

Charity No. : 1152176

**Church Lane Evangelical Church
(Charitable Incorporated Organisation)**

Financial Statements

**For the year ended
31st December 2023**

Church Lane Evangelical Church
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for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

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**Church Lane Evangelical Church
Report of the Trustees
for the year ended 31 December 2023**

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

The church's charitable status is that of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) No. 1152176.

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the charity's governing document, 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2016).

Charity Address:

Church Lane
Stafford
Staffordshire
ST16 2AW

Bankers:

Lloyds Bank
5 Market Square
Stafford
ST16 2JL

Solicitors:

Hand Morgan Owen
17 Martin Street
Stafford
ST16 2LF

Trustees:

A Medway Chair
A Cook
S Kapfunde

Elders (Managing Trustees) who served during the year:

A Cook Chair
A Medway Secretary
S Harrison Pastor
S Kapfunde
J Morris
A Summers
J Wickens (on sabbatical)

The property in Church Lane is held by the CIO.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charitable status of the Church is that of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). This is governed in accordance with its constitution dated 24 May 2013 using the foundation model.

The trustees of the CIO have delegated the day to day running of the organisation to the Elders, who meet on a monthly basis. The current Elders include some of the trustees.

Risk Management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide assurance against fraud and error.

**Church Lane Evangelical Church
Report of the Trustees (continued)
for the year ended 31 December 2023**

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the church, in accordance with Biblical principles and practice, and as the Trustees see fit, are to advance evangelical Christianity in a manner consistent with the Christian Scriptures. These objects may be pursued anywhere in the United Kingdom or the world at the discretion of the Trustees.

These objects are achieved by providing religious activities and by helping to relieve poverty and need. While these activities are for everyone, the church looks to support the most vulnerable in our community and focuses some activities on children and young people, and on older people. The Church also looks to support other Christian organisations which make specific contