

LIFE CHURCH WARRINGTON

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2023

Registered Charity number 1150794

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CHARITY INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER:	1150794
GOVERNING INSTRUMENT:	Charitable Incorporated Organisation, dated February 2013
TRUSTEES:	L. Dewhirst G. Baird (to 31 December 2023) D. Akerman S. Dewhirst C. Prest (to 31 March 2023) F. Avery (to 31 March 2023) H. Seals (to 31 March 2023) I. Jones E. Morris M. Simcock A. Deller J. Davies (from 15 May 2023) E. Goodship (from 18 September 2023)
PRINCIPAL ADDRESS:	269 Liverpool Road Warrington WA5 1RD
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:	J. Sharratt ACA 238 Upton Lane Widnes WA8 9AJ
BANKERS:	Lloyds Bank plc Horsemarket Street Warrington WA1 1XN

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees present their Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

OBJECTIVES, ORGANISATION AND ACTIVITIES

Life Church Warrington is governed via a constitution, and is constituted as a charitable incorporated organisation, charity number 1150794.

The main activity of the charity is the operation of a local Christian church in arrangement of Sunday services and community group meetings, as well as supporting other charitable organisations. Life Church has continued to meet across Warrington and serve the communities of our existing church locations in Cinnamon Brow, Latchford, Lymm, Orford & Penketh. Our most recent church Orford celebrated its first anniversary in May this year and has seen significant growth as a new church plant. We also celebrated a year of our Community Grocery being open and it continues to serve the community of Warrington by providing subsidised food to those who need it.

We undertook some major renovations to our Orford site where we have our church offices based. During 2023 we were able to make good our car park which had not been suitable for the amount of footfall it now has coming to the site. This car park area in front of our community grocery was tarmacked, which has made access to our church site much easier. In addition to this the toilets were refurbished and made accessible to people who are disabled.

Our town centre missional community continues to meet on Friday lunchtimes and was joined by several Hong Kong church members who were able to engage with the wider Hong Kong community in Warrington. We have a number of community cafes that run during the week at various locations across the town. These bring support and connection for local people, some of whom attend our churches and many who do not.

During 2023 we were also to establish a new partnership with a housing charity called Hope Into Action. Hope Into Action provides a tried and tested framework for churches to partner with them to help provide accommodation for homeless people. We now oversee our first Hope House in Warrington. The house is not owned by the church, but we partner to provide help and support to those who live in the house. We have been able to create a support team of volunteers to do this.

Our Love Your Neighbour ministries have continued to serve people across the town of Warrington. Our CAP centre serves those who find themselves in debt, The Vine Team continue to serve the rough sleepers in Warrington by taking food and prayer to the streets on Monday evenings, as well as providing a weekly hot meal to the town centre accommodation on Museum Street. Our Pantry Pastors work through the community grocery to support those with particular needs and our Early Essentials Team provides practical help for new mothers in the town. TLG continues to mentor and support children and young people through our schools initiative. I am

grateful to each of the teams that lead and serve in these vibrant ministries serving people in Jesus name across Warrington.

I would like to place on record my thanks to all who serve in any capacity at Life Church Warrington. Also thank you to our pastoral teams at our 5 church locations that care for and support people.

The major risks to which the charity is exposed, as identified by the trustees, have been reviewed and systems have been established to manage those risks.

The objects of the charity are:

- (a) to advance the Christian faith in accordance with the Statement of Beliefs in such ways and in such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees see fit.
- (b) To relieve sickness and financial hardship and to promote and preserve good health by the provision of funds, goods or services of any kind, including through the provision of counselling and support as the trustees may see fit.
- (c) To advance education in such ways and such parts of the United Kingdom or the world as the trustees think fit.

RESERVES POLICY

The trustees operate a policy of holding 3 months' running costs in reserves. The core running costs of the charity were £18,458 a month in 2023, so £55,373 is held in reserves. In addition to these running costs, a further £20,000 is held in a Building Reserve in line with best practice.

REVIEW OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES AND AFFAIRS

Full details of the financial transactions are contained in the attached financial statements. The total incoming resources for the year were £393,490 and the total expenditures were £329,209, giving a net income of £64,281.

Total net assets at 31 December 2023 are £256,207.

