activities are free although we charge a nominal fee or the actual cost for a few activities, such as church weekends; however, we ensure that our activities are accessible to all wherever possible through subsidies.

Objects and activities

Objects

Our objects are to advance Christianity in the UK or overseas by proclaiming and furthering the gospel of Jesus Christ and promoting interdenominational Christian work. We seek to bless others of any or no faith and to live out Jesus' command to love God with all our heart and soul and mind and to love our neighbours as we love ourselves.

Spiritual Leadership

Linda Ward, Church Leader meets regularly with a leadership team comprising Ian Brown, Tom Callister and Jacob Simpson. They guide the spiritual direction of the church and act as the organising body for Bless activities.

Most church members are also volunteers. They share the work of the church whether in setting up the hall; welcoming visitors or managing the sound desk on a Sunday; leading or helping with the children's and youth work; teaching; helping lead worship; leading groups; providing hospitality; serving the community; or in one of many other tasks or roles.

Teaching and meetings

We continue to have Sunday teaching which is designed to help us understand the practical aspects of being a Christian as well as developing our understanding of God through the Bible. Our teaching is accessible on the Bless website at www.blesscc.org and <https://soundcloud.com/blesscc> and on you tube at https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=bless+community+church for anyone who wishes to hear it.

We continue with mid-week connect groups which enable members to share together, to encourage and support each other to grow in Jesus and serve him. We run weekly and occasional prayer meetings including Encounter evenings of exploration in worship, prayer, and prophecy. We continue with a hybrid of face to face and online access.

Achievements and performance

Our aims for 2021 progressed as follows:

1. Church Overview

- Following the lockdowns of 2020/21, as the church reverted to in person meetings, the end of 2021 saw more visitors each week and new people joining the church. A number of families and households have joined Bless with many different nationalities represented, which is a joy to see.
- Constantly navigating lockdowns over the year to ensure safety was very challenging for the staff team. It was an incredible achievement that church members largely remained Covid free as a result of any church attendance due to the measures taken. The staff team are commended for this diligence and care.
- We planned to develop and implement a hybrid online presence and face to face access to church. This has been achieved and been strengthened, our Volunteer Tech team has grown. To support this development, we received £1,000 in grants from the Pioneer network of which we are a member and £500 from All Churches Trust.

- On average at the end of 2021 there were 45/50 people in person each week with another 10-15 devices live on you tube and zooms pre and post meeting so approximately 60-70 people each week live. Subsequently, many access our services through you tube.

2. Communications

- We planned to finish our re-brand of our physical signs and banners. This was completed in July 2021.

3. Teaching, Discipleship & Connect Groups

- We held a weekend at home in January 2021 and prophetic appointments were a highlight. We had over 50 attendees throughout the Weekend, with Children's groups and youth work alongside adult teaching sessions which included guest speakers Dr Phil Moore, Dr Patrick Dixon and in-house speakers. Alongside prophetic appointments offered to everyone in the Church (facilitated by other Churches in the Pioneer Network), we also sent out prophetic cards to each person attending (and those not, post the weekend), and we enjoyed a fun Saturday night social. The weekend was universally well received and a huge encouragement for the Church.
- We continued to develop and grow diverse ways for people to connect, learn and encounter God together both through large gatherings, small groups and virtual opportunities.
 - Teaching for Sundays were planned a term ahead and numbers continued to grow online both live and afterwards reaching a wider audience.
 - Monthly Encounter Prayer sessions continued online with 10-12 at each event and including those from other churches
 - The pre-parenting group continued as a group during 2021 with the resulting babies! Becky Blackwell began to support the group and hosted weekly gatherings for parents and babies.
 - A number of new families connecting with Bless joined us online for many months before they came in person, so this legitimised the work to continue an online presence beyond Covid 19.
 - Our connect groups, business group, 20s to 30s and Village People (the new name for the previous pre-parenting group) youth group and children and families continued to do an excellent job connecting and caring for one another resulting in growth during and following lockdowns.
 - Our monthly prayer calendar format was updated and re launched.
 - We ran a Bless day of prayer in September (an intense 10 mins on the hour for 8 hours in a day like the recent Pioneer Day of Prayer) and this was well attended
- We continued to run Alpha Courses as planned.
 - Spring Alpha Course – 9 regular guests, 4 visited the church in person, 1 joined our Welcome team
 - Summer Alpha Course – 8 regular guests
 - Autumn Alpha Course – 3 regular guests

4. Leadership team and Governance

- The rhythm of meetings was reinvigorated to incorporate our revised structure, i.e., leadership, staff, advisers, chair of trustees and trustees
 - The leadership team had an away day in April to review church strategy which influenced church development during the year
 - Billy Kennedy from Pioneer met with the leadership team in July and October 2021 to provide input and support
 - The whole staff team had a post Covid BBQ / social in July 2021 to recognise some departures in the team and to enjoy the opportunity of being together under Covid rules.
- In relation to the trustees:
 - Jess Livingstone joined the trustees and became trustee Safeguarding lead working with Becky Blackwell, our Children and Families Pastor. A safeguarding awareness input was included at a Bless Time (church members) evening.
 - We revised our governance risk map and introduced a rolling programme of compliance review of policies
 - We reviewed our Operations and Communications post. As a result Jacob took on the additional role of Communications Officer, delivering fortnightly newsletters, designing key publicity and publications for the Church, and continuing to update and develop our website.
 - Funding to cover a further operations administrator was not deemed to be possible so staff members continued to carry out their own respective administration.

- The staff continued to manage our expenditure and reduce costs where possible due to the challenging financial position supported by the trustees.

5. Mission

- The Alpha course became established as a regular termly offer.
- 'Playtime' was re-established for the local community post COVID. We were delighted with the number of guests who attended our Christmas gatherings, especially the families that came from Playtime to the family "Messy Christmas" and the Christmas service. This was due in no small part to the hard work and relationships built by the Playtime team - Becky, Jacob, Cheryl, Dan and Chris.

