

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2023**

LIFESPRING CHURCH

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

**REGISTERED COMPANY No: 08087254
REGISTERED CHARITY No: 1148013**

Independent Examiners Ltd
Unit 2 The Broadbridge Business Centre
Dellling Lane
Bosham
West Sussex
PO18 8NF

LIFESPRING CHURCH

CONTENTS

Pages 3 to 5	Directors' Annual Report
Page 6	Statement of Financial Activities
Page 7	Balance Sheet
Pages 8 to 16	Notes to the Financial Statements
Page 17	Statement of cashflows
Page 18	Independent Examiner's Report

LIFESPRING CHURCH

DIRECTORS REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS:

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1148013

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER 08087254

START OF FINANCIAL YEAR 1st January 2023

END OF FINANCIAL YEAR 31st December 2023

DIRECTORS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023
(also Trustees under charity law)

Mr David Cornelius - Chairman
Mr Luke Ellis
Mrs Catherine Peirce
Ms Elizabeth Monger
Mr Oluwasegun Olojo-Kosoko
Miss Chengetai Angeline Dziya (appointed 13 December 2023)

SENIOR MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

Neville Hollands (to 30 June 2024)
Jackie Hollands (to 30 June 2024)
James Hollands (from 1 July 2024)
Emma Hollands (from 1 July 2024)

PRINCIPAL OFFICE AND REGISTERED ADDRESS

143-145 Oxford Road
Reading, RG1 7UY.

PRIMARY BANKERS

HSBC
26-28 Broad Street
Reading, RG1 2BU.

SOLICITORS

Hewetts
55/57 London Street
Reading, RG1 4PS.

ACCOUNTANTS

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

LIFESPING CHURCH

DIRECTORS REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

GOVERNANCE

Selection of new Directors/Trustees is through proposals made by the leadership team headed by the Pastor. The existing Directors/Trustees appoint any new Directors/Trustees following the provisions laid out in the organisation's governing instrument and following a review of the Individual Insolvency Register, the Register of Removed Trustees and the Companies House Disqualified Directors Register. Induction of new Directors and Trustees follows the Charity Commission's guidance 'The Essential Trustee (CC3)'.

GOVERNING INSTRUMENT

Memorandum And Articles Incorporated 29/05/2012

LEGAL STATUS

Incorporated Charity

OBJECTS

The charity's objects ("the objects") are for the public benefit and are restricted to the following: (a) to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the statement of beliefs in the schedule hereto attached in such parts of Reading, the United Kingdom or the world as the Directors may from time to time think fit and to fulfil such other purposes which are exclusively charitable according to the law of England and Wales and are connected with the charitable work of the charity; (b) to relieve persons who are in conditions of need, financial hardship or sickness and who may be aged and to relieve the distress caused thereby in the said location and in such other parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the Directors may from time to time think fit including but not by way of limitation the support of those recovering from addictions; (c) to further Christian education in such parts of Reading, the United Kingdom and the world as the Directors may from time to time think fit; (d) to provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances with the object of improving their conditions of life.

The Directors are pleased to present their annual directors' report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 December 2023 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS102)).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

LifeSpring Church is based in The Pavilion, close to Reading town centre but it is a 'cell church' placing a significant emphasis on the support and care we can give each other in small groups. During the week these cells (or LifeGroups) meet in a variety of locations across Reading and we currently have about twenty-five LifeGroups for men, women, youth and children. At least 35 nationalities are actively represented in the church and this brings great blessings in the diverse way we worship God and reach out to the community around us.

We continue to cater for all ages, with groups ranging from nursery age, through youth and young adult activities to the weekly Over-60s lunch at Café 12, all reaching out and providing valuable support for the local community. All of these activities are carried out in support of the charity's objects and for the public benefit, with the majority of the resource coming from volunteers either directly running and managing activities or supporting the paid staff responsible for the oversight. Further afield, the Church continues to assist a number of Churches, ministries and missionaries overseas, particularly in Africa with financial, prayer and practical support.

