

Registered Charity Number: 1146236

Company Registration Number: 00977544



Village Hope

Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements For the year ended 31st December 2021

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for the year ended 31st December 2021**

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**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the year ended 31st December 2021**

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021.

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 many charities and Christian ministries, our activities in 2021 continued to be curtailed by the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdowns, and their aftermath. By the end of the year, several rural churches associated with or known to us had, sadly, closed. Two of our staff were part-time furloughed for several months.

The strategy of previous years, structured around the four themes of 'prayer', 'understanding', 'mission' and 'centres', with associated initiatives and projects, continued to provide the basis of our work.

Throughout the year, we served, resourced and encouraged our prayer partners, subscribers and associated individuals, fellowships and churches, mostly online and by post. We had to postpone our annual conference again but held two lively online get-togethers.

We continued to issue our monthly prayer and news bulletin, 'Village Prayer', enabling prayer partners to share news, prayer requests, poems and biblical reflections related to rural church and rural life.

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

During the year Village Hope explored possible partnerships with three Christian organisations, two with a specific focus

Village Hope

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

for the year ended 31st December 2021

on mission. This led to agreeing a formal partnership with one, Agricultural Christian Fellowship, consolidated via a Memorandum of Understanding, and ongoing discussions with one other.

We published three issues of our magazine, Village Link and broke some new ground in style and content. The summer issue focused on 'good news stories' and examples of good practice from several churches and mission projects around the UK. The winter issue featured written versions of the presentations of a webinar on 'Countryside at the Crossroads' run in partnership with the Agricultural Christian Fellowship. Both were well received.

Our Village Schools Project (in partnership with ICE Wales Trust) continued to bring the Bible to life in schools across South-East Wales and the West of England. Due to the pandemic, work was carried out both face-to-face with children where possible, and also via an online channel. The Schools Development Worker delivered assemblies, lessons and extracurricular clubs, and was assisted, where possible, by local volunteers. The work has continued to be well received by schools, with reputation and relationships growing year on year. A number of opportunities were taken to promote the project in village churches and amongst relevant Christian organisations.

As well as participating in online conferences, in the autumn, our Executive Director gave an in-person seminar on 'God and Climate Change' at a local 'Climate Change Festival'.

Despite the continuing difficulties, we continued to be encouraged by the way online networking and meeting widened our connections and strengthened fellowship, prayer and understanding of rural matters, and by the growing interest in rural life, farming and the countryside from beyond rural communities. 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 £56,006 (PY £85,890).

The total reserves at the year-end after accounting for unrealised losses /after revaluing investments of £0 (PY £0), stand at £232,319 (PY £288,325).

Reserves

Unrestricted reserves held at the year-end amounted to £232,318 (PY £288,325)

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

Village Hope

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31st December 2021

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

John Plumb

Dr Peter Carruthers

Jeremy Hett

Ruth Mallard

Position

Chair

Appointments/Resignations

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 2021

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 11th June 2022 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 2021.

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

11th June 2022

Date:

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised gains and Losses)
for the Year ended 31st December 2021

| | | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | 2021 Total | 2020 Total |
|--|-------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Notes | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Income and Endowments | 2 | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | | 17,808 | 0 | 17,808 | 17,653 |
| Investment income | | 823 | 0 | 823 | 3,921 |
| Other income | | 14,863 | 0 | 14,863 | 5,567 |
| Total Incoming Resources | | 33,494 | 0 | 33,494 | 27,141 |
| Expenditure on: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 3/4 | 89,500 | 0 | 89,500 | 113,031 |
| Total Resources Expended | | 89,500 | 0 | 89,500 | 113,031 |
| Net Incoming / (Outgoing) resources | | (56,006) | 0 | (56,006) | (85,890) |
| Transfer between funds | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | (56,006) | 0 | (56,006) | (85,890) |
| Reconciliation of Funds | | | | | |
| Total Funds brought forward | | 288,325 | 0 | 288,325 | 374,215 |
| Total Funds carried forward | 6 | 232,319 | 0 | 232,319 | 288,325 |

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
At 31st December 2021

| | | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | 2021 Total | 2020 Total |
|--|-------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Notes | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Fixed Assets | | | | | |
| Tangible assets | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 87 |
| Current Assets | | | | | |
| Cash at bank | | 233,799 | 0 | 233,799 | 289,307 |
| Current Liabilities | | | | | |
| Amounts falling due within one year | 5 | (1,480) | 0 | (1,480) | (1,069) |
| Current Assets less Current Liabilities | | 232,319 | 0 | 232,319 | 288,325 |
| Net assets | | 232,319 | 0 | 232,319 | 288,325 |
| Funds | | | | | |
| Restricted funds | 6 | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Unrestricted funds | | 232,319 | | 232,319 | 288,325 |
| Total funds | | 232,319 | 0 | 232,319 | 288,325 |