6. Children and Families

- In line with our plan to develop a creche for the emerging young families in the Church, Bless Little ones and the creche developed well with the team of volunteers growing. There is a regular team of helpers who read a bible story, craft, and free play during the service for the little ones.
- Bless Kids for older church began to be offered monthly due to the low numbers in the church and in line with the wishes of the parents.
- Our £25K bid to 'Pathways' for Playtime funding for 3 years to support this was successful beginning April 2021
- Playtime re-opened in September 2021 moving venue to Haven Green Baptist Church, a much bigger venue, with the support of Haven Green. By the end of the year there were 50 children on the books.

7. Young Adults and Youth

- In relation to our top priority of a Youth Café, work to secure this continued.
- Jacob, our youth leader, began visiting Ealing Fields Secondary school and starting a Christian fellowship group. This continued but with some pauses due to lockdowns.
- We planned to build on the team we already had to cater for more youth coming in as a result of the above projects. Some youth found engaging online during lockdowns difficult which led to a fall in numbers. Dan Blackwell joined the Youth Team. Numbers reduced due to some going to university. All young people were allocated a mentor from within the church.
- We continued to develop our work with Young Adults. By the end of the year there were 52 in the Young Adults group with 39 meaningfully engaged with the church. A key priority in the autumn post lockdowns was facilitating opportunities for relationships to be built amongst the young adults group, in order to instil a sense of belonging and community for both the slow stream of new people who have been joining over the last few months, and for those who have been with us for longer but have felt the impact of the distance that lockdown brought. This has been facilitated through the Bless YA lunch held in October, which received an amazing turn out and was a really great way to get to know one another and have fun over pizza. The end of last year also saw the inaugural Bless YA games night, which again provided an opportunity to spend time together outside of our Sunday mornings and was an entry point for one new member who hadn't felt able to join us in person for our Sunday services before then

8. West London Leaders

- The core team of church leaders continued to meet monthly towards a recovery and reconstruction phase beyond COVID.
- There was ongoing connection with the council, building on this opportunity.
 - West London leader representatives met with the council regularly during the Covid 19 Lockdowns for updating and working together across Ealing
 - We participated in Movement for recovery, a pan London network sharing priorities and resources across churches, councils, and the mayor.
- In exploring running Kintsugi Hope well-being courses which other churches and for the community to access, a number of church members completed the training in order to be able to offer this in the future.

9. Other developments

- We continued to support financially a particular individual in a challenging situation which we hope to see resolved in 2022

Financial review

Reserves policy – In 2020 we reviewed our policy to ensure that our reserves will always cover the costs of all obligations if we had to close. Currently this figure is £27,516.90.

Funding sources – Almost all our income is given by members and increased with Gift Aid. Most of this is given monthly. We also had a vision offering for the work of the church which in 2021 raised £10,135. Our Income excluding CJRS rose by £6,551.

We received the following grants:

Pathways £6,300

Pioneer £1000

All Churches Trust £500

CJRS £4594

Expenditure - The largest single item of expenditure is on salaries and external contractors, followed by hall hire. Please see our financial statement for details. The annual budget, including all giving is recommended by the Church Leader after consultation with the Leadership Team and approved by the trustees. We continue to keep a careful control on our expenditure and in 2021 our expenditure only exceeded our income by £74, however this was partly due to Covid reducing our activities.

Plans for 2022

In addition to the ongoing work of the church we have the following plans for 2022:

1. Church Overview

We are keen to focus on all three strands of our vision:

- As we 'Embrace God' – we are keen to invest in our Sunday Evening 'Embrace gatherings' as a priority – creating space for people to encounter God, and express creativity in our worship. The investment in this area is absolutely key for us.
- We are also called to 'Equip the church' – to grow disciples, so a high priority for us in 2022, is sharpening ways the Church interacts with connect groups. We hope to create an easier pathway for newcomers through 'Bless You' and we will actively explore ways of creating new connect groups we can feed members into.
We will also continue to have a focus on 'mentoring' both teens and young adults – by growing these programmes – to see stronger spiritual formation and growth in our younger members lives.
- The third part of our vision is to 'Bless the City' and we are keen to see growth in connecting with young families through the Playtime ministry and the programmes we can offer for young families. We want to develop a youth café to reach out to teens. And we also want to re-establish a more missional culture in the Church community, but recognise this could take a while to achieve (possibly well beyond just 2022).
- Overall, we are passionate about seeing the Church growth both spiritually in depth and numerically with new members. To achieve this, we will review structural factors including – venue (do our venues remain fit for purpose – could we have more of a visible 'home?'), how we grow our income (through better discipleship and looking at charitable funding grants), and staffing (how do we run our operations?) in 2022.

2. Communications

- Continual development of communications will take place based on our established processes under Jacob who now leads on this area.

3. Teaching, Discipleship & Connect Groups

- A weekend away for the whole church will take place in January 2022
- We will continue to develop and grow diverse ways for people to connect, learn and encounter God together both through large gatherings, small groups, and virtual opportunities.
- A 'Preaching Training Day' is planned to invest in anyone with gifts in teaching or would like to explore that area. Booked for 17th Sept 2022.
- Connect Groups will be reviewed following a Bless Advisers morning planned for July so that any changes can be made from September 2022
- We are planning an initiative for new people called 'Bless You'. This will be 4 connect group sessions to cover the key elements of our vision before someone is invited to join a regular connect group.
- We continue to develop our monthly 'Embrace' evenings. The vision of Embrace is to bring the Church into a prophetic encounter with God through worship, prayer and the impartation of the Holy Spirit. We hope to see these evenings of worship be informal and creative, with the intention to seek God, spend time in His presence and contend for His Kingdom to come as a church family. The themes for each worship evening have been planned and submitted to a wider team who are keen to invest in what God is doing with Embrace. Although there is a theme to each evening, there is also deliberate space for us to facilitate an environment for God to move. Some of the

evenings coming up in 2022 will look slightly different to previously, one example of this is a big church meal in the evening following a call to pray and fast for our community. Hospitality will become a huge part of what we do at Embrace with the following months having Hot Chocolate, cakes, etc.