LifeSpring Church does not have a formal membership structure and no specific targets are set for the achievement of the charitable objects, either in number of regular congregants or any other measure, but a consistent number of attendees aligned with stable or increasing donation income is taken as an empirical assessment of meeting the charity objects of advancing the Christian faith and furthering Christian education. On that basis, LifeSpring Church is performing well against the objects.

Community activities use the Pavilion building as a focal point with specific groups such as Thursday Help Club, Job Club, Recovery Group, Communicare and Tiggers Toddler reaching out directly into the community. These meet specific practical needs such as interview practice, help with CV writing, collecting shopping and prescriptions and providing support and encouragement for those in recovery and for those currently still in addiction but seeking help to change their lifestyle. Café 12 also acts as a hub for the community to come into the building and make contact with those that can provide support. These activities together with the wide range of children and youth events are key parts of meeting the objective to relieve persons who are in conditions of need and provide facilities in the interests of social welfare. and the busyness of the building during the week is a subjective measure of success.

The Directors confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives, in planning future activities, and in setting the policies for the year.

LIFESPRING CHURCH

DIRECTORS REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The attendance in the building for the Sunday service has continued to increase with a regular congregation of 300 or more each service, but despite this there is still a large online attendance and a number of people have joined the church whose first experience of LifeSpring was through the livestreamed service.

Revenue from Pavilion hires dropped slightly from 2022 but still provided useful income to support other areas of church work and giving has increased significantly meaning there is currently no reason for any more than usual prudent financial management to ensure that the work of LifeSpring continues to grow.

External refurbishment work to the Pavilion building began in May using a Heritage Project grant from Reading Borough Council. This work was due to take 6 weeks but by the end of December had not completed and the council had proposed terminating the contract with their contractor who was no longer responding to queries on progress. The scaffolding has impacted Café 12 numbers but the Pavilion has remained an important point of interaction with the local community.

God has abundantly shown his provision in 2023 where LifeSpring has shown that it is continuing to make all efforts to successfully reach the lost.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The vision of the LifeSpring Church leadership is for significant growth in numbers to a church of several thousand regular congregants over the coming years and the Directors and Trustees take this into account as part of medium-term planning for organisation and staffing. Foundations will be put in place to allow for structuring a church of this size, using prudent and targeted expenditure in areas that have both immediate and future benefits. Consideration will be given to the purchase or lease of further premises near or adjacent to the Pavilion at the appropriate juncture, if this is required to enable the planned growth in numbers and activities. All of this will be discussed in conjunction with the senior church leadership to ensure close alignment of their vision with the practical and financial requirements. At least one representative of the senior church leadership participates informally in all Directors' meetings to ensure this perspective is taken into account.

LIFESPRING'S ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

Day-to-day management of LifeSpring Church is delegated to Neville and Jackie Hollands for the period to 30th June 2024 and James and Emma Hollands from 1st July 2024. Specific responsibilities and authority levels for decision making are set out in the job descriptions for all members of staff, together with the relevant LifeSpring policies approved by the Directors. No decisions to change or to deviate from policy requirements may be made by anyone other than LifeSpring Directors.

James and Emma Hollands were appointed as Associate Pastors during 2023 with a view to them taking on the leadership of LifeSpring church from Neville Hollands, who had expressed a desire to step down from full-time ministry during mid-2024. The directors and senior leadership team are working with them both to ensure appropriate training and mentoring is in place to allow a smooth transition. Marlon Shepherd continued acting as Events Manager until the summer but decided that she would not continue in the role permanently. We are very grateful to her for the hard work during her time in the post and thankful that she will continue in her role of Finance Officer.

Sarah Lawrence was due to give birth during early 2024 and so Lauren Lane was appointed to take over the responsibilities for children's work in LifeSpring during January 2024. We would like to thank Sarah for all the hard work she has put in to developing an active ministry to young people.

The organisational structure consists of:

Directors/Trustees:

(see above) - responsible for management of the charity.

