

# Hope Church Sevenoaks

Report and Accounts

Year ended 31 December 2023

**Company registration number: 07867586**

**Charity registration number: 1145667**

**HOPE CHURCH SEVENOAKS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**  
**COMPANY INFORMATION**

<b>Directors / trustees</b>	Thomas Addy (appointed 15 April 2024) Steven Collins Ian Lettington Adam Northcroft Oluwafisayo Onagoruwa Nigel Parrington
<b>Key staff</b>	Ian Lettington Adam Northcroft
<b>Governing Document</b>	Memorandum and Articles of Association dated November 2011
<b>Company Registration Number</b>	07867586
<b>Charity Registration Number</b>	1145667
<b>Registered Office and Principal Address</b>	The Mill Lane Centre Mill Lane Sevenoaks Kent TN14 5AX
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Ajay Rajani FCIE Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage London EC1Y 8AB
<b>Bankers</b>	Barclays Bank PLC Leicester Leicestershire LE87 2BB
<b>Solicitors</b>	Knocker & Foskett The Red House 50 High Street Sevenoaks Kent TN13 1JL

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**HOPE CHURCH SEVENOAKS**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

The trustees have the pleasure of presenting their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 2 to the accounts and comply with the charity's memorandum and articles of association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)".

**Objectives and activities**

The charity's objects for the public benefit are to advance the Christian faith, in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs, in Sevenoaks, and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or world as the Charity in general meetings may from time-to-time think fit and to fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable according to law of England and Wales and are connected with charitable work of the Charity. This can be summarised as follows:

- the advancement of the Christian Faith, be it in the United Kingdom or overseas.
- the promotion of missionary activity undertaken to spread the Christian faith.
- the relief of the poor, needy, sick and aged.
- the furtherance of education, be it religious or secular.

The trustees have paid due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in planning the charity's activities and the Charity Commissions Code of Governance in relation to its review and maintenance of its policies.

By its very nature the Christian Faith being rooted in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ has a strong positive influence through the Church into society. It remains extremely wide and powerful in its influence. The Christian faith brings a clear sense of meaning and purpose to life. The Christian faith helps and gives support to 'the poor' in its widest definition. It supports the essential societal foundational institutions of marriage and family, both in the promotion of and the engagement with marriage and family according to God's outstanding wisdom. The Christian faith expressed through charity helps those entering into marriage and parenting through advice, marriage/parenting preparation, personal example and marriage and parenting classes. The principled moral fabric provided by the Christian faith ensures a society that cares, values justice, treats all human life with dignity and kindness.

**Chair's report**

We have continued to be blessed through the past year as we continue to see the church grow, both in terms of overall membership and maturity. Our eldership team have been able to focus on teaching, studying and serving the church well. We were able to appoint an administrator and also a new part time leader for the children's work, providing additional talent and capacity.

We have continued to develop our work for younger people, and have seen both our children's work and youth work blossom. We have been able to run Alpha courses during the year, and also hosted a number of regional conferences for New Ground members. We have seen eight members complete the New Ground Academy, a two-year theology study course.

**HOPE CHURCH SEVENOAKS**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS CONTINUED**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

Our commitment for overseas mission remains constant. We have provided financial support for outreach into Germany and Kenya, and continue to work alongside other New Ground churches to support churches in Poland and Ukraine to provide both practical support in terms of supplies, as well as apostolic and prayer support.

The Sevenoaks Larder food bank continues to operate from the building, providing support for an increasing number of families in the local community. We have also been able to better use our building through additional lettings to support the community.

As trustees, we recognise the economic impact of inflation on the overall cost of living and operating as a charity. We have continued to monitor our reserves and pray in faith for God's provision for His work in Sevenoaks and beyond. We have focussed on developing people, at home and abroad to see God's kingdom grow, whilst reviewing critical infrastructure investment.

**Purpose and achievements**

Hope Church upholds the aims and ethos of the Christian faith. This combines the outworking of the Christian faith for our members and in our society, along with specific work into communities we support both locally and further afield. This has included:

1. Sunday worship and teaching - the church holds regular Sunday services and mid-week meetings for church members although anyone is welcome to attend.
2. Connect Groups – regular times for church members to study and pray together.
3. Alpha - a series of seminars and discussion groups for Christians and non-Christians, which includes meals and special days.
4. Kids work (0–11-year old's) - a weekly extension of church for church member's children and visitors, including an online programme when we were unable to meet in person.
5. Youth work (11–18-year old's) - weekly and monthly meetings, bible studies and activities for young people designed to encourage them on their journey to faith and living a dynamic faith-filled life.
6. Prayer - regular monthly prayer meetings, weekly Wednesday mornings and dedicated weeks of prayer throughout the year.
7. Overseas mission work – we continue to provide financial and prayer support to work in Africa, Germany and into Ukraine, through other New Ground churches and the wider mission of New Frontiers International.
8. Support to the Sevenoaks Larder – we have continued to allow use of the building to facilitate the work of the charity, providing food to families and individuals in need. This now supports more than 100 families per week.

**Plans for the future**

As trustees, we look forward to 2024 with a focus on teaching and discipleship and will continue to support those in need, both locally and overseas. We will be hosting the NEXT programme for internships across the New Ground churches and develop our marriage course alongside Alpha and the church membership course. We recognise the ongoing economic challenges and continue to trust in God for his provision. We will hold a whole church away day, to give us time as a community for fellowship and teaching. We look forward to seeing the eldership team flourish and strengthening staff team and trustees. We seek to extend our ability to serve our church members, and reach further into our communities, working with New Ground and other local partners.

**HOPE CHURCH SEVENOAKS**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS CONTINUED**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

We will continue to support our sister churches in Poland and Ukraine, the mission work in Germany and Kenya, and continue our sponsorship of children in Kenya through Compassion.

**Financial review**

The charity derives the majority of its income from voluntary donations and associated income tax recovery from gift aid donations. These donations are a combination of monthly and one off donations. The principal areas of expenditure are salaries and related staff costs and the running costs of the church premises.

During the year, there was a deficit of unrestricted income over expenditure of £68,883 (2022: deficit £20,507) and the charity's unrestricted net assets decreased by that amount to £1,248,506. The charity's unrestricted net current assets (which is a measure of the charity's working capital) have decreased by £52,188 to £185,253. On restricted funds, there was a surplus of income over expenditure of £412 (2022: surplus £845) and the charity's restricted net assets increased by that amount to £7,229.

**Reserves Policy**

The reserves policy requires the charity to maintain unrestricted undesignated cash at a level equivalent to at least three months unrestricted expenditure, being approximately £86,000. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities whilst consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. The charity ended the year with unrestricted undesignated cash of £152,619 and the trustees are satisfied that the charity is complying with its reserves policy.

**Risk Statement**

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed at various trustees' meetings, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

**Structure, governance and management**

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee governed by memorandum and articles of association. The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who have served since the previous balance sheet date are named on page 1, 'Company Information'. Trustees are appointed and removed by Members who are the Trustees of the church. Trustees may appoint new trustees however they must resign and be re-appointed at the next Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Elders and existing trustees ensure that new trustees are aware of their legal obligations under charity law together with the operations of the charity.

The trustees have overall legal, financial and management responsibility and meet regularly throughout the year.

A largely separate ministry team comprising Elders and other lay-workers had overall responsibility for spiritual leadership and for the day to day running of the church.

**HOPE CHURCH SEVENOAKS**  
**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS CONTINUED**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

The church is affiliated to New Ground Churches (Company Number 06281483), which is a group of churches across the UK and Europe related to the New Frontiers International family of churches (Company Number 02535392).

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The trustees, who are also the directors of Hope Church Sevenoaks for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). Company Law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. 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.

**Approval**

This report, which has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies, was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by

*Steven P Collins*  
Steven P Collins (Jul 15, 2024 16:00 GMT+1)

Steven Collins  
Chair of Trustees

Date: Jul 15, 2024

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**TO THE TRUSTEES OF**  
**HOPE CHURCH SEVENOAKS**  
**('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2023 on pages 7 to 17 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 9 and 10.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors 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 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**

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.

*Ajay Rajani*  
Ajay Rajani (Jul 19, 2024 09:02 GMT+1)

Ajay Rajani FCIE  
Fellow of the Association of Charity Independent Examiners  
Stewardship  
1 Lamb's Passage  
London  
EC1Y 8AB

Date: Jul 19, 2024

**HOPE CHURCH SEVENOAKS**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

**INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	257,970	4,276	262,246	291,103
Charitable activities	4	21,721	16,588	38,309	10,521
Interest receivable		31	-	31	1
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>279,722</b>	<b>20,864</b>	<b>300,586</b>	<b>301,625</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>					
Charitable activities:	5	348,605	20,452	369,057	321,287
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>348,605</b>	<b>20,452</b>	<b>369,057</b>	<b>321,287</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure)</b>		<b>(68,883)</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>(68,471)</b>	<b>(19,662)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	12	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(68,883)</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>(68,471)</b>	<b>(19,662)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		1,317,389	6,817	1,324,206	1,343,868
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	12	<b>1,248,506</b>	<b>7,229</b>	<b>1,255,735</b>	<b>1,324,206</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account required by the Companies Act 2006.