4. Leadership team and Governance

- We hope to recruit a new trustee and continue to ensure that as a charity we are compliant, safe and hold to the objects of the charity. We will continue to manage our expenditure and reduce costs where possible due to the challenging financial position
- It is intended to grow the leadership team and in particular to consider the representation of the emerging diversity in the church
- The wider Bless Advisers will support the development of the church in the post Covid environment and with the growth we are experiencing

5. Mission

- Alpha Courses will continue as a regular offer. From Autumn 2022 plan for this to be in person (rather than on Zoom) if COVID allows.
- There will be an 'Alpha Reunion' in July for everyone who attended Alpha during COVID.
- As we continue to stream online, lots of people engage with our meetings via this medium still, and we hope to continue to see many new guests at Bless on Sunday mornings most weeks.
- Playtime continues to be an amazing outreach to our local community, with many new families connecting with us at 'try church' all age services at key times of the year. These will continue in 2022.

6. Children and Families

- We plan to develop a group for people who are keen on extra discipleship or relationship from Playtime. 'Playtime plus'. This will most likely be a morning in a coffee shop where we talk about parenting with a faith element. There is money in the grant to fund this new project
- We will bring Bless little ones up to date with building a new team and building new/deeper relationships with the children and parents. Also we will look at what our structure is for the sessions and having a fixed outline for all our volunteers to follow so the sessions are consistent each week.
- Our Children and Families pastor will continue meeting parents or nannies on a one-to-one basis each week. Either a parent or nanny that has shown a particular interest in meeting or someone who might need additional support.

7. Youth

- Wednesday Youth will continue to be the main area of weekly youth work/discipleship. The aim is to encourage a number of the teenagers who come on Wednesday to begin coming on Sunday mornings and evenings. Although we are smaller in number in comparison to other years, we hope to see this grow. The smaller number of young people has allowed for a deepening of discipleship!
- We hope to see an arrangement made with 'The Really Local Group' for a community space to run a weekly youth cafe after school hours in Ealing Broadway. This hopefully will launch in September/October 2022. A Youth café remains a top priority.
- In partnering with St Paul's Brentford to run youth work within Ealing Fields Primary School we will move from a discussion group to a Christian fellowship group that will predominantly run bible studies at lunch times.
- Jacob will bring together all the youth workers who are a part of the Pioneer Network. The hope is to build relationships with one another to then allow space for God to share vision for the young people across the network. This will impact Bless youth as we look to run Network wide youth events. Although these events are likely to begin in 2023/24, the preparation and planning will be taking place in 2022.

8. Young Adults

- We plan to facilitate opportunities for community and relationships to be built over socials and food in order to instil a sense of belonging for both the stream of new young adults joining over the last few months and those who have been part of our church family for longer.
- We intend to build a culture of discipleship by producing a mentoring handbook and establishing mentoring relationships as a key pillar of how we operate as a community
- The group will look at how we strengthen the spiritual lives of the YA community through practically learning what it looks like to live spirit filled lives and how we can put that into practice in our every day

9. West London Leaders

- The Core team will meet to create a vision for the next two years and plan to arrange a mix of face to face and online meetings. These would begin in September 2022.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

STATEMENT OF DIRECTOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Charities Act and the Companies Act require the Board of Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the Board is required to :-

- i. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ii. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- iii. prepare financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business;
- iv. state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.


The directors are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and comply with regulations made under the Charities Act. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The directors are also responsible for the contents of the Report of the Directors, and the responsibility of the independent examiner in relation to the Report of the Directors is limited to examining the report and ensuring that, on the face of the report, there are no inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

I approve the attached statement of financial activities and balance sheet for the period ended 31st December 2021, and confirm that I have made available all information necessary for its preparation.

Approved by the Directors on 11/7/2022

Signed on their behalf by Director 

Print Name: MADELINE THOMSON

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2021.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the charity's trustees of the Company (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act).


INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

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.

K.Gomes MAAT
Independent Examiners Ltd
2 Broadbridge Business Centre
Delling Lane
Bosham
West Sussex
PO18 8NF



Date: 26/8/2022.....

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

(Incorporating Income & Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	TOTAL 2020 £
INCOME						
Income from:						
Donations and Legacies	3a	99,627	11,976	18,800	130,403	130,229
Charitable Activities	3b	8,135	727	2,000	10,862	3,654
Other Income	3c	4,620	-	-	4,620	831
TOTAL INCOME		112,382	12,703	20,800	145,885	134,714
EXPENDITURE						
Expenditure on:						
Charitable Activities	4a	114,604	10,991	20,364	145,959	143,197
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		114,604	10,991	20,364	145,959	143,197
NET INCOME/ EXPENDITURE		(2,222)	1,712	436	(74)	(8,484)
Funds Brought Forward		48,153	2,991	3,371	54,515	62,999
Loss/Gains on Disposal of Asset				-	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		45,931	4,703	3,807	54,441	54,515

Movements on all reserves and all recognised gains and losses are shown above. All of the organisation's operations are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 13 to 18 form part of these financial statements.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31-Dec-21 Total £	31-Dec-20 Total £
Fixed Assets						
Tangible Assets	2	4,708	-	-	4,708	5,465
		4,708	-	-	4,708	5,465
Current Assets						
Debtors & Prepayments	8	6,603	-	-	6,603	7,896
Cash at Bank and in Hand	7	53,437	4,703	3,807	61,946	53,457
Total Current Assets		60,040	4,703	3,807	68,549	61,353
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	(18,816)	-	-	(18,816)	(12,303)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		41,224	4,703	3,807	49,733	49,050
TOTAL ASSETS less current liabilities		45,932	4,703	3,807	54,441	54,515
Creditors: amounts falling due in more than one year	10	-	-	-	-	-
NET ASSETS		45,931	4,703	3,807	54,441	54,515
Funds of the Charity						
General Funds		45,931	-	-	45,931	48,153
Designated Funds	6	-	4,703	-	4,703	2,991
Restricted Funds	5	-	-	3,807	3,807	3,371
Total Funds		45,931	4,703	3,807	54,441	54,515

Directors' Responsibilities:

The directors are satisfied that for the year ended on 31st December 2021 the charitable company was entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and that no member or members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act. However, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011, the accounts have been examined by an Independent Examiner whose report appears on page 10.