Church Leaders:

- Neville Hollands*
- Jackie Hollands*
- Jamie Burnham
- Heather Herring *
- James Hollands*
- Emma Hollands
- Jon Hollands
- Craig Lawrence

LIFESPRING CHURCH

DIRECTORS REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Events Manager:	Marion Shepherd *
Charity Bookkeeper:	Marion Shepherd*
Communications Manager:	James Hollands*
Treasurer:	Luke Ellis
Youth Work:	James Hollands*
	Sarah Lawrence*
Community Team Leader:	Jackie Jackson*
Door of Hope Managers:	Jim Herring*
	Heather Herring*

* = employed, either full or part-time

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Any funds in deficit, reasons and any action being taken

The Church had an accounting surplus of £133,718 in 2023 (compared to a deficit of £8,040 in 2022). The church's finances at the end of 2023 remain healthy and we finished the 2023 year with a total cash balance of £366,430.

The designated Circle Fund that was ringfenced by the Trustees to build up funds to help pay off the Member Loans, stood at £276,309 at 31st December 2023. The member loans are due for repayment by 2028.

POLICIES

Reserves

At the balance sheet date the charitable company unrestricted free reserves totalled: £ 1,389,416

This excludes £276,309 which has been ringfenced by the Trustees as unrestricted designated funds.

The Directors have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs. This is based on the charity's size and the level of financial commitments held. The Directors aim to ensure the charity will be able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives even if there is a temporary shortfall in income or unexpected expenditure. The Directors will endeavour not to set aside funds unnecessarily.

Grant-making

Approximately 10% of the Charity's income is given away to other Christian organisations and individuals recommended by the Leadership Team, both home and abroad. Decisions on the disbursement of these funds takes into account the relationship of these organisations or people to LifeSpring Church, together with the alignment of the aims of these organisations to the LifeSpring Church objects. In all cases, the grants are made taking into account the LifeSpring Church Anti-Corruption and Bribery Policy, together with applicable UK law. LifeSpring Church does not use intermediaries, Informal Value Transfer Systems, Money Service Businesses or Payment Services Firms for the transfer of funds, either within the UK or abroad.

Investments selection

The Charity does not have a policy to select specific investments apart from for the use of the Charity itself.

Going Concern

There are no uncertainties regarding the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

DIRECTORS 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 :-

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation;
- 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 Trustees/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 Trustees/Directors are also responsible for the contents of the Directors' report, and the responsibility of the independent examiner in relation to the Directors' report 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.

Declaration: I declare, in my capacity of Charity Trustee, that:

- the Directors have approved the report above; and
- have authorised me to sign it on their behalf.

Signature:



Full name : Mr David Cornelius Date : 24-09-24

LIFESPRING CHURCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(including income and expenditure account)
For The Year Ended 31st December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	Re-stated TOTAL 2022 £
Income						
Donations and legacies	3	411,741	123,225	66,248	601,214	397,698
Income from charitable activities	4	91,776	-	18	91,794	60,730
Income from other trading activities	5	65,970	-	-	65,970	69,174
Investment income	6	24	1,392	-	1,416	110
Total income		569,511	124,617	66,266	760,394	527,712
Expenditure						
Costs of Raising Funds	7a	40,631	-	-	40,631	31,886
Expenditure on charitable activities	7b	527,168	34	58,843	586,045	503,866
Total Expenditure		567,799	34	58,843	626,676	535,752
Net income/(expenditure)		1,712	124,583	7,423	133,718	(8,040)
Transfers between funds	18	(50,906)	50,906	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(49,194)	175,489	7,423	133,718	(8,040)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total Funds Brought Forward		1,438,610	100,820	35,938	1,575,368	1,583,408
Total Funds Carried Forward		1,389,416	276,309	43,361	1,709,086	1,575,368