The notes on pages 9 to 16 form part of these accounts.



**HOPE CHURCH SEVENOAKS**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	7	<u>1,063,253</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,063,253</u>	<u>1,079,948</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	8	24,328	8,726	33,054	14,651
Cash at bank and in hand	9	<u>172,330</u>	<u>6,874</u>	<u>179,204</u>	<u>241,108</u>
		196,658	15,600	212,258	255,759
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	10	11,405	8,371	19,776	11,501
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>185,253</u>	<u>7,229</u>	<u>192,482</u>	<u>244,258</u>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<u>1,248,506</u>	<u>7,229</u>	<u>1,255,735</u>	<u>1,324,206</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>	12				
Unrestricted Funds					
General funds		1,222,998	-	1,222,998	1,287,333
Designated funds		<u>25,508</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,508</u>	<u>30,056</u>
		<u>1,248,506</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,248,506</u>	<u>1,317,389</u>
Restricted Funds		<u>-</u>	<u>7,229</u>	<u>7,229</u>	<u>6,817</u>
		<u>1,248,506</u>	<u>7,229</u>	<u>1,255,735</u>	<u>1,324,206</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 however, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011, the accounts have been examined by an independent examiner and their report has been included in these financial statements.

The directors (who are the charitable company's trustees for the purposes of charity law) acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its net income or expenditure for each 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 financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and were signed on its behalf by:

Ian Lettington  
IanLettington (Jul 16, 2024 13:50 GMT+1)

Ian Lettington  
Trustee

Jul 16, 2024

Date

Company number: 07867586

Charity number: 1145667

The notes on pages 9 to 16 form part of these accounts.

**HOPE CHURCH SEVENOAKS**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**1 Statutory Information**

The charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in the United Kingdom. The company's registered number and registered office address can be found on the Company Information page.

**2 Accounting Policies**

These financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the "Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) ("the Charities SORP"), with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland ("FRS 102"), with the Companies Act 2006 and with the Charities Act 2011. The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity as set out in FRS 102.

The principles adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below.

a) Going concern

The trustees (who are the charitable company's directors for the purposes of company law) have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate and have considered possible events or conditions that might cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. In particular the trustees have considered the charity's forecasts and projections and the possible implications should projected income and / or expenditure vary unexpectedly. The trustees have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

b) Income

Income including investment income is recognised in the period in which the charity becomes entitled to receipt, the amount receivable can be measured with reasonable certainty, and receipt is probable. For the most part, income is generally recognised when it is received. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income from donations and legacies includes recoverable gift aid, which is recognised when the related donation is received. Gift aid that has not been recovered by the balance sheet date is included as a debtor.

Income from charitable activities comprises income from events and courses organised by the church and from letting the church building for activities that benefit the local community.

The charity relies on volunteers to carry out many of its activities. However, in accordance with the SORP, the value of these services has not been included in these financial statements as they cannot be reliably measured.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure, including irrecoverable VAT, is recognised when it is incurred or, if earlier, when a legal or constructive obligation for a payment arises provided that it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

The charity makes grants to other institutions and individuals to further its charitable objectives. Grants payable are recognised as constructive obligations arise, which is generally when the charity expresses a commitment to the recipient that can be measured reliably and then only to the extent that any conditions associated with the grant are outside of the control of the charity.

Governance costs, which are included in expenditure on charitable activities but are identified separately in the notes to the accounts, includes costs associated with the independent examination of the financial statements, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements and any other expenditure incurred on the strategic management of the charity.

