

Bexleyheath Community Church

Report and Accounts
Year ended 31 July 2023

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BEXLEYHEATH COMMUNITY CHURCH

COMPANY INFORMATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

The charity is also known as	New Hope Church
Trustees	Ms Z Blanchard - appointed August 2023 Ms R Hood - resigned August 2023 Ms L A Martin Mr D Scutt - appointed August 2023 Mr R C Thomas - resigned August 2023 Mr G Vincer
Company Secretary	Mr G Vincer
Governing Document	Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 9 July 2012
Company Registration Number	8134173
Charity Registration Number	1148417
Registered Office	3 Brantwood Avenue Erith Kent DA8 1EH
Principal Address	Lyndhurst Chapel Lyndhurst Road Barnehurst DA7 6DL
Independent Examiner	Ajay Rajani FCIE Stewardship 1 Lamb's Passage London EC1Y 8AB
Bankers	Lloyds Bank PO Box 1000 Andover BX1 1LT

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BEXLEYHEATH COMMUNITY CHURCH
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
(INCORPORATING DIRECTORS' REPORT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

The trustees, who are the charity's directors for the purposes of company law, have pleasure in submitting the Report and Accounts for the year.

Objects of the charity

The Trust seeks to demonstrate the Christian faith in action by acting as a church in the Bexleyheath area.

Summary of the charity's main activities and achievements

The Church is not a building, but a gathering of ordinary people of different ages and backgrounds, whose lives have been changed by Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The New Testament reveals the Church as a community of people, properly taught and cared for, who by loving and serving Jesus Christ, were also committed to love and care for each other and to bring His love and message of salvation to the area in which they lived.

New Hope Church (the operating name of the legal entity - Bexleyheath Community Church), its trustees, elders and members are committed to the New Testament principles. The vision is to see the people of the borough of Bexley come into this experience of knowing Jesus as their Lord, Saviour and friend.

New Hope Church continues to utilise Lyndhurst Chapel to make the good news of Jesus Christ known in the local community.

We continue to seek make opportunities for people to experience the love of God and respond to the Gospel message through our regular Sunday meetings, a variety of mid-week meetings and at other special events organised through the church.

These include our G.O.D which draws together retired people from the local community for coffee, games and a chat each week. They also enjoy Christmas dinner together. We operate a very successful toddler group which attracts parents with their children as well as many child minders.

Our specialist group for autistic children and their families each Thursday is small but a lifeline for those that attend.

Our youth group meet together and attend a Bible camp each year (Newday) attracting about 8,000 young people to the Norfolk County Showground. The church supports this each year through fundraising and offerings to enable our youth to go whatever their financial circumstances.

In addition we run a children's club for 4-10 year olds in conjunction with Slade Green Christian Fellowship.

Our church has announced our intention to become one entity with Slade Green Christian Fellowship and that process will continue in the coming year.

Without a dedicated team of volunteers from within our church community, we would not be able to meet our objectives, so we are dependent on many of our members who give selflessly of their time in our various activities throughout the week.

New Hope Church is part of the 'Regions Beyond' family of churches and we support the ideals and ministry of Regions Beyond through attendance by leaders and other church members at conferences and other meetings. We also support their work through regular financial giving to projects, both in the UK and the wider world.

The church continues to support the funding of a couple from within the Catalyst sphere of churches who have moved to Greece to work among, and seek to plant churches in refugee camps there.

The church support CRIBS (Christian Resources in Bexley Schools) on a regular basis.

In planning activities the Trustees have had regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

Structure, Governance and Management

Responsibility for setting policy and for determining the parameters within which the charity should operate and for making operating decisions rests with the Trustees who meet regularly to monitor the activities of the charity. New Trustees are recruited and appointed by the existing Trustees.

Financial review

During the year income increased by £30,334 to £107,557 and expenditure increased by £12,851 to £109,175 (see note 5 to the accounts for details). As a result the deficit for the year was £1,617 (2022: £19,100) and net assets decreased by that amount to £602,703. Net assets comprised tangible assets (principally property) with a carrying value of £505,830, cash of £86,961 and other net current assets of £9,912.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have determined that the charity should aim to hold free reserves (defined as being unrestricted cash) of no less than £25,000 (which equates to about 3 usual month's expenditure) and no more more than £100,000 (which equates to about 12 month's usual expenditure) so that the charity could continue to operate should income and / or expenditure vary adversely. At the year end, the charity held unrestricted cash of £86,779 and the charity is complying with its reserves policy.

Key risks and uncertainties

The Trustees have reviewed the risks to which a small charity operating with one employee is exposed. Appropriate procedures are in place to identify, monitor and review these risks on a regular basis.