The director(s) acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for ensuring that the company keeps proper accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its profit and loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

Approved by the Directors on 11/7/2022

Signed on their behalf by Director  Print Name: **MADELINE THOMSON**

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis of accounting in accordance with Charities Act 2011, Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2015), applicable accounting standards and Companies Act 2006. The accounts are prepared on an ongoing concern basis. The church meets the public benefit entity definition (FRS102). Restatement was not required in making the transition to FRS102. The date of transition was 1st January 2015.

Advantage has been taken of Section 396(5) of The Companies Act 2006 to allow the format of the financial statements to be adapted to reflect the special nature of the charity's operation and in order to comply with the requirements of the SORP.

The company has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement.

Changes in Accounting Policies and Previous Accounts

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year and no changes in the previous accounts.

Incoming Resources

Recognition of Incoming Resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the Directors are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming Resources with Related Expenditure

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resource and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.

Grants and Donations

Grants and Donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Tax Reclaims on Donations and Gifts

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SOFA in the same financial period as the gift to which they relate.

Contractual Income and Performance Related Grants

This is only included in the SOFA once the related goods or services has been delivered.

Gifts in Kind

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SOFA as incoming resources when received.

Donated Services and Facilities

These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

3. INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	TOTAL 2020 £
a) Donations and Legacies					
Gifts & Donations	78,853	11,976	8,540	99,369	110,669
Gift Aid	20,774	-	2,000	22,774	19,560
Grants	11	-	8,260	8,260	-
	99,627	11,976	18,800	130,403	130,229

b) Income from other Charitable Activities

Events Income	-	487	-	487	3,654
Vision Day Offering	8,135	-	2,000	10,135	-
Miscellaneous	-	240	-	240	-
	8,135	727	2,000	10,862	3,654

c) Other Income

Coronavirus Job Retention scheme	4,594	-	-	4,594	822
Miscellaneous	26	-	-	26	9
	4,620	-	-	4,620	831

4. EXPENSES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2021 £	TOTAL 2020 £
a) Expenditure on Charitable Activities					
Bank Charges & Interest	88	-	-	88	98
Children/Youth/Students Outreach	1,179	242	144	1,565	2,577
Church Giving	-	10,207	9,230	19,437	18,155
Depreciation	1,218	-	501	1,720	1,822
Events	1,028	266	-	1,294	5,673
External Contractors	26,679	-	-	26,679	26,166
Hall Hire	10,025	-	-	10,025	6,593
Hospitality	1,387	10	-	1,398	758
Independent Examiners Fee	1,177	-	-	1,177	986
Insurance	733	-	-	733	711
Loss on disposal of asset	571	-	-	571	-
Miscellaneous	171	-	-	171	489
Office	3,922	-	-	3,922	5,455
PA/Music	557	-	1,459	2,016	842
Payroll Expenses	61,575	-	7,892	69,467	65,474
Publicity	2,190	-	25	2,215	2,610
Speakers	450	-	-	450	565
Telephone	473	-	-	473	394
Training	761	265	1,113	2,139	3,280
Travel	420	-	-	420	547
	114,604	10,991	20,364	145,959	143,197

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

5. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance 01-Jan-21 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Dec-21 £
J Simpson	-	1,500	1,500	-	-
Bursary Fund	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Books & Training	-	1,000	700	-	300
Technology	-	1,960	1,960	-	-
Pathways	1,708	6,300	6,633	-	1,375
DNA	681	-	341	-	340
Egypt	-	490	490	-	-
Special Needs	983	8,550	8,740	-	793
	3,371	20,800	20,364	-	3,807

The restricted funds are wholly represented by the Charity's cash reserves.

6. DESIGNATED FUNDS

	Balance 01-Jan-21 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Dec-21 £
Alpha	-	-	-	-	-
Bless Time church meetings	-	67	11	-	56
Church Giving	2,148	11,976	10,307	-	3,817
Gazebo fund	305	-	-	-	305
Away Day	-	-	-	-	-
Pioneer events	41	165	165	-	41
Playtime	498	240	252	-	484
Weekend at Home	-	255	255	-	-
	2,991	12,703	10,991	-	4,703

The designated funds are wholly represented by the Charity's cash reserves.

Church Giving - The church allocates 10% of unrestricted voluntary receipts for this purpose.

7. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 31-Dec-21 £	Total 31-Dec-20 £
Current Account	53,437	4,703	3,807	61,946	53,457
	53,437	4,703	3,807	61,946	53,457

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

8. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 31-Dec-21 £	Total 31-Dec-20 £
Prepayments	2,112	-	-	2,112	3,087
Accrued Income: Gift Aid Tax	-	-	-	-	4,809
Rent Deposit	-	-	-	-	-
Other Debtors	4,491	-	-	4,491	-
	6,603	-	-	6,603	7,896

9. CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 31-Dec-21 £	Total 31-Dec-20 £
Accounts Payable	4,470	-	-	4,470	5,523
Accruals and Prepaid Income	12,220	-	-	12,220	4,567
Payroll Liabilities	2,126	-	-	2,126	2,213
	18,816	-	-	18,816	12,303

10. CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE IN MORE THAN ONE YEAR

There were no Creditors or Accruals falling due in more than one year during this financial year (2018: None).

11. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

	2021 £	2020 £
Gross Wages and Salaries	68,240	64,200
Employer's National Insurance Costs	-	-
Pension	857	685
Other	370	590
	69,467	65,474

Employees who were engaged in each of the following activities:

	2021 TOTAL	2020 TOTAL
Activities in furtherance of organisation's objects	1.5	1.5
Management and administration	1	0.8
Total	2.5	2.25

No employees (2020: None) received emoluments in excess of £60,000. Staff are paid through the PAYE system.

