

# IDENTITY YOUTH PROJECT Charity Commission no. 1148275

## **Annual Trustees Report to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

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### **Trustees**

Anna Louise Price Chair

Veronica Ann Baldwin

Lynn Valerie Lees

Brian Philpot

Ruth May Pillar

### **Appointed**

29 September 2018

11 January 2021

24 February 2021 (Resigned 24<sup>th</sup> January 2022)

18 July 2012

18 July 2012

## **The Charity's Objects**

(a) to advance the Christian faith for the benefit of young people in accordance with the statement of faith appearing in appendix 1 throughout the world and in particular (but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) in Gorleston on Sea and its environs;

(b) the advancement of the Christian faith mainly, but not exclusively by means of proclaiming Christian messages of an evangelistic and teaching nature throughout the world and in particular (but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) in Gorleston on sea and its environs;

(c) to demonstrate, promote and encourage Christian values, including dignity, empowerment and partnership to all young people throughout Gorleston on sea and its environs;

(d) the advancement of the education of children and young people through support and mentoring in schools, colleges and other educational establishments. Through lunchtime and after school clubs, street-based youth work and other youth provision to develop their physical, mental and spiritual capacities, that they may grow to full maturity as individuals, and that their condition of life may be improved;

(e) to relieve poverty and sickness thereby demonstrating the Christian faith by promoting overseas service, education, practical action and working with those affected, either directly or through relevant relief agencies.



## **Constitution**

26 JUN 2012 AS AMENDED ON 11/12/2012 as amended on 29 Sep 2018

## **Reports:**

### **Chair**

Key aspects of Identity's youth work have flourished this past year, despite the painfully damaging effects of the pandemic on young people and on our opportunities to serve them. As in-person youth work was dramatically stopped with the first lock down, a dynamic online ministry took its place, reaching not only young people locally but as far afield as Scotland and Tanzania. In-person work has operated whenever the National Youth Agency guidance allowed but at a reduced level due to the accompanying restrictions. Identity is now playing a making a significant effort to inspire and equip churches to bring back their outreach youth clubs in the Autumn.

### **Mission to Unchurched Youth:**

There is no doubt that the mission to unchurched youth in particular was painfully damaged by the pandemic. The 4 churches we supported running their own outreach youth clubs had to stop them. Led by the Identity youth worker, many efforts were made to maintain relationships and fun over zoom during the first lockdown, and telephone contact was made with families. However, this contact has now stopped and the zoom groups lost momentum; we trust each church is doing what it can to maintain links wherever possible. This has been a painful loss - both in terms of the contact with the young people but also in the momentum of each church's youth ministry. We are concerned that the thought of re-starting youth work as a priority is daunting for the churches to contemplate.

However, the Identity trustees have put together a strategic plan for preparing the ground in the local churches for re-launching these groups over the Summer and Autumn of 2021, as restrictions allow. Therefore, the Chair of Trustees has been speaking to each local minister individually to discuss possibilities so that they might prepare their congregations. The local churches were then invited to our Zoom Celebration evening (AGM) which included a compelling pair of videos outlining our work this past year and setting out our vision for 2021 which can be seen using the links below:

- Video of our work this year:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DglDECtY\\_Nc&t=1s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DglDECtY_Nc&t=1s)

- Video of our vision: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UdBT9NW5Krl&t=2s>

This was attended by over 50 people, representing 6 local churches, as well as a supporting church in Sheringham and representatives of North Breckland Youth for



Christ and East Norfolk Youth for Christ. The sense of unity and anticipation about the vision we were setting was palpable. This will be followed up with each church and we hope that together they will pull together resources to help fund a second part-time worker to focus on this particular outreach work (having agreed recently to reduce the hours slightly of the current worker). Donations have already started to come in towards this and we are excited by the prospect of the churches taking more financial responsibility for their share in Identity's work. We think there are four locations in which outreach youth clubs could be re-launched and are prayerfully determined to support the churches in every way we can to get these groups up and running this year or next.

### **Discipleship and support of church youth:**

Whilst our mission to unchurched youth has been frustrated by the pandemic, our support of inter-church youth has most definitely grown during this last year. Our youth worker has a natural and engaging ability online and has excelled in this period. Whilst the schools and after-school clubs for young people locked down and isolation became intense, Matt Ashpole developed a buoyant online community for young people that drew together the youth from across the churches. The existing provision has been massively ramped up to give much needed additional support over an extremely tough year for young people.

**Central:** a monthly youth gathering specifically for fellowship became weekly on Zoom. 2 years ago 11 attended in total. 1 year ago 17 attended and this year online, an average of 11.3 have attended with 16 engaging in total; this number increased to 21 when we were able to be back in the building. Together they represent 5 local churches and all 3 local high schools. Creative online games and activities provided the forum for youth to gather on a Sunday afternoon. They experienced a significant Christian teaching slot which included a short 5-10 minute pre-recorded talk followed by discussion groups. The programme has included topics like Worry, Wisdom, Rest and many more. One young person said 'It's definitely my favourite, as we get to have fun and learn too'. Volunteers from 3 different churches gather to run this.