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

LIFESPRING CHURCH

**BALANCE SHEET
As At 31 December 2023**

Company registration number: 08087254

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31-Dec-23 Total £	31-Dec-22 Total £
Fixed Assets						
Tangible assets	14	1,772,638	-	-	1,772,638	1,836,818
Total fixed assets						
Current Assets						
Debtors	15	4,051	70,122	-	74,173	7,321
Cash at bank and in hand		116,882	206,187	43,361	366,430	232,989
Total Current Assets		120,933	276,309	43,361	440,603	240,310
Liabilities						
Creditors: falling due within 1 year	16	4,155	-	-	4,155	1,760
Net Current assets		116,778	276,309	43,361	436,448	238,550
Total assets less current liabilities		1,889,416	276,309	43,361	2,209,086	2,075,368
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than 1 year	17	500,000	-	-	500,000	500,000
Net assets		1,389,416	276,309	43,361	1,709,086	1,575,368
Funds of the Charity	19					
Unrestricted income funds		1,389,416	-	-	1,389,416	1,438,610
Designated Funds		-	276,309	-	276,309	100,820
Restricted Funds		-	-	43,361	43,361	35,938
Total Charity Funds		1,389,416	276,309	43,361	1,709,086	1,575,368

Directors Responsibilities

For the year ended 31st December 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not 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 the preparation of accounts.

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

The notes on pages 8 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the Directors on the : 24-09-24

Signed on their behalf by:  Director

Print Name: MR DAVID CORNELIUS

Company Registration Number: 08087254

Type text here

LIFESPRING CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Basis of preparation

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 applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS102)).

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.

Lifespring Church meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

Preparation of the accounts is on a going concern basis. The Directors are of the view that the level of reserves will support the charity going forward.

Changes to prior period accounts

It became apparent during the preparation of these financial statements, that internal fund transfers totalling £3,595 in the previous financial year had been inadvertently shown as income and expenditure. The results have been re-stated to reflect this. There is no effect on the overall closing position or reserves at 31st December 2022.

There have been no other changes to previous accounts.

b) Income

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income, receipt is probable and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

c) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

d) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the Directors have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity. Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

e) Expenditure

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. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

f) Allocation of support costs

Support costs include central functions and where material have been allocated to each activity cost category on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

g) Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is not charged on freehold land.

Depreciation on other tangible fixed assets is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of those assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following basis:

Freehold property	-	0%
Freehold property refurbishment	-	5% straight line
Plant and machinery	-	25% straight line
Motor vehicles	-	25% straight line
Office equipment	-	25% straight line

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £1,500. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

h) Employee benefits

Short term benefits including holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the period in which the service is received.

LIFESPRING CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

i) Operating leases

Rental charges payable under operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the terms of the lease.

j) Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

2. Legal status of the charity

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

3. Income from donations and legacies

Donations	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	Re-stated TOTAL 2022 £
Donations and gifts	18	333,033	121,919	-	454,952	323,613
Special offerings	18	-	-	1,475	1,475	7,024
Gift aid received		78,695	1,306	-	80,001	66,995
Grants (for Heritage Project)	18	-	-	64,773	64,773	-
Other		13	-	-	13	66
Total		411,741	123,225	66,248	601,214	397,698

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Church events, activities and fundraising	18,130	-	18	18,148	9,137
Car Parking	769	-	-	769	910
Youth	8,169	-	-	8,169	8,080
Donated Services (salary support)	44,821	-	-	44,821	41,247
Donated Services (DOH)	19,107	-	-	19,107	-
Insurance Claim	-	-	-	-	949
Sundry and Miscellaneous	780	-	-	780	407
Total	91,776	-	18	91,794	60,730

5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Letting of property held for functional use	38,790	-	-	38,790	44,808
Café 12 - trading income	27,180	-	-	27,180	24,366
Total	65,970	-	-	65,970	69,174

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Interest received	24	1,392	-	1,416	110
Total	24	1,392	-	1,416	110

The investment income arises from money held in interest bearing deposit accounts.