Responsibilities of Trustees under company law

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charitable company as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company 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 charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approval

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

G Vincer

G Vincer
Trustee

Date: 22 February 2024

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF
BEXLEYHEATH COMMUNITY CHURCH
('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 July 2023 on pages 5 to 12 following, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 7 to 8.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Ajay Rajani

Ajay Rajani FCIE
Stewardship
1 Lamb's Passage
London
EC1Y 8AB

Date: 28 February 2024

BEXLEYHEATH COMMUNITY CHURCH
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Donations	3	90,986	12,026	103,012	75,421
Charitable activities	4	4,216	-	4,216	1,795
Interest		329	-	329	8
Total income and endowments		95,531	12,026	107,557	77,223
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities	5	97,149	12,026	109,175	96,324
Total expenditure		97,149	12,026	109,175	96,324
Net income/(expenditure)		(1,617)	-	(1,617)	(19,100)
Transfers between funds	12	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		(1,617)	-	(1,617)	(19,100)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		604,138	182	604,320	623,420
Total funds carried forward	12	602,521	182	602,703	604,320

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing operations.

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

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form part of these accounts.

BEXLEYHEATH COMMUNITY CHURCH
BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7	505,830	-	505,830	518,884
		<u>505,830</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>505,830</u>	<u>518,884</u>
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	16,440	-	16,440	9,397
Cash at bank and in hand	9	86,779	182	86,961	81,312
		103,218	182	103,400	90,710
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	10	(6,527)	-	(6,527)	(5,273)
Net current assets		<u>96,691</u>	<u>182</u>	<u>96,873</u>	<u>85,436</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>602,521</u>	<u>182</u>	<u>602,703</u>	<u>604,320</u>
FUND BALANCES	12				
Unrestricted Funds					
General funds		98,521	-	98,521	88,138
Designated funds		504,000	-	504,000	516,000
		602,521	-	602,521	604,138
Restricted Funds		-	182	182	182
		<u>602,521</u>	<u>182</u>	<u>602,703</u>	<u>604,320</u>

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

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

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

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its net income or expenditure for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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

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

G Vincer

G Vincer

Date: 22 February 2024

Company number: 8134173

Charity number: 1148417

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form part of these accounts.

BEXLEYHEATH COMMUNITY CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

1 Statutory Information

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

2 Accounting Policies

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

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

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

a) Going concern

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

b) Income

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

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

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

Income from charitable activities represents income receivable from goods, services and facilities supplied in furtherance of the charity's charitable objects. It includes income from conferences, retreats and other events and courses.

c) Expenditure

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

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

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

d) Fund accounting

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

e) Tangible fixed assets

Items purchased or donated for the charity's own use are capitalised when the cost of purchased items, or the fair value of donated items, is more than £1,000 and the item is expected to benefit the charity over more than one accounting period. Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write down the value of each asset to its estimated residual value (if any) over its expected useful economic life. To achieve this objective the following rates of depreciation are charged:

Freehold property	Over 50 years
Equipment	Over 5 years

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

BEXLEYHEATH COMMUNITY CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

2 Accounting Policies continued

f) Pension scheme arrangements

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

g) Taxation

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

l) Financial instruments

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

n) Exemption from preparing a cashflow statement

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

3 Donations

	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations of cash and similar	83,877	62,720
Income tax recoverable	19,135	12,701
	<u>103,012</u>	<u>75,421</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Children's Club, NewDay and Church Weekend	3,900	1,500
Other activities	316	295
	<u>4,216</u>	<u>1,795</u>

5 Charitable expenditure

	2023	2022
	£	£
a Costs incurred directly on specific activities		
Staff costs	51,339	50,241
Ministry expenses	1,920	1,403
Youth and children's work	252	701
Spark in the Park community event	11,100	1,000
Other event costs	3,638	361
Subscriptions and licenses	1,800	2,018
Grants payable (note 5c)	7,000	11,100
	<u>77,049</u>	<u>66,826</u>
b Costs incurred on support & administration		
Governance costs		
Independent examiner's fee for preparing and examining the accounts	1,500	1,410
Church property costs	12,925	11,006
Depreciation on church property and equipment	13,054	13,323
Phone and communications	780	780
Other professional fees	2,363	1,625
Insurance	1,503	1,354
	<u>32,126</u>	<u>29,498</u>
Total expenditure	<u>109,175</u>	<u>96,324</u>

The fee payable to the independent examiner for preparing and examining the accounts was £1,500 (2022: £1,410); in addition the charity paid £60 (2022: £50) to Stewardship for consultancy services.

BEXLEYHEATH COMMUNITY CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

5c Grants payable

	Institutions £	Individuals £	2023 £
Grants for UK and overseas mission	6,000	1,000	7,000

The comparatives for the previous year are as follows:

	Institutions £	Individuals £	2022 £
Grants for UK and overseas mission	9,700	1,400	11,100

The charity's principal grants to Institutions comprised:

	2023 £	2022 £
Catalyst Network		
for their general work	3,000	3,000
for their work in Greece	1,800	1,800
for their work in Ukraine	-	4,000
	4,800	8,800
Other small grants individually less than £1,000	1,200	900
	6,000	9,700

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

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 1 (2021: 1). Most of the charity's activities are carried out by volunteers.

