

Registered Charity Number: 1146236

Company Registration Number: 00977544



Village Hope

Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements For the year ended 31st December 2020

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for the year ended 31st December 2020**

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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31st December 2020**

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2020.

Objectives and Aims

The company's objectives are to proclaim and live out the gospel of Jesus Christ in the villages of Britain in order to establish effective Christian witness and to encourage and enable village churches in Bible teaching, prayer, worship and evangelism.

We recognise that to be an effective Christian witness our existence is not only for the benefit of members and church attendees, but for the benefit of the wider community in the villages in which we operate. Village Hope is benefiting the public by raising awareness and understanding of the gospel of Jesus Christ, by promoting and enabling Bible teaching, study, prayer and worship sessions. Village Hope benefits the community by supporting places of worship that are open for all to attend. A benefit is provided by members who are actively involved in the community in, for example, school assemblies and providing worship in residential homes for the elderly and disabled and visiting members of the public in their homes, hospital or care homes. This is providing social care by ensuring that persons who could not otherwise worship as they wish to, are able to; they enable people to worship with others and have companionship for the time that the member is visiting. Village Hope is also providing a beneficial moral and ethical framework through living out the gospel of Jesus Christ and giving meaning to individual's lives and contributing to their spiritual well-being.

This benefits wider society as well as individual's comfort, solace and sense of purpose, as they live their lives in this framework. In promoting social cohesion by allowing various members of society to come together, many churches open during the week providing a range of activities for various age groups.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commissioners general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Risk

The trustees have reviewed all major risks to which the Charity is exposed and systems are in place to mitigate those risks. Operational risks are managed by delegation to ensure compliance with health and safety and other policies and procedures by volunteers and visitors.

External funding risks continue to be minimised by diversification of both funding and activities. Internal financial risks are managed by the implementation of authorisation procedures for all transactions.

Achievement and Performance

Charitable activities

As for most charities, our activities in 2020 were significantly curtailed by the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown.

However, the strategy of previous years, structured around the four themes of 'prayer', 'understanding', 'teams' (re-named this year as 'mission') and 'centres', with associated initiatives and projects, continued to provide the basis of our work.

Throughout the year, we served our community, consisting of members of the Village Hope Fellowship, Prayer Partners, Subscribers and associated individuals, fellowships and churches, mostly online and by post.

The number of people regularly contributing news, prayer requests, poems and biblical reflections to our monthly prayer and news bulletin, 'Village Prayer' increased, as did the variety of contributions; this group has continued to be a lively and mutually supportive community.

Our subscribers continued to receive our print newsletter, Village Link, circulation of which increased during the year. As a result, we plan in 2021 to issue this more frequently.

'Hope for the Countryside' is a partnership between Village Hope and three other organisations. It aims to mobilise, resource and inform prayer for rural Britain by issuing a monthly prayer guide, Seeds of Prayer, organising an annual prayer conference and via a dedicated website. Village Hope continued to manage, compile and issue Seeds of Prayer, and to originate much of the content. Seeds of Prayer is widely distributed via ours and the partners' networks. Unable to meet physically for our annual prayer conference this year, we held instead two online events. Both were well attended and much appreciated and helped support those working in Christian ministry in rural areas as well as others concerned better to understand and pray for rural communities.

Village Hope

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31st December 2020

As the very beginning of the year, we continued to plan and organise our 2020 conference, around the theme of 'Hope for the Earth'. Unfortunately, this had to be cancelled due to Covid-19, but we have rescheduled for October 2021.

Village Link and the annual conference are major tools in advancing our theme of promoting 'understanding' of rural life, faith, mission and ministry.

Our main other means of advancing 'understanding' is our website. We continued to develop this throughout the year. During the first lockdown especially, we published several series of articles aimed at providing biblical perspectives on the pandemic or on other themes, in all cases aiming to provide information, analysis, bible study and encouragement.