**HOPE CHURCH SEVENOAKS**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

d) Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. Restricted funds are donations which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors; they include donations received from appeals for specific activities or projects.

e) Tangible fixed assets

Items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £500 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life. To achieve this objective the following rates of depreciation are charged:

Land and buildings	Land, which was valued on 30 April 2012 at £400,000, is not depreciated. Buildings are depreciated over 50 years after taking account of the building's residual value.
Equipment	Over 3 to 7 years

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment in periods when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

f) Retirement benefits

The charity operates defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. Obligations for contributions to this scheme are recognised as an expense when the liability arises. The assets of this scheme are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

g) Taxation

The company is a registered charity; it has taken advantage of the various reliefs from taxation available to charities and no tax is payable on the charity's income.

h) Financial instruments

The charity's financial assets and financial liabilities all qualify as basic financial instruments, as defined by FRS102. Creditors and debtors are measured at their expected settlement value (normally the amount of cash that the charity expects to pay or receive). Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks.

i) Exemption from preparing a cashflow statement

The charity has taken advantage of an exemption conferred by the Charities SORP and has not prepared a cash flow statement.

j) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

In preparing these financial statements certain judgements, estimates and assumptions have been made that affect the depreciation charged in these financial statements. The annual depreciation charge for property, plant and equipment is sensitive to changes in the estimates for useful economic life and residual value. These estimates are reassessed annually and, when necessary, adjusted to reflect current circumstances.

**HOPE CHURCH SEVENOAKS**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**3 Donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Donations and related gift aid	<u>257,970</u>	<u>4,276</u>	<u>262,246</u>	<u>291,103</u>

**4 Income from charitable activities**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Book Sales	480	-	480	601
Letting of facilities	7,390	-	7,390	4,260
Events	10,168	-	10,168	4,681
Courses	1,230	-	1,230	-
Contributions from another church towards cost of providing aid to Ukraine / Poland	-	16,588	16,588	-
Other income	2,453	-	2,453	979
	<u>21,721</u>	<u>16,588</u>	<u>38,309</u>	<u>10,521</u>

**5 Charitable expenditure**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>a Costs incurred directly on specific activities</b>				
Staff costs	170,190	-	170,190	150,096
Depreciation and impairment	24,771	-	24,771	26,165
Premises costs	29,716	-	29,716	32,997
Church events and other ministry expenses	24,043	-	24,043	4,343
Children and youth work	12,286	-	12,286	11,922
Evangelism	114	-	114	329
Mission to Ukraine	-	5,138	5,138	9,563
Leaders expenses and training	3,855	-	3,855	2,707
Music expenses and repairs	1,736	-	1,736	1,967
Gifts for visiting speakers	1,450	-	1,450	300
Insurance	4,930	-	4,930	4,101
	<u>273,091</u>	<u>5,138</u>	<u>278,229</u>	<u>244,490</u>
Grants (see note 5c)	37,120	15,314	52,434	51,373
	<u>310,211</u>	<u>20,452</u>	<u>330,663</u>	<u>295,863</u>
<b>b Costs incurred on support &amp; administration</b>				
Governance costs				
Fee for examining the accounts	1,800	-	1,800	1,740
Staff costs	16,138	-	16,138	5,462
Administrative expenses	20,456	-	20,456	18,223
	<u>38,394</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,394</u>	<u>25,425</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>348,605</u>	<u>20,452</u>	<u>369,057</u>	<u>321,287</u>

In addition to the fees payable for the preparation and examination of the 2023 accounts, the charity paid £926 (2022: £923) to Stewardship for payroll bureau and consultancy services.

**HOPE CHURCH SEVENOAKS**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**5c Grants payable**

	Institutions	Individuals	2023
	£	£	£
Grants for UK and overseas mission	27,400	9,721	37,121
Grants to assist those in poverty or in crisis	1,360	645	2,005
Grants to assist those in poverty or in crisis - Ukraine	-	13,308	13,308
	<u>28,760</u>	<u>23,674</u>	<u>52,434</u>

The comparatives for the previous year are as follows:

	Institutions	Individuals	2022
	£	£	£
Grants for UK and overseas mission	21,050	15,595	36,645
Grants to assist those in poverty or in crisis	12,711	2,017	14,728
	<u>33,761</u>	<u>17,612</u>	<u>51,373</u>

The charity's principal grants to institutions comprised:

	2023	2022
	£	£
New Ground Churches	27,400	21,050
Catalyst (for Ukraine)	-	12,549
Compassion UK	1,320	-
Small grants to other institutions	40	162
	<u>28,760</u>	<u>33,761</u>

**6 Analysis of staff costs, the cost of key management personnel and trustee remuneration**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gross wages and salaries	169,672	141,308
Social security	11,947	10,291
Pension costs	4,709	3,958
	<u>186,328</u>	<u>155,557</u>

Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers. The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Ministerial staff	4	2
Administrative support staff	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum. Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers.