An £8593.84 grant was received from the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme

BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH

England & Wales - Charity number 1145615

Accounts

**BLESS
COMMUNITY CHURCH**

**ANNUAL REPORT
AND
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

COMPANY REGISTRATION No: 07886329

CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1145615



Independent Examiners Ltd
2 Broadbridge Business Centre
Delling Lane
Bosham
West Sussex
PO18 8NF

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

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**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER	1145615
COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER	07886329
DATE OF INCORPORATION	19th December 2011
START OF FINANCIAL YEAR	1st January 2020
END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	31st December 2020
DIRECTORS	Fiona Coady Angie Farmer Paul Spencer Madeline Thomson Martin Truss (appointed 12th October, 2020)
CHURCH LEADER	Linda Ward
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Memorandum and Articles of Association Incorporated 19th December 2011.
OBJECTS	<p>To advance the Christian religion either in the United Kingdom or overseas and furtherance of that objective:</p> <p>a) The proclamation and furtherance of the Gospel of God concerning his son Jesus Christ our Lord and the preaching and teaching of the Word of God.</p> <p>b) The organisation sponsorship and promotion of interdenominational Christian work throughout the United Kingdom and elsewhere the object of which of which shall be:</p> <p>i. To seek to present the Gospel to every creature by every means possible and lead men and women and children to saving faith by our Lord Jesus Christ and help and encourage them in the service of God.</p> <p>ii. To promote organise and conduct meetings for this purpose.</p>
WEBSITE	www.blesscc.org
REGISTERED ADDRESS	Grove Mews 42 The Grove Ealing London W5 5LH
BANKERS	Barclays Bank plc 53 The Broadway Ealing London W5 5JS
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Independent Examiners Ltd 2 Broadbridge Business Centre Delling Lane Bosham West Sussex

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

OVERVIEW

Bless Community Church is a charismatic community church in West London and part of the Pioneer Network. The church has a vision to live up to its name and bless the city. We encourage people to embrace the love shown through the person of Jesus and endeavour to equip people for Christian life in the 21st Century. We seek to follow Jesus by sharing the gospel, worshipping, serving, learning and sharing life together. We are deeply involved in our local community often taking a leading role in ecumenical inter-church activities and also within the Pioneer Network and Pioneer London Region.

Normally we meet at Christ the Saviour Church of England Primary School in the heart of Ealing. During 2020 under the restrictions of COVID 19 the church created an online presence, meeting in person when it was possible. For more information or to contact us go to www.blesscc.org.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Bless Community Church (Bless) is a charitable company (no: 07886329) under memorandum and articles of association dated 23rd October 2011 and a registered charity (no: 1145615).

Trustees normally serve for three years after which they can put themselves forward for reappointment by the boarded trustees for up to two further terms. New trustees are recruited from Bless members by interview. The induction and training of trustees is set out in the Trustee Agreement and will vary according to the needs of the individual trustee. In addition, training is provided for specific areas such as safeguarding, GDPR and other legal changes. We carry out biennial trustee reviews and provide in-house or external training as necessary.

We delegate the day-to-day work of Bless to the staff led by the Church Leader and assisted by a large number of church members acting in a voluntary capacity. We make decisions needed between the quarterly trustees' meetings by extra meetings, usually telephone conferences.

We are aware of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. We review the financial position at each meeting of trustees and take action accordingly. We continue to develop policies and procedures to manage risk and use risk map analysis for review and action, reviewing this annually. We updated our Safeguarding Policies in April 2020 alongside which we updated our Safeguarding Statement which can be found on our website <https://blesscc.org/safeguarding>. At the same time, we created a new Social Media policy and created an additional statement on our website. <https://blesscc.org/social-media-statement>

Bless is a part of the Pioneer Network and of the Evangelical Alliance. Bless also plays a significant role in the interdenominational activities of churches in West London both in leadership and through the service of Bless members.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

Trustees considered the public benefit provided by Bless Community Church at their meeting on 6th November 2018 by reviewing our activities against the Charity Commission guidance. The trustees agreed that the work of the charity continues to comply with S4 of the Charities Act 2006. This will be reviewed again in 2021 but it is considered that the following summary of our activities demonstrates their public benefit.

We are a Christian Church that is part of and active in our local community. We hold meetings of worship, prayer, proclamation, encouragement and teaching the good news of Jesus Christ both in person and online. We proclaim the gospel together with other churches. We provide training courses and special events. We run groups and activities for children, youth and adults both within the church and open to anyone in the community. We are actively involved in serving the community with other churches through Ealing Street Pastors, the Churches' Winter Night Shelters in Brentford and Ealing, and Ealing Foodbank, youth work and through other local charities and organisations. We support the work of specific organisations, other churches and those working in line with our objects both locally and internationally. We support church members in short- and long-term Christian work overseas.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

PUBLIC BENEFIT (continued)

Many visitors, both Christian and non-Christian, attend our church services and social events. All the activities described above and others are carried out on an unpaid voluntary basis by our members with support from a team of part-time staff. We also encourage individual public service by our members which includes service on other charity boards, magistrates, school governors and prison workers. During 2020 we have sought to continue as much as possible working within the restrictions imposed due to Covid19.

We ensure that the public can benefit not only from our community service activities but also by participating in our church services and many of our activities. Most of our activities are open to all irrespective of race, colour, origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age or disability. A few are restricted to one sex or age group by virtue of the subject matter or to specific groups as they provide training, for example for potential leaders or specific roles within the church. Accessibility to our activities includes physical accessibility and the use of accessible venues wherever possible. By meeting at Christ the Saviour Church of England Primary School on Sundays we are visible to people who might not otherwise be aware of us and all visitors are warmly welcomed. By choosing to meet in the school we also contribute into the funds of the school through our rent. Most activities are free although we charge a nominal fee or the actual cost for a few activities, such as church weekends; however, we ensure that our activities are accessible to all wherever possible through subsidies.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects

Our objects are to advance Christianity in the UK or overseas by proclaiming and furthering the gospel of Jesus Christ and promoting interdenominational Christian work. We seek to bless others of any or no faith and to live out Jesus' command to love God with all our heart and soul and mind and to love our neighbours as we love ourselves.

Spiritual Leadership

Linda Ward, Church Leader meets regularly with a leadership team comprising Ian Brown, Tom Callister and Luke Hamlyn. They guide the spiritual direction of the church and act as the organising body for Bless activities.