The Village Schools Project, in partnership with ICE Wales Trust, continued as normal at the start of the year, providing bible-themed assemblies, R E lessons and extra-curricular clubs to rural schools in S E Wales, Gloucestershire and South Herefordshire by recruiting and training teams from local churches. The closure and partial closure of schools and associated restrictions throughout the rest of the year put a stop to any in-school work. However, the Project reverted to making videos and offering these to schools. These were well received and were requested and used by several new schools.

Covid, however, did curtail much of our work and all staff were furloughed for some months of the year. We also terminated the post of Community Coordinator in August.

Despite the troubles of the year, we continued to be encouraged by the many signs of life and reasons for hope for church and mission in rural Britain. Pandemic and lockdown prompted a new interest among many in gathering virtually, especially for prayer, and a new interest in rural life, farming and the countryside. We remain confident that Village Hope has a role to play in resourcing and encouraging rural Christians and churches, and, thereby, serving rural life, faith, communities and wider society in the villages of Britain.

Financial review

The trustees consider the financial performance by the charity during the year to have been satisfactory.

The Statement of Financial Activities show net outgoing resources for the year of a revenue nature of £85,890 (PY £91,339).

The total reserves at the year-end after accounting for unrealised losses /after revaluing investments of £0 (PY £0), stand at £288,325 (PY £374,215).

Reserves

Unrestricted reserves held at the year-end amounted to £288,325 (PY £374,215)

Reserves policy

The trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets ('the free reserves') held by the Charity should be approximately six months of the resources expended. At this level the trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the Charity in the event of a significant drop in income.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

The charity is a charitable company limited by guarantee and was incorporated in 1970 as Friend's Prayer League and Band Holdings Limited. It changed its name to Village Hope on 25th January 2012 and from 1st April 2012 the FEBV assets and liabilities began to be transferred over to Village Hope, and the Company became active.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

In accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association each director is elected for a period of five years after which they resign and may stand to be re-elected. Elections take place at the Annual General Meeting. The Board of Directors has power to co-opt additional directors as is necessary. New trustees are invited to familiarise themselves with the Charity and its work. They are also given a welcome pack containing:

- the duties of a trustee

Village Hope

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

for the year ended 31st December 2020

- the history of our Charity
- our governing document
- the latest annual report and accounts
- minutes of recent trustee meetings
- the latest strategy plans

Reference and Administration Details

Registered name

Village Hope

Registered Charity number

1146236

Company Registration number

00977544

Principal address

Priors Frome Chapel

Priors Frome

Hereford

HR1 4EP

Trustees

Name	Position	Appointments/Resignations
John Plumb	Chair	
Dr Peter Carruthers		
Jeremy Hett		
Ruth Mallard		

Chief executive

Dr Peter Carruthers (appointed May 2016)

Independent Examiner

Magnus Proctor FFA

Lindisfarne

Landkey Road

Barnstaple

Devon

EX32 9BW

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31st December 2020**

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes 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 charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, for that period.

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 applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and 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.

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

Approved by the board of trustees on 4th April 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
John Plumb, Chair

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF VILLAGE HOPE

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Village Hope

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

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

I confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Signed:

Magnus Proctor
Fellow Institute of Financial Accountants
Lindisfarne
Landkey Road
Barnstaple
Devon
EX32 9BW

6th March 2021

Date:

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised gains and Losses)
for the Year ended 31st December 2020

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2020 Total	2019 Total
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments	2				
Donations and legacies		17,653	0	17,653	20,118
Investment income		3,921	0	3,921	172
Other income		5,567	0	5,567	4,162
Total Incoming Resources		27,141	0	27,141	24,452
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	3/4	113,031	0	113,031	115,791
Total Resources Expended		113,031	0	113,031	115,791
Net Incoming / (Outgoing) resources		(85,890)	0	(85,890)	(91,336)
Transfer between funds		0	0	0	0
		(85,890)	0	(85,890)	(91,339)
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total Funds brought forward		374,215	0	374,215	465,554
Total Funds carried forward	6	288,325	0	288,325	374,215