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 11th June 2022 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 £ | 2021 £ |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Donations and gifts | 16,971 | 0 | 16,971 |
| Gift aid | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Legacies | 837 | 0 | 837 |
| Other income | 28 | 0 | 28 |
| Government furlough grant | 14,835 | 0 | 14,835 |
| | <u>32,671</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>32,671</u> |

| | Unrestricted £ | Restricted £ | 2020 £ |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Donations and gifts | 16,750 | 0 | 16,750 |
| Gift aid | 793 | 0 | 793 |
| Legacies | 110 | 0 | 110 |
| Other income | 1,317 | 0 | 1,317 |
| Government furlough grant | 4,250 | 0 | 4,250 |
| | <u>23,220</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>23,220</u> |

3. Expenditure on charitable activities

| | Unrestricted £ | Restricted £ | 2021 £ |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Charitable activities | 88,393 | 0 | 88,393 |
| Support costs | 1,107 | 0 | 1,107 |
| | <u>89,500</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>89,500</u> |

| | 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> |

4. Analysis of support costs

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Independent examiner | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| | <u>1,000</u> | <u>1,000</u> |

5. Staff costs

| | 2021 £ | 2020 £ |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Salaries | 71,379 | 92,556 |
| Pension costs | 5,582 | 7,059 |
| | <u>76,961</u> | <u>99,615</u> |

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

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|-------------------|------|------|
| Average headcount | | |
| Employees | 3 | 4 |

6. Tangible fixed Assets

| | Buildings | Equipment | Total £ |
|---|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Cost | | | |
| Cost brought forward | 35,000 | 819 | 35,819 |
| Additions | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Disposals | (35,000) | | |
| Total cost carried forward | 0 | 819 | 35,819 |
| Depreciation | | | |
| Depreciation brought forward | 0 | 819 | 819 |
| Charge for year | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total depreciation carried forward | 0 | 819 | 819 |
| Net Book Value | | | |
| At 31 December 2021 | 0 | 0 | 35,000 |
| At 31 December 2020 | 35,000 | 0 | 35,000 |

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

| | 2021 £ | 2020 £ |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Accruals and deferred income | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Creditors | 480 | |
| | 1,480 | 1,000 |

8. Movement in Funds

Unrestricted Funds

| | Balance 1st Jan 2021 | Income | Expenditure | Transfers | Balance 31st Dec 2021 |
|--------------------|--|---------------|--------------------|------------------|---|
| General Fund | 288,325 | 33,494 | (89,500) | 0 | 232,319 |
| Total Funds | 288,325 | 33,494 | (89,500) | 0 | 232,319 |

Unrestricted Funds

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

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 2021

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Donations and legacies | | |
| Donations | 16,971 | 16,750 |
| Legacies | 0 | 110 |
| Gift Aid received | 837 | 793 |
| Other income | 28 | 1,317 |
| Government Furlough grant | 14,835 | 4,250 |
| Total income from donations and legacies | 32,671 | 23,220 |
| Investment income | | |
| Interest received | 823 | 3,921 |
| Total income from investment income | 823 | 3,921 |
| Total incoming resources | 33,494 | 27,141 |
| Charitable activities | | |
| Employee salaries | 71,379 | 92,556 |
| Pension costs | 5,582 | 7,059 |
| Travel and accommodation | 1,970 | 1,748 |
| Rent, rates and service costs | 660 | 1,358 |
| Office costs | 5,343 | 4,367 |
| Telephone and internet | 819 | 725 |
| Miscellaneous costs | 1,977 | 220 |
| Bank charges | 33 | 33 |
| Legal fees | 630 | 1,815 |
| Conference costs | 0 | 1,170 |
| Depreciation | 0 | 87 |
| Total expenditure on charitable activities | 88,393 | 111,138 |
| Support costs | | |
| Independent examiner | 1,000 | 1,948 |
| Trustee expenses | 107 | 207 |
| Insurance | 0 | 738 |
| Total support costs | 1,107 | 1,893 |
| Total resources expended | 89,500 | 113,031 |
| Net incoming/(outgoing) resources | (56,006) | (85,890) |