Most church members are also volunteers. They share the work of the church whether in setting up the hall; welcoming visitors or managing the sound desk on a Sunday; leading or helping with the children's and youth work; teaching; helping lead worship; leading small groups; providing hospitality; serving the community; or in one of many other tasks or roles. Again many of these activities have needed to be developed in order to facilitate online access in 2020.

Teaching and meetings

We continue to have Sunday teaching which is designed to help us understand the practical aspects of being a Christian as well as developing our understanding of God through the Bible. Our teaching is accessible on the Bless website at www.blesscc.org and on <https://soundcloud.com/blesscc> and on youtube at https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=bless+community+church for anyone who wishes to hear it.

We continue with mid-week connect groups which enable members to share together, to encourage and support each other to grow in Jesus and serve him. We run weekly and occasional prayer meetings including Encounter evenings of exploration in worship, prayer and prophecy. All of this has been achieved through Zoom and a YouTube presence in 2020.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Our aims for 2020 progressed as follows:

1. Church Overview.

- Review and implement a plan to increase accessibility to those with particular needs and impairments in our meetings
 - Due to COVID19 this piece of work has not been done in relation to our meetings in person. However, much care has gone into ensuring that everyone in the church and any visitor have been able to access meetings online or in person where necessary. By the last quarter of 2020 a hybrid arrangement had developed where some could attend in person when permitted but at the same time others could access via zoom.

2. Communications

- Launch our new website, signage and other ways to embed and reinforce our vision both within the church and externally.
 - The new website has been launched - www.blesscc.org

3. Teaching / Discipleship / Small Groups

- Run a whole church away day once during the year
 - We had a well-received face to face away day with guest Mark Simpson early in the year
- Continue to develop and grow diverse ways for people to connect, learn and encounter God together both through groups and virtual opportunities
 - Our Connect groups continued to meet online and other groups were able to happen, again virtually.
 - Outdoor lunches for up to 6 people who were not accessing Sunday Services were facilitated as possible.

4. Leadership team and governance

- Implement new rhythm of meetings to incorporate revised structure, i.e., leadership, staff, advisers, chair of trustee and trustees
 - This was achieved, again though zoom
- Consider inviting an additional person to join the leadership team
 - Jacob Simpson, our Youth Pastor, joined the leadership team
 - Luke Hamlyn stepped away from the leadership team but continues to be an adviser
- Recruit up to two new trustees
 - Martin Truss joined the trustees
- Revise our Safeguarding Strategy and Statement
 - This was done by April 2020

5. Mission

- Establish our Alpha course as a regular offer
 - Despite COVID restrictions we delivered successful Alpha courses twice via Zoom using national online material.

6. Assisting people out of poverty / challenging / dangerous situations

- Establish a sustainable process for enabling support to those in challenging circumstances
 - We supported one individual through collaboration across the church.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (continued)

7. Children and Families

- Establish two Playtime sessions a week instead of one to increase capacity
 - Playtime sadly had to stop during 2020 due to COVID19. Initially our Children's and Family Pastor offered Playtime sessions through Facebook.
- Review and develop our support to children and families both on Sundays and during the week
 - This continued to develop through online contact and support with Sunday input throughout COVID19 restrictions.

8. Young Adults and Youth

- Establish a Youth Café
 - This was unable to happen in 2020 but discussions continued around sourcing a venue
- Extend monthly Youth Worship Event to invite those from other churches in West London
 - One such event happened virtually in 2020, again further development will occur during 2021 once restrictions are lifted.
 - A Youth Weekend Away was able to happen early in the year pre-Lockdown and Youth Mentoring continued.

9. West London Leaders and wider work

- Introduce opportunities for West London leaders to network and socialise for mutual support and encouragement.
 - Whilst this hasn't been possible face to face, relationships and collaboration have continued well during 2020 including many interactions with Ealing Borough Council about how churches can support during the pandemic. One example was a shopping service for those in need due to having to isolate which was a collaboration with Ealing Council and across the churches.
 - The core team met once in January and twice in February then met weekly from March until July whereby it met fortnightly, it had a pause in August then resumed fortnightly from September onwards
 - The wider group met in person 25th February and profiled opportunities for collaboration. (Street Pastors, Winter Night Shelter, Foodbank, etc.)
 - The major focus was COVID support and recovery, sharing ideas and resources for community engagement and partnership with the council
 - Sharing understanding of government guidance was also key throughout the year, interpreting the guidance and practice for places of worship between differing church denominations and networks

10. Other Developments

- Josh and Alice Cadman became leaders of an identified group of Bless Young Adults, facilitating relationships and support
- Greg and Cheryl George initiated regular 'Walk and Talk' opportunities open to anyone (as possible during certain times in the year around the COVID restrictions)
- Regular prayer meetings and a monthly Prayer Calendar continued and an additional monthly opportunity for 'Encounter' prayer was established.
- Songwriters gathered in January and during the year some new songs were introduced to the church
- Linda and Richard Ward developed and ran a pre-parenting course
- The leaders and many others rose to the challenge of investing in and developing virtual church life and online presence creatively. This resulted in a greater reach of our services and engagement of many different volunteers especially in relation to technology.
- During the year we had the services of two interns, initially Daniel McGoun and then from the Autumn, Anna Mackenzie.
- Sadly, we had to furlough our playtime worker hours from Cheryl George and Jacob Simpson and our Operations and Communications Officer Thomas Herd.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy – In April 2020 we reviewed our policy to ensure that our reserves will always cover the costs of all obligations if we had to close. For 2020, this figure was £27,516.90.

Funding sources – Almost all our income is given by members and increased with Gift Aid. Most of this is given monthly with an annual vision offering for the work of the church which in 2020 raised £8,006.40 plus gift aid. We have continued our tight control on expenditure. We received a funding grant from Pathways Housing of £4,350 for our work with young families.

Expenditure - The largest single item of expenditure is on salaries and external contractors, followed by hall hire. Please see our financial statement for details. The annual budget, including all giving is recommended by the Church Leader after consultation with the Leadership Team and approved by the trustees. We budgeted for a deficit this year using part of our free reserves in order to achieve our aims.