LIFESPRING CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

7a. Cost of raising funds

		Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Hire and Event expenses		12,787	-	-	12,787	7,687
Café expenses	20	27,368	-	-	27,368	24,199
Marketing		476	-	-	476	-
Total		40,631	-	-	40,631	31,886

7b. Expenditure on charitable activities

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	Re-stated TOTAL 2022 £
Buildings	18	56,807	-	58,782	115,589	59,533
Community		7,826	-	-	7,826	5,116
Depreciation		77,626	-	-	77,626	75,557
Door of Hope		2,796	-	-	2,796	-
Employment	10	300,261	-	-	300,261	283,766
Gifts and Donations		1,842	-	-	1,842	1,250
Miscellaneous		887	-	-	887	967
Mission and grants	12,18	16,415	-	-	16,415	26,347
Office and administration	18	16,032	34	61	16,127	23,387
Pastoral, Church and Counselling		37,849	-	-	37,849	19,585
Youth and children		7,147	-	-	7,147	6,798
Governance Costs (see note 7c)		1,680	-	-	1,680	1,560
Total		527,168	34	58,843	586,045	503,866

7c) Analysis of governance costs

	Support £	Governance £	Total £	Basis of Apportionment
Independent examiners fees	-	1,680	1,680	Actual cost
Other fees paid to Independent examiner	-	-	-	Actual cost
	-	1,680	1,680	

8. Summary analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

This table shows the cost of the main charitable activities including support costs and grant funding to third parties.

Activity or programme		Church activities and community initiatives £	Grant making activities £	Total £
Direct charitable activities		567,950	-	567,950
Charitable grants	(note 12)	-	16,415	16,415
Governance costs		1,680	-	1,680
Support costs		-	-	-
		569,630	16,415	586,045

LIFESPRIING CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

9. Net income/(expenditure) for the year

This is stated after charging:

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	TOTAL 2022 £
Depreciation	77,626	-	77,626	75,557
Independent Examiner's remuneration	1,680	-	1,680	1,560
	<u>79,306</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>79,306</u>	<u>77,117</u>

10. Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses and the cost of key management personnel

	2023 £	2022 £
Salaries and wages	260,235	252,816
Employers National Insurance Contributions	15,329	14,711
SMP Recovered	-	(7,480)
Employers Pension Contributions	19,564	19,165
Expenses and allowances	3,931	3,422
Payroll Processing Fees	<u>1,202</u>	<u>1,132</u>
	<u>300,261</u>	<u>283,766</u>
DOH Contribution to salary costs	(44,821)	(41,247)

Social security costs are shown net of the current HMRC annual employment allowance. No employee had employment benefits in excess of £60,000, excluding employers pension costs (2022 : nil). Pensions are wholly charged to unrestricted funds.

The average head count was 15.5 during this financial year (2022: 14). The actual number of employees (including casual and part-time staff) at the end of the year were as follows:

	2023	2022
Area employed in: Charitable activities	16	15
	<u>16</u>	<u>15</u>

Trustee and related party transactions

In the period the charity has paid remuneration to trustees and related parties to trustees for services supplied to the Church as follows:

Name	Legal Authority	Amounts paid or benefit value		
		Remuneration Total £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Mrs E Monger (Trustee)	Governing document	13,480	13,480	13,122
		<u>13,480</u>	<u>13,480</u>	<u>13,122</u>

For the 12 months ended 31 December 2023 payments to Trustees/Directors as disclosed above were as follows:

One Director received remuneration of £12,516 for their role as Cafe 12 assistant (2022: £12,295). Employer National and Insurance contributions paid on their behalf totalled £965 (2022: £827)

These payments were in accordance with clause 7 of the the charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Apart from the transactions detailed in note 11, no other payments were paid to related parties in 2023 or 2022. The relationship between Lifespring Church and Lifespring Trust (registered charity number 296276) is explained in note 11. The Trustees of Lifespring Church are also the Trustees of Lifespring Trust.

No other 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 Director or any person connected with them. There were no outstanding balances with Directors or Related Parties as at 31 December 2023.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Directors and Church Leaders. The total employee benefits (including employer national insurance and employer pension contributions) of key management personnel of the charity were £131,772 (2022: £122,421). The Church paid an annual life assurance and critical illness cover policy in 2023 costing £1,621 (2022: £2,326) which includes cover for all staff members. It is not possible to calculate the amounts relating specifically to each staff member, thus it is disclosed here for transparency purposes only.