The charity's key management comprise the trustees and the key staff named on the Company Information page. Total employment benefits payable to key management for the year were as follows:

	Wages & salaries	Employer pension contributions	2023
			£
Adam Northcroft, who is a trustee	52,737	1,582	54,319
Ian Lettington, who is a trustee	58,195	1,746	59,941
			<u>114,260</u>

**HOPE CHURCH SEVENOAKS**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**6 Analysis of staff costs continued**

The following amounts were charged in the previous year:

	Wages & salaries	Employer pension contributions	2022 £
Adam Northcroft, who is a trustee	43,333	1,300	44,633
Ian Lettington, who is a trustee	57,347	1,720	59,067
			<u>103,700</u>

Both Adam Northcroft and Ian Lettington were employed to serve as a church leaders. They received the above payments for serving in those capacities, not for serving as trustees; these payments are permitted by the charity's governing document.

**7 Tangible fixed assets**

	Land and buildings £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total 2023 £
Cost			
At 1 January 2023	1,250,000	150,012	1,400,012
Additions	-	8,076	8,076
At 31 December 2023	<u>1,250,000</u>	<u>158,088</u>	<u>1,408,088</u>
Accumulated depreciation			
At 1 January 2023	181,333	138,731	320,064
Charge for the year	17,000	7,771	24,771
At 31 December 2023	<u>198,333</u>	<u>146,502</u>	<u>344,835</u>
Net book value			
At 31 December 2023	<u>1,051,667</u>	<u>11,586</u>	<u>1,063,253</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>1,068,667</u>	<u>11,281</u>	<u>1,079,948</u>

Land and buildings comprises a freehold property transferred from Sevenoaks Town Church charitable trust (STC) to Hope Church Sevenoaks (HCS) on 30 April 2012 when HCS commenced its activities. The market value at that date was estimated by the trustees to be £1,250,000.

**8 Debtors**

	2023 £	2022 £
<i>Falling due within one year:</i>		
Trade debtors	620	656
Tax recoverable	16,242	3,308
Other debtors	4,658	4,408
Prepayments and accrued income	11,534	6,279
	<u>33,054</u>	<u>14,651</u>

**9 Cash at Bank and in Hand**

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash at bank with immediate access	179,204	240,948
Petty cash	-	160
	<u>179,204</u>	<u>241,108</u>

**HOPE CHURCH SEVENOAKS**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**10 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	11,853	2,317
Taxation and social security	4,658	4,408
Other creditors	937	832
Accruals	2,328	2,344
Grant obligations	-	1,600
	<u>19,776</u>	<u>11,501</u>

**11 Pension commitments**

During the year employer's pension contributions totalling £4,709 (2022: £3,958) were payable to defined contribution personal pension schemes. At the balance sheet date pension contributions totalling £937 (2022: £832) were owed.

**12 Funds**

During the year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2023 £	Incoming resources 2023 £	Outgoing resources 2023 £	Transfers in the year 2023 £	Closing balance 2023 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>					
Building fund	1,251	-	-	-	1,251
Savings	28,805	-	(4,548)	-	24,257
	<u>30,056</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,548)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,508</u>
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>	1,287,333	279,722	(344,057)	-	1,222,998
Total Unrestricted Funds	<u>1,317,389</u>	<u>279,722</u>	<u>(348,605)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,248,506</u>
<i>Restricted Funds</i>					
Help fund	6,537	31	(645)	-	5,923
Webbs fund	240	1,466	(1,321)	-	385
Sevenoaks Larder fund	40	-	(40)	-	-
Ukraine fund	-	19,367	(18,446)	-	921
	<u>6,817</u>	<u>20,864</u>	<u>(20,452)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,229</u>
Aggregate of funds	<u>1,324,206</u>	<u>300,586</u>	<u>(369,057)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,255,735</u>

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

The assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		<u>Restricted Funds</u>	
	General funds £	Designated funds £	funds £	2023 £
Fixed assets	1,057,456	5,797	-	1,063,253
Debtors	24,328	-	8,726	33,054
Cash at bank and in hand	152,619	19,711	6,874	179,204
Current liabilities	(11,405)	-	(8,371)	(19,776)
	<u>1,222,998</u>	<u>25,508</u>	<u>7,229</u>	<u>1,255,735</u>