PLANS FOR 2021

In addition to the ongoing work of the church we have the following plans for 2020:

1. Church Overview.

- Review and implement a plan to increase accessibility to those with particular needs and impairments in our meetings.
- Develop and implement a hybrid online presence and face to face access to church.

2. Communications

- We are planning to finish our re-brand of our physical signs and banners. This should all be completed by the Autumn of 2021.

3. Teaching, Discipleship & Small Groups

- Run a whole church away day once during the year
- Continue to develop and grow diverse ways for people to connect, learn and encounter God together both through large gatherings, small groups and virtual opportunities.
- We continue to run Alpha Courses and aim to run one each term in 2021.

4. Leadership team and Governance

- Reinvigorate the rhythm of meetings to incorporate revised structure, i.e., leadership, staff, advisers, chair of trustee and trustees
- Recruit up to two new trustees
- Revise our Risk map and introduce a rolling programme of compliance review of policies
- Review our Operations and Communications post
- Continue to manage our expenditure and reduce costs where possible due to challenging financial position

5. Mission

- Establish our Alpha course as a regular offer - throughout the year.
- Re-establish 'Playtime' to the local community post COVID and look at parenting training and mentoring opportunities
- Seeking to develop capacity and possibilities to encourage those who are anonymously accessing our online offer to connect further.

6. Children and Families

- Develop a creche for the emerging young families in the Church
- Continue to disciple our young people through Sunday morning Zoom teaching sessions
- Re-establish Playtime for parents, carers and infants, post COVID - potentially in a more 'Cafe' format.
- Start a Parenting Conference to support young parents in bringing up their children. Open to Church and Non-Church families.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

FUTURE PLANS FOR 2021 (continued)

7. Young Adults and Youth

- Youth Cafe is a top priority - finding a venue and funding for this.
- Jacob is working at Ealing Fields School and starting a Christian fellowship group.
- Build on the team we already have to cater for more youth coming in as a result of the above projects.
- Continue to grow the work for young adults
- Weekly Breakfasts will continue and evening socials will restart.

8. West London Leaders

- Recovery and reconstruction phase after response during COVID.
- Meet as a wider group again but reconstructed, explore a new pattern of meeting and ways of connecting.
- Continued connection with the council, building on this opportunity.
- Explore running Kintsugi Hope well-being courses which other churches and the community can access.

STATEMENT OF DIRECTOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Charities Act and the Companies Act require the Board of Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the Board is required to :-

- i. select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ii. make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- iii. prepare financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business;
- iv. state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.


The directors are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 and comply with regulations made under the Charities Act. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The directors are also responsible for the contents of the Report of the Directors, and the responsibility of the independent examiner in relation to the Report of the Directors is limited to examining the report and ensuring that, on the face of the report, there are no inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

I approve the attached statement of financial activities and balance sheet for the period ended 31st December 2020, and confirm that I have made available all information necessary for its preparation.

Approved by the Directors on 26/4/21

Signed on their behalf by Director 

Print Name: MADLINE THOMPSON

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

(Incorporating Income & Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2020 £	TOTAL 2019 £
INCOME						
Income from:						
Donations and Legacies	3a	106,896	11,893	12,261	131,051	162,008
Charitable Activities	3b	51	3,603	-	3,654	14,710
Other Income	3c	9	-	-	9	94
TOTAL INCOME		106,956	15,496	12,261	134,713	176,812
EXPENDITURE						
Expenditure on:						
Charitable Activities	4a	113,782	18,507	10,908	143,197	166,169
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		113,782	18,507	10,908	143,197	166,169
NET INCOME/ EXPENDITURE		(6,826)	(3,011)	1,353	(8,483)	10,643
Funds Brought Forward		54,979	6,002	2,018	62,999	52,356
Transfer Between Funds				-	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		48,153	2,991	3,371	54,516	62,999

Movements on all reserves and all recognised gains and losses are shown above. All of the organisation's operations are classed as continuing.

The notes on pages 12 to 17 form part of these financial statements.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31-Dec-20 Total £	31-Dec-19 Total £
Fixed Assets						
Tangible Assets	2	5,465	-	-	5,465	3,443
		<u>5,465</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,465</u>	<u>3,443</u>
Current Assets						
Debtors & Prepayments	8	7,896	-	-	7,896	14,100
Cash at Bank and in Hand	7	47,094	2,991	3,371	53,457	54,293
Total Current Assets		<u>54,990</u>	<u>2,991</u>	<u>3,371</u>	<u>61,353</u>	<u>68,393</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>(12,303)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(12,303)</u>	<u>(8,837)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		42,687	2,991	3,371	49,050	59,556
TOTAL ASSETS less current liabilities		<u>48,152</u>	<u>2,991</u>	<u>3,371</u>	<u>54,515</u>	<u>62,999</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due in more than one year	10	-	-	-	-	-
NET ASSETS		<u>48,152</u>	<u>2,991</u>	<u>3,371</u>	<u>54,515</u>	<u>62,999</u>
Funds of the Charity						
General Funds		48,153	-	-	48,153	54,979
Designated Funds	6	-	2,991	-	2,991	6,002
Restricted Funds	5	-	-	3,371	3,371	2,018
Total Funds		<u>48,153</u>	<u>2,991</u>	<u>3,371</u>	<u>54,516</u>	<u>62,999</u>

Directors' Responsibilities:


The directors are satisfied that for the year ended on 31st December 2020 the charitable company was entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 and that no member or members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act. However, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011, the accounts have been examined by an Independent Examiner whose report appears on page 16.

The director(s) acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for ensuring that the company keeps proper accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its profit and loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

Approved by the Directors on 26/4/21

Signed on their behalf by Director  Print Name: MADLINE THOMPSON

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis of accounting in accordance with Charities Act 2011, Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2015), applicable accounting standards and Companies Act 2006. The accounts are prepared on an ongoing concern basis. The church meets the public benefit entity definition (FRS102). Restatement was not required in making the transition to FRS102. The date of transition was 1st January 2015.

Advantage has been taken of Section 396(5) of The Companies Act 2006 to allow the format of the financial statements to be adapted to reflect the special nature of the charity's operation and in order to comply with the requirements of the SORP.