LIFESPRING CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Trustee and related party transactions (continued)

Five directors donated an aggregate amount of £36,606 (2022: Five Directors; £35,551) to Lifespring Church during this financial year.

The charity operates a government backed defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme. The charity is under no further obligation to make any extra payments irrespective of how that pension fund performs. In 2023 the charity paid employer contributions of £17,164 (2022: £16,765) into that scheme. The charity also paid £2,400 (2022: £2,400) employer contributions into an Aviva personal pension scheme on behalf of one member of key management personnel.

11. Donated Services and relationships with other charities

On the 1st November 2012 all activities from Lifespring Trust (registered charity number 296276) started to be transferred to Lifespring Church.

In 2013 the first transfer comprised the newly purchased property asset 'The Pavilion', Reading. In 2014 all other activity bar that of the project 'Door of Hope', was transferred.

The Door of Hope regular staff are paid by Lifespring Church charity and Lifespring Trust sends salary support payments towards the cost. In 2023 payments totalling £41,499 were sent (2022: £40,052).

During this financial year, some staff employed by Lifespring Church were seconded to work on the Grow project, which is a project run by Citylife Community Projects (registered charity number 1117112). Citylife Community Projects sent salary support payments towards the cost. In 2023 payments totalling £3,322 were sent (2022: £1,195)

In this financial year the following transactions between the entities have been recorded:

Lifespring Trust paid salary support payments to Lifespring Church	£	41,499
CityLife Community Projects paid salary support payments to Lifespring Church	£	3,322
	£	44,821

12. Grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	TOTAL 2023 £	Re-stated TOTAL 2022 £
Gifts and grants to individuals:				
Spirit Connect - J & C Noble	-	-	-	400
Mozambique - Tracey	3,600	-	3,600	3,600
Uganda - Pastor Fred	3,718	-	3,718	7,186
Total	7,318	-	7,318	11,186
Ministry support grants and activities:				
Lifespring mission				-
Faith Christian Group	3,600	-	3,600	3,600
Lifeline	600	-	600	600
G12 Gifts	-	-	-	816
Reading RCN	600	-	600	3,245
Poor Fund	97	-	97	-
Torch	700	-	700	-
Grow	300	-	300	900
Look Around	200	-	200	3,000
Rahab via Mustard Tree	3,000	-	3,000	3,000
Total	6,097	-	6,097	15,161
Total gifts and grants	13,415	-	13,415	26,347

LIFESPRING CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

13. Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Equipment General	Freehold Property General -refurbish.	Freehold Property General Tide No: BK111153	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost:				
As at 1st January 2023	33,718	1,359,303	1,024,843	2,417,864
Additions	13,446	-	-	13,446
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2023	47,164	1,359,303	1,024,843	2,431,310
Depreciation:				
As at 1st January 2023	16,016	565,030	-	581,046
Charge for the year	9,685	67,941	-	77,626
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-
As at 31 December 2023	25,701	632,971	-	658,672
Net book value:				
As at 1st January 2023	17,702	794,273	1,024,843	1,836,818
As at 31 December 2023	21,463	726,332	1,024,843	1,772,638

Freehold Property is currently valued at a rebuild cost of £5.1 million for insurance purposes.

No depreciation is provided on buildings, as the current estimated residual value of the properties is not less than their carrying value and the remaining useful life of these assets currently exceeds 50 years, so that any depreciation charges would be immaterial. An impairment review is carried out each year end and any loss identified included in expenditure for the year.

15. Debtors & prepayments

	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
	£	£
Trade Debtors	4,051	7,321
Loan to Lifespring Trust re: Mortgage repaid	70,122	-
	74,173	7,321

16. Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year

	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
	£	£
Credit Cards	464	-
Independent Examiners Fees	1,680	1,560
Other Creditors	1,811	-
Refundable Deposit	200	200
	4,155	1,760

17. Creditors: amounts falling due in more than 1 year

	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
	£	£
Private Member Loans	500,000	500,000
	500,000	500,000

The Private Member Loans were received in 2016, are unsecured, interest free and repayable within a maximum 12 year period. The Trustees have ringfenced a designated fund to build up funds to help pay off the Member Loans.