**Central Hangout:** A new weekly get together online for the Central youth began in the first lockdown and has continued throughout the year. Meeting mid-week simply for a light half an hour of games and fun together on Zoom has been deeply valued in the current crisis. As one young person said, 'it's good to see people'. The sense of isolation and impact on mental health for young people has in some way been mitigated by a half an hour breather of silliness and hysterics. On average 4.4 attended with 8 engaging in total.

**Zip:** Youngsters from Central are encouraged to join the fortnightly youth Bible study on Zoom. This in-depth time of focused Bible study and prayer is a 'spiritual life-line' to those who attend. A year ago, 4 were attending fortnightly but the group is now weekly and on average 7 have been attending online. This has been described as 'good' in the context of covering Bible stories from the Old Testament recently.



**LYN:** 'Love Your Neighbour' takes place in the school holidays and Christian young people gather to make a difference in the local community. Over the Summer of 2020, 7 Young people got involved and took on projects such as pruning trees and general tidying/maintenance in church yards, clearing grass for a local resident and removing weeds from paths this continued again during the Easter holiday of 2021 (even during the snow!). Plans are afoot for more service this Summer.

**Online content:** To compliment the online gatherings, a whole range of YouTube resources have been produced by Matt - 200 at the last count. These have been viewed just under 13,000 times across our various platforms. The standard of production and content is extremely high and they have been well used by young people here and further afield over the year. They will be a great resource for youth work generally into the future. There has been a huge amount of relevant, Biblical teaching material produced on topics such as The Holy Spirit, The Whole Armour of God, Worry & Anxiety, The Beatitudes and many more. In the first lockdown young people were kept physically active with Workout Wednesday videos and laughing away with Friday Funday videos, which young people themselves contributed to with comedy acts. These 200 videos may be explored on our Identity Youth Project Youtube page: <https://youtu.be/fQOx14jvVc>

**Case Study** - Interviews with some of our young people and youth leaders further afield are included in the Celebration video (link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DglDEctYNc&t=1s>). An example of one young person who has benefited from this online provision is an 11 year old girl who had rather outgrown the small Sunday school provision of her church and was feeling increasingly frustrated by the level of teaching, never mind socially hanging out with 6 year olds. There is no youth provision on a Sunday morning currently at her church. She felt isolated as a Christian at school and had no peers to spur her on in faith. Being old enough to join Identity in September has given her a new friendship with a Christian girl from another church and another school, also feeling the spiritual isolation from peers. Together they enjoy the fellowship of Central and access to age-appropriate spiritual teaching and discipleship. They laugh together on Central Hangout and learn together at Zip. Here a strong friendship has been formed that has all the potential to see them through their high school years as Christians.

In the context of Gorleston, Bradwell and Belton, where there is no other youth provision (secular/council or otherwise), **The Identity Youth Project** has proved that it is needed, and has been respected and valued over the course of this troubling year. Giving strong online and in-person support to 21 young people from across the area and untold numbers who have watched online videos, has meant that, rather than essential youth work collapsing over this year, as so many other church ministries have, Christian youth work here has in many ways rather taken off! The provision of a dedicated youth worker, facilitating his accompanying volunteer team, has meant that young people have not been forgotten, but have been supported at their point of need.



## **Finance**

**Accounts to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 and Independent Examiners Report are attached**

For the year the Trust has surplus of Receipts over Payments of £14,444.84 in the General Fund and a surplus Receipts over Payments of £102.96 in the Restricted Fund. The Restricted Fund is for the purchase of equipment.

Receipts during the year were received from 5 local churches who have supported the work over the years. There were twenty-four individuals who regularly gave each month, twenty of these also have signed Gift Aid forms. During the year four individuals made on off donations totalling £2,000.

Three grants were received during the year from the Norwich Diocese, The Ranworth Trust and The John James Trust.