**HOPE CHURCH SEVENOAKS**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**12 Funds continued**

In the previous year the movements in the charity's funds were as follows:

	Opening balance 2022 £	Incoming resources 2022 £	Outgoing resources 2022 £	Transfers in the year 2022 £	Closing balance 2022 £
<i>Designated Funds</i>					
Building fund	4,329	-	(3,078)	-	1,251
Savings	33,614	-	(4,809)	-	28,805
	37,943	-	(7,887)	-	30,056
<i>General Unrestricted Funds</i>	1,299,953	276,644	(289,264)	-	1,287,333
Total Unrestricted Funds	1,337,896	276,644	(297,151)	-	1,317,389
<i>Restricted Funds</i>					
Help fund	5,972	1,500	(935)	-	6,537
Webbs fund	-	5,035	(4,795)	-	240
New Ground Churches fund	-	50	(50)	-	-
Sevenoaks Larder fund	-	202	(162)	-	40
Ukraine fund	-	18,194	(18,194)	-	-
	5,972	24,981	(24,136)	-	6,817
Aggregate of funds	1,343,868	301,625	(321,287)	-	1,324,206

**Analysis of net assets by fund**

In the previous year the assets and liabilities of the various funds were as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted funds</u>		Restricted funds	2022
	General funds	Designated funds	funds	
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	1,070,149	9,799	-	1,079,948
Debtors	14,651	-	-	14,651
Cash at bank and in hand	214,034	20,257	6,817	241,108
Current liabilities	(11,501)	-	-	(11,501)
	1,287,333	30,056	6,817	1,324,206

**Designated funds**

**Building fund:** these funds were set aside by the trustees for the purpose of maintaining and improving the building.

**Savings fund:** these funds have been set aside by the trustees for various infrastructure projects.

**Restricted funds**

The **Help** fund represents donations received for to help those in poverty or in crisis.

The **Webbs** fund represents donations received to support the work done by missionaries.

The **Sevenoaks Larder** fund represents donations received to help support a foodbank.

The **Ukraine** fund represents income received to help those affected by the war in Ukraine. It has largely been used to help cover the cost of delivering aid to Ukraine and Poland and to make grants to Catalyst to support their work amongst those affected by the war.



**HOPE CHURCH SEVENOAKS**  
**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**13 Transactions with related parties**

During the year the charity:

- a) received donations totalling £28,655 (2022: £25,818) from related parties (which includes trustees, key management and anyone closely connected to them).
- b) Two (2022: three) trustees and their wives were reimbursed a total of £1,129 (2022: £2,254) for travelling expenses and £2,310 (2022: £1,333) for conference and training expenses.

Except as disclosed in note 5 'Analysis of staff costs', there have been no other transactions with related parties during the year.

**14 Members**

Each member of the company commits to contribute if the charity is wound up an amount of £10.

**HOPE CHURCH SEVENOAKS**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES WITH COMPARATIVES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

		Unrestricted Funds - General		Unrestricted Funds - Designated		Restricted Funds		Total Funds	Total Funds
	Note	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>									
Donations and legacies	3	257,970	266,122	-	-	4,276	24,981	262,246	291,103
Charitable activities		21,721	10,521	-	-	16,588	-	38,309	10,521
Interest receivable		31	1	-	-	-	-	31	1
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>279,722</b>	<b>276,644</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,864</b>	<b>24,981</b>	<b>300,586</b>	<b>301,625</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>									
Charitable activities	5	344,057	289,264	4,548	7,887	20,452	24,136	369,057	321,287
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>344,057</b>	<b>289,264</b>	<b>4,548</b>	<b>7,887</b>	<b>20,452</b>	<b>24,136</b>	<b>369,057</b>	<b>321,287</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>(64,335)</b>	<b>(12,620)</b>	<b>(4,548)</b>	<b>(7,887)</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>(68,471)</b>	<b>(19,662)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(64,335)</b>	<b>(12,620)</b>	<b>(4,548)</b>	<b>(7,887)</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>845</b>	<b>(68,471)</b>	<b>(19,662)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>									
Total funds brought forward		1,287,333	1,299,953	30,056	37,943	6,817	5,972	1,324,206	1,343,868
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	12	<b>1,222,998</b>	<b>1,287,333</b>	<b>25,508</b>	<b>30,056</b>	<b>7,229</b>	<b>6,817</b>	<b>1,255,735</b>	<b>1,324,206</b>