LIFESPRING CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

18. Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds:

Unrestricted General fund

The free reserves of the charity after allowing for all designated funds.

	2023	2022
Balance at 1st January	1,438,610	1,532,120
Income	569,511	489,874
Expenditure	(567,799)	(535,654)
Transfers between funds	(50,906)	(47,730)
Movement in funds	(49,194)	(93,510)
Balance at 31st December	£ 1,389,416	£ 1,438,610

Unrestricted Designated Circle fund

This is a designated fund for raising funds to help pay off the Member Loan

	2023	2022
Balance at 1st January	100,820	19,219
Income	124,617	34,439
Income - loan repayment from Lifespring Trust	-	-
Expenditure	(34)	(35)
Expenditure - loan to Lifespring Trust for Mortgage	-	-
Transfers between funds	50,906	47,197
Movement in funds	175,489	81,601
Balance at 31st December	£ 276,309	£ 100,820

The balance at 31st December shown above, is wholly represented by the funds held in the Circle Fund bank account, plus the amount owing from Lifespring Trust for the mortgage repayment loan.

Total unrestricted reserves at 31st December

£ 1,665,725 £ 1,539,430

Analysis of movements in restricted funds:

Building fund - ongoing expenses

This fund is restricted giving for the ongoing expenses of the new building project where the church meets.

	2023	2022
Capital:		
Balance at 1st January	35,938	32,069
Income	66,266	3,399
Expenditure	(58,843)	(63)
Transfer between funds	-	533
Movement in funds	7,423	3,869
Balance as at 31st December	£ 43,361	£ 35,938

The balance at 31st December shown above, is wholly represented by the funds held in the Pavillion Capital bank account.

Total restricted reserves at 31st December

£ 43,361 £ 35,938

LIFESPRING CHURCH
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

	General Fund	Designated Reserves	Restricted Reserves	TOTAL 31.12.2023
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets:	1,772,638	-	-	1,772,638
Net current assets:				
Unrestricted - general	116,778	-	-	116,778
Unrestricted - designated	-	276,309	-	276,309
Building fund - ongoing expenses	-	-	43,361	43,361
Long term liabilities:				
General	(500,000)	-	-	(500,000)
	1,389,416	276,309	43,361	1,709,086

20. Café 12

In April 2016 Café 12 (the community cafe based at the Pavilion) opened its own bank account. Prior to this, all Café 12 activity passed through Citylife Community Projects bank account, registered charity number 1117112. As Lifespring Church is the largest user of Café 12, the decision was taken in 2016 by the Trustees, to include the results of Café 12 within the financial statements of Lifespring Church.

21. Non-Adjusting post balance sheet event

During 2023, the Trustees agreed that the assets and activity of Lifespring Trust (charity number 296276) would be transferred to Lifespring Church. Due to legal formalities, as at the date of signing these financial statements, the transfer has not yet been finalised.

LIFESPRIING CHURCH

STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash used in operating activities	145,471	63,881
Cash used from investing activities		
Interest income	1,416	110
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(13,446)	(5,327)
Cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(12,030)	(5,217)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Introduction/(Repayment) of long term borrowing	-	-
Cash used in financing activities	-	-
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year	133,441	58,664
Cash and cash equivalents at the start of the year	232,989	174,325
TOTAL cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	366,430	232,989

(a) Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net movement in funds	133,718	(8,040)
Add back depreciation charge	77,626	75,557
Deduct interest income shown in investing activities	(1,416)	(110)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(66,852)	(3,376)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	2,395	(150)
Net cash used in operating activities	145,471	63,881

(b) Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	366,430	232,989
Fixed Term Bond	-	-
Total cash and cash equivalents	366,430	232,989

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Lifespring Church for the year ended 31 December 2023.

As the charity's Trustees (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 Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees (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 charity 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

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 member of The Association of Charity Independent Examiners, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

- 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 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.

Signed: 

Date: 25 September 2024

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