No staff received salaries at a rate of more than £60,000 per annum.

During the year key management received employment benefits totalling £50,509 (2022: £48,575).

No trustees received employment benefits in either the current or preceding year.

7 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Property £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total 2023 £
Cost			
At 1 August 2022	600,000	21,616	621,616
Additions	-	-	-
At 31 July 2023	600,000	21,616	621,616
Accumulated depreciation			
At 1 August 2022	84,000	18,732	102,732
Charge for the year	12,000	1,054	13,054
At 31 July 2023	96,000	19,786	115,786
Net book value			
At 31 July 2023	504,000	1,830	505,830
At 31 July 2022	516,000	2,884	518,884

Previously the charity was constituted as a Trust. In 2014 the assets, liabilities and activities of the Trust were transferred to this charitable company; at the date of transfer, the market value of freehold property was estimated to be £600,000.

8 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Tax recoverable	12,780	8,707
Prepayments	3,660	690
	16,440	9,397

BEXLEYHEATH COMMUNITY CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

9 Cash at Bank and in Hand

	2023 £	2022 £
Bank current account	10,205	9,886
Bank deposit accounts	76,755	71,426
	<u>86,961</u>	<u>81,312</u>

10 Creditors: liabilities falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	500	500
Taxation and social security	1,228	1,266
Accruals	1,500	1,410
Deferred income	3,300	2,098
	<u>6,527</u>	<u>5,273</u>

Deferred income represents income for a conference did not take place until just after the year end when the receipts were recognised as income.

11 Pension commitments

During the year employer's pension contributions totalling £1,289 (2022: £1,233) were payable to defined contribution personal pension schemes. At the balance sheet date pension contributions totalling £251 (2022: £251) were owed.

12 Funds

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

	Opening balance 2023 £	Incoming resources 2023 £	Outgoing resources 2023 £	Transfers in the year 2023 £	Closing balance 2023 £
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>					
Designated capital fund	516,000	-	(12,000)	-	504,000
Unrestricted general funds	88,138	95,531	(85,149)	-	98,521
	<u>604,138</u>	<u>95,531</u>	<u>(97,149)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>602,521</u>
<i>Restricted funds</i>					
Ukraine fund	182	-	-	-	182
Youth Alpha fund	-	1,926	(1,926)	-	-
Spark in the Park fund	-	10,100	(10,100)	-	-
	<u>182</u>	<u>12,026</u>	<u>(12,026)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>182</u>
Aggregate of funds	<u>604,320</u>	<u>107,557</u>	<u>(109,175)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>602,703</u>

Analysis of net assets by fund

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

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>		Restricted funds	2023
	General funds	Designated funds	£	£
	£	£		
Tangible fixed assets	1,830	504,000	-	505,830
Debtors	16,440	-	-	16,440
Cash at bank and in hand	86,779	-	182	86,961
Creditors falling due within one year	(6,527)	-	-	(6,527)
	<u>98,521</u>	<u>504,000</u>	<u>182</u>	<u>602,703</u>

BEXLEYHEATH COMMUNITY CHURCH
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

12 Funds continued

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

	Opening balance 2022 £	Incoming resources 2022 £	Outgoing resources 2022 £	Transfers in the year 2022 £	Closing balance 2022 £
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>					
Designated capital fund	528,000	-	(12,000)	-	516,000
Unrestricted general funds	95,420	73,041	(80,324)	-	88,138
	<u>623,420</u>	<u>73,041</u>	<u>(92,324)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>604,138</u>
<i>Restricted Funds</i>					
Ukraine fund	-	4,182	(4,000)	-	182
	<u>623,420</u>	<u>77,223</u>	<u>(96,324)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>604,320</u>

Analysis of net assets by fund

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

	<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>			
	General funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	2,884	516,000	-	518,884
Debtors	9,215	-	182	9,397
Cash at bank and in hand	81,312	-	-	81,312
Creditors falling due within one year	(5,273)	-	-	(5,273)
	<u>88,138</u>	<u>516,000</u>	<u>182</u>	<u>604,320</u>

The Capital fund is a designated fund and represents funds set aside by the trustees for investment in property; the carried forward balance on the fund is represented by the net book value of the charity's property.

The Ukraine fund is a restricted fund created from donations received to help those affected by the war in Ukraine.

The Youth Alpha fund is a restricted fund created from income received to help meet the cost of a Youth Alpha weekend away held at an outdoor centre.

The Spark In The Park fund is a restricted fund created from donations received to help meet the cost of a community event organised jointly with other local churches.

13 Transactions with related parties

During the year the charity received donations totalling £9,750 (2022: £9,050) from related parties (which includes trustees, key management and anyone closely connected to them).

No expenses (2022: £nil) were paid to, or for, the trustees (except for the reimbursement of expenses incurred when acting as agent for the charity).

Except as disclosed in note 6 'Analysis of staff costs', there have been no other transactions with related parties during the year.

14 Members

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