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by



Lukas Dewhirst

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
LIFE CHURCH WARRINGTON
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023 which are set out on pages 7 to 14.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

J. Sharratt ACA
238 Upton Lane
Widnes
WA8 9AJ

LIFE CHURCH WARRINGTON
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023	Total funds 2022
		£	£	£	£
INCOME					
Voluntary income		348,487	-	348,487	267,475
Interest income		1,866	-	1,866	26
Other income		-	43,137	43,137	-
GROSS INCOME		350,353	43,137	393,490	267,501
EXPENDITURE					
Direct charitable expenditure		(286,922)	(22,291)	(309,213)	(260,059)
Other expenditure		-	(19,996)	(19,996)	-
		(286,922)	(42,287)	(329,209)	(260,059)
NET INCOME		63,431	850	64,281	7,442
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forwards		191,926	-	191,926	184,484
Total funds carried forwards		255,357	850	256,207	191,926

LIFE CHURCH WARRINGTON
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Premises	7	53,426	-
Fixtures and Fittings	7	21,036	21,274
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS		74,462	21,274
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	8	3,993	3,200
Cash at bank and in hand	12	181,259	170,023
Prepayments	9	9,594	-
LIABILITIES			
Creditors: Amounts failing due within one year		13,101	2,571
NET CURRENT ASSETS		181,745	170,652
NET ASSETS		256,207	191,926
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Unrestricted Income funds		255,357	191,926
Restricted Income funds		850	-
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS		256,207	191,926

LIFE CHURCH WARRINGTON
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by operating activities	11	73,753	14,951
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(64,383)	(10,123)
Interest received		1,866	26
Net cash used in investing activities		(62,517)	(10,097)
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Net cash provided by financing activities		-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		11,236	4,854
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		170,023	165,169
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	12	181,259	170,023

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 16/9/24 and signed on their behalf by:



L. Dewhirst

LIFE CHURCH WARRINGTON
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), effective January 2015, and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Fixed Assets

All fixed assets are held under the historical cost model. The charity was given a new building in 2022 but it is carried at its cost of zero. During 2023 work was undertaken to modernise the toilets at the church building, including the installation of disabled facilities, work on the car park and other improvements to the building which have been capitalised.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of all tangible assets over their expected useful lives.

Premises assets held at 31 December 2023 relate to the aforementioned work undertaken on the church building during the year, which are depreciated on a straight-line basis over a 10 years period commencing 2023.

Fixtures and fittings assets held at 31 December 2023 relate to equipment or fixtures and fittings, which are depreciated on a 20% reducing balance basis.

2. INCOME

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
General Offerings	300,458	-	300,458	227,685	-	227,685
Gift Aid	49,895	-	49,895	39,816	-	39,816
Grants	-	5,766	5,766	-	-	-
Other Income	-	37,371	37,371	-	-	-
	350,353	43,137	393,489	267,501	-	267,501

Other Income includes £19,996 relating to investors funding into a Hope into Action house which Life Church Warrington supports as the local partner church. There is corresponding expenditure of £19,996 shown in 'Other Expenditure' below which is comprised of actual costs incurred on the house and an accrual for the balance of funding payable to the investors.

3. EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Charitable gifts	25,168	-	25,168	44,403	-	44,403
Staff costs	139,092	15,788	154,880	133,121	-	133,121
Rental expenses	24,081	-	24,081	22,156	-	22,156
Utilities	22,833	-	22,833	8,245	-	8,245
Departments	64,552	6,503	71,055	45,044	-	45,044
Depreciation	11,195	-	11,195	7,091	-	7,091
Other expenditure	-	19,996	19,996	-	-	-
	286,922	42,287	329,208	260,060	-	260,060

4. NET INCOME

Net income for the year is stated after charging:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation	11,195	7,091
Independent examiner's fee	-	-

5. STAFF COSTS AND EMOLUMENTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	141,983	120,692
Pension contributions	12,897	12,429

Details of employees:

The average headcount, calculated on the basis of full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2023	2022
Number of staff	5	5

No employee received remuneration over £60,000 in the year (2022 – Nil)

6. TRUSTEE REMUNERATION

The figure for total trustee remuneration (inclusive of pension contributions) is broken down as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Lukas Dewhirst Job title: Lead Pastor	41,640	34,132
David Akerman Job Title: Church Leader	35,254	30,656
Sarah Dewhirst Job title: Lead Pastor	16,445	14,300

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Equipment	Premises	Total
	£	£	£
COST			
At 1 January 2023	48,521	-	48,521
Additions	5,021	59,362	64,382
At 31 December 2023	53,541	59,362	112,903

ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION

At 1 January 2023	27,246	-	27,246
Charge for the year	5,259	5,936	11,195
At 31 December 2023	32,505	5,936	38,441

NET BOOK VALUE

At 31 December 2023	21,036	53,426	74,462
At 31 December 2022	21,274	-	21,274

8. DEBTORS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gift aid receivable (Dec23)	3,993	3,200

9. PREPAYMENTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Payments relating to 2024	9,594	-

10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Three of the trustees were paid during the year as employees of the charity, with emoluments totalling £93,339 as detailed in note 6 (2022 – £79,088).

11. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income for the period (as per the statement of financial activities)	64,281	7,442
Interest income	(1,866)	(26)
Depreciation charge	11,195	7,091
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	10,530	1,214
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	(793)	(770)
Decrease/(Increase) in prepayments	(9,594)	-
	<u>73,753</u>	<u>14,951</u>

12. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash in hand and at bank	181,259	170,023