The company has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement.

Changes in Accounting Policies and Previous Accounts

There has been no change to the accounting policies since last year and no changes in the previous accounts.

Incoming Resources

Recognition of Incoming Resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources;
- the Directors are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Incoming Resources with Related Expenditure

Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resource and related expenditure are reported gross in the SOFA.

Grants and Donations

Grants and Donations are only included in the SOFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

Tax Reclaims on Donations and Gifts

Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SOFA in the same financial period as the gift to which they relate.

Contractual Income and Performance Related Grants

This is only included in the SOFA once the related goods or services has been delivered.

Gifts in Kind

Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SOFA as incoming resources when received.

Donated Services and Facilities

These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

3. INCOME

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2020 £	TOTAL 2019 £
a) Donations and Legacies					
Gifts & Donations	88,123	11,893	10,653	110,669	137,761
Gift Aid	17,951	-	1,609	19,560	24,247
Grants	11 822	-	-	822	
	106,896	11,893	12,261	131,051	162,008

b) Income from other Charitable Activities

Events Income	51	3,603	-	3,654	14,710
	51	3,603	-	3,654	14,710

c) Other Income

Miscellaneous	9	-	-	9	94
	9	-	-	9	94

4. EXPENSES

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2020 £	TOTAL 2019 £
a) Expenditure on Charitable Activities					
Bank Charges & Interest	98	-	-	98	164
Children/Youth/Students Outreach	1,345	1,130	102	2,577	4,098
Church Giving	-	14,595	3,560	18,155	12,931
Depreciation	1,822	-	-	1,822	1,147
Events	3,108	2,556	8	5,673	11,867
External Contractors	26,166	-	-	26,166	31,444
Hall Hire	6,593	-	-	6,593	10,719
Hospitality	758	-	-	758	2,248
Independent Examiners Fee	986	-	-	986	1,200
Insurance	711	-	-	711	756
Miscellaneous	489	-	-	489	53
Office	5,441	14	-	5,455	6,650
PA/Music	842	-	-	842	1,112
Payroll Expenses	60,057	-	5,418	65,474	68,505
Publicity	2,436	-	174	2,610	2,504
Restricted Expenses	-	-	-	-	5,343
Speakers	565	-	-	565	300
Telephone	394	-	-	394	409
Training	1,423	210	1,647	3,280	2,586
Travel	547	-	-	547	2,133
	113,782	18,507	10,908	143,197	166,169

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

5. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance 01-Jan-20 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Dec-20 £
J Simpson	-	475	475	-	-
Rebrand	-	938	938	-	-
Counselling	-	169	169	-	-
West London Leaders	88	-	88	-	-
Pathways	133	5,800	4,225	-	1,708
DNA	1,369	765	1,453	-	681
Egypt	-	240	240	-	-
Special Needs	428	3,875	3,320	-	983
	2,018	12,261	10,908	-	3,371

The restricted funds are wholly represented by the Charity's cash reserves.

6. DESIGNATED FUNDS

	Balance 01-Jan-20 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31-Dec-20 £
Alpha	-	193	193	-	-
Bless Time church meetings	-	-	-	-	-
Church Giving	5,300	11,793	14,944	-	2,148
Gazebo fund	305	-	-	-	305
Away Day	-	2,364	2,364	-	-
Pioneer events	-	251	210	-	41
Playtime	397	101	-	-	498
Youth Weekend Away	-	796	796	-	-
	6,002	15,496	18,507	-	2,991

The designated funds are wholly represented by the Charity's cash reserves.

Church Giving - The church allocates 10% of unrestricted voluntary receipts for this purpose.

7. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 31-Dec-20 £	Total 31-Dec-19 £
Current Account	47,094	2,991	3,371	53,457	50,065
	47,094	2,991	3,371	53,457	50,065

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

8. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 31-Dec-20 £	Total 31-Dec-19 £
Prepayments	3,087	-	-	3,087	3,092
Accrued Income: Gift Aid Tax	4,809	-	-	4,809	10,458
Rent Deposit	-	-	-	-	350
Other Debtors	-	-	-	-	200
	7,896	-	-	7,896	14,100

9. CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Total 31-Dec-20 £	Total 31-Dec-19 £
Accounts Payable	5,523	-	-	5,523	2,973
Accruals and Prepaid Income	4,567	-	-	4,567	3,659
Payroll Liabilities	2,213	-	-	2,213	2,205
	12,303	-	-	12,303	8,837

10. CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE IN MORE THAN ONE YEAR

There were no Creditors or Accruals falling due in more than one year during this financial year (2018: None).

11. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

	2020 £	2019 £
Gross Wages and Salaries	64,200	67,489
Employer's National Insurance Costs	-	8
Pension	685	714
Other	590	707
	65,474	68,505

Employees who were engaged in each of the following activities:

	2020 TOTAL	2019 TOTAL
Activities in furtherance of organisation's objects	1.5	1.5
Management and administration	0.75	1.5
Total	2.25	3

No employees (2019: None) received emoluments in excess of £60,000. Staff are paid through the PAYE system.

An £822 grant was received from the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

12. DIRECTORS AND OTHER RELATED PARTIES

No payments were made to directors or any persons connected with them during this financial period. No material transaction took place between the organisation and a trustee or any person connected with them.

Donations received from the trustees and related parties during the year were £12,200 (2018: £15,370)

13. RISK ASSESSMENT

The directors actively review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis and believe that maintaining the free reserves stated, combined with the annual review of the controls over key financial systems carried out on an annual basis will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The directors have also examined other operational and business risks which they face and confirm that they have established systems to mitigate the significant risks.

14. RESERVES POLICY See Report of the Directors Page 7.

15. PUBLIC BENEFIT See Report of the Directors Page 4.

**BLESS COMMUNITY CHURCH
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2020.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the charity's trustees of the Company (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act).

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 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; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

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.

Keith Richards
Independent Examiners Ltd
2 Broadbridge Business Centre
Delling Lane
Bosham
West Sussex
PO18 8NF



Date: 20/5/21