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
At 31st December 2020

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2020 Total	2019 Total
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets		87	0	87	87
Current Assets					
Cash at bank		289,307	0	289,307	375,231
Current Liabilities					
Amounts falling due within one year	5	(1,069)	0	(1,069)	(1,103)
Current Assets less Current Liabilities		288,325	0	288,325	374,215
Net assets		288,325	0	288,325	374,215
Funds					
Restricted funds	6		0	0	0
Unrestricted funds		288,325		288,325	374,215
Total funds		288,325	0	288,325	374,215

For the financial year in question the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

No members have required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 4th April 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
 John Plumb, Chair

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements and assessment of going concern

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. They also comply with the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Equipment - 4 years straight line

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash, current bank accounts and deposit bank accounts with no withdrawal limitations.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where then charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors are recognised at their settlement amount.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 £
Donations and gifts	16,750	0	13,784
Gift aid	793	0	916
Legacies	110	0	2,000
Other income	1,317	0	3,246
Government furlough grant	4,250	0	
	<u>23,220</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2019 £
Donations and gifts	13,784	0	13,784
Gift aid	916	0	916
Legacies	2,000	0	2,000
Other income	3,246	0	3,246
	<u>19,946</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>19,946</u>

3. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2020 £
Charitable activities	111,138	0	113,667
Support costs	1,893	0	2,124
	<u>113,031</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>115,791</u>

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	2019 £
Charitable activities	113,667	0	113,667
Support costs	2,124	0	2,124
	<u>115,791</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>115,791</u>

4. Analysis of support costs

	2020	2019
Independent examiner	1,000	1,000
	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>

5. Staff costs

	2020 £	2019 £
Salaries	92,556	86,926
Pension costs	7,059	7,393
	<u>99,615</u>	<u>94,319</u>

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) for the reporting period of more than £60,000

	2020	2019
Average headcount		
Employees	4	4

The notes form part of these financial statements

6. Tangible fixed Assets

	Buildings	Equipment	Total £
Cost			
Cost brought forward	35,000	819	35,819
Additions	0	0	0
Total cost carried forward	35,000	819	35,819
Depreciation			
Depreciation brought forward	0	732	732
Charge for year	0	87	87
Total depreciation carried forward	0	819	819
Net Book Value			
At 31 December 2020	35,000	0	35,000
At 31 December 2019	35,000	87	35,087

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Accruals and deferred income	1,000	1,103
	1,000	1,103

8. Movement in Funds

Unrestricted Funds

	Balance 1 st Jan 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31 st Dec 2020
General Fund	374,215	27,141	(113,031)	0	288,325
Total Funds	374,215	27,141	(113,031)	0	288,325

Unrestricted Funds

	Balance 1 st Jan 2019	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31 st Dec 2019
General Fund	465,554	24,452	(115,791)	0	374,215
Total Funds	465,554	24,452	(115,791)	0	374,215

9. Trustee remuneration and benefits

The Chief Executive received a salary and benefits of £44,220 during the year. No other trustee has been paid any remuneration or received any benefits from an employment with the charity or a related entity.

The following pages do not form part of the Financial Statements

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2020

	2020	2019
	£	£
Donations and legacies		
Donations	16,750	18,118
Legacies	110	2,000
Gift Aid received	793	916
Other income	1,317	3,246
Government Furlough grant	4,250	0
Total income from donations and legacies	23,220	24,280
Investment income		
Interest received	3,921	172
Total income from investment income	3,921	172
Total incoming resources	27,141	24,472
Charitable activities		
Employee salaries	92,556	86,926
Pension costs	7,059	7,393
Travel and accommodation	1,748	5,323
Rent, rates and service costs	1,358	1,584
Office costs	4,367	3,626
Telephone and internet	725	742
Miscellaneous costs	220	593
Bank charges	33	1
Legal fees	1,815	6
Conference costs	1,170	7,229
Depreciation	87	244
Total expenditure on charitable activities	111,138	113,667
Support costs		
Independent examiner	1,948	1,134
Trustee expenses	207	225
Insurance	738	765
Total support costs	1,893	2,124
Total resources expended	113,031	115,791
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources	(85,890)	(91,339)