We are very thankful for all our financial supporters

Signed on behalf of Trustees



A Price



B Philpot



# IDENTITY YOUTH PROJECT

Year to 30th June 2021

	<u>General</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>2020</u>
Churches	£13,483.35		£13,483.35	£5,700.00
Monthly Donations Individuals - Gift Aid	£5,144.00		£5,144.00	£5,215.00
Monthly Donations Individuals	£1,525.00		£1,525.00	£1,380.00
Donations Individuals - Gift Aided	£2,000.00	£110.00	£2,110.00	£168.43
Donations Individuals	£257.88	£26.24	£284.12	£60.00
Donations - Organisations/Church Collections	£0.00		£0.00	£371.52
Groups Subscriptions	£0.00		£0.00	£0.00
Event Income	£0.00		£0.00	£0.00
Fundraising	£5.50		£5.50	£277.03
Interest	£1.55		£1.55	£25.35
HMRC - Gift Aid	£1,786.00	£27.50	£1,813.50	£1,422.74
Grants Unrestricted	£15,500.00		£15,500.00	£12,000.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>£39,703.28</b>	<b>£163.74</b>	<b>£39,867.02</b>	<b>£26,620.07</b>
Payroll	£20,160.00		£20,160.00	£20,595.72
Payroll NI ers	£0.00		£0.00	£0.00
Payroll Pension ers	£990.50		£990.50	£1,025.10
Training	£719.00		£719.00	£186.50
YW Expenses (Comms, Travel etc)	£255.04		£255.04	£401.67
Expenses for Groups	£249.35		£249.35	£563.66
Event Expenses	£0.00		£0.00	£76.40
Administration (DBS, Printing, Website etc)	£1,272.79		£1,272.79	£896.67
Insurance	£788.71		£788.71	£788.71
Equipment	£774.09	£55.50	£829.59	£318.24
Fundraising Costs & Donations	£48.96	£5.28	£54.24	£0.00
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£25,258.44</b>	<b>£60.78</b>	<b>£25,319.22</b>	<b>£24,852.67</b>
<b>Excess Receipts over Payments YTD</b>	<b>£14,444.84</b>	<b>£102.96</b>	<b>£14,547.80</b>	<b>£1,767.40</b>
Balance B/f	£19,298.09	£0.00	£19,298.09	£17,530.69
<b>Funds Available</b>	<b>£33,742.93</b>	<b>£102.96</b>	<b>£33,845.89</b>	<b>£19,298.09</b>
Bank Balance - Current			£429.66	£166.88
Bank Balance - Deposit			£32,500.00	£18,000.00
Creditors			(£750.00)	(£400.00)
Accrued Income			£0.00	£0.00
Debtors			£475.00	£347.01
Payments in Advance			£1,191.23	£1,184.20
			<b>£33,845.89</b>	<b>£19,298.09</b>

Chair:

*Anna Price*

ANNA PRICE

Treasurer

*Simon Philpott*

SIMON PHILPOTT



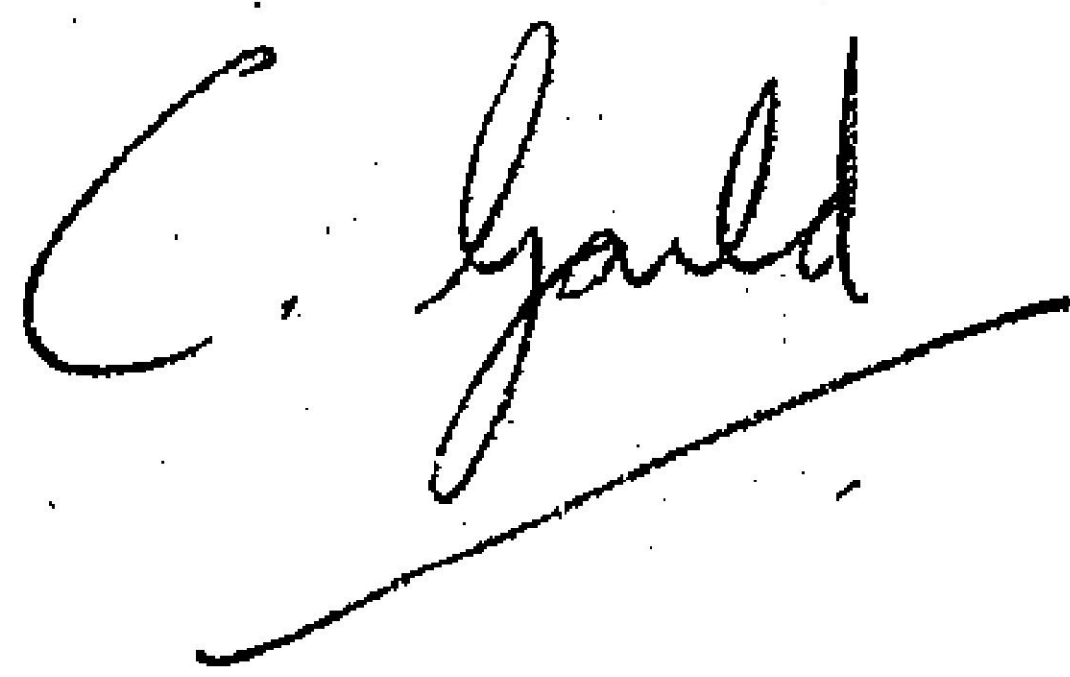
# IDENTITY YOUTH PROJECT

## EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

I hereby certify that I have examined the accounts from the Youth Project's accounting records and information supplied by the Treasurer.

I have obtained all information which I considered necessary to enable me to give reasonable assurance that the accounts are free from material errors.

In my opinion the accounts reasonably reflect the state of the Project's financial affairs as at June 30 2021 and of its surpluses/deficits for the period then ended.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Gould', with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

Chris Gould  
Independent Examiner  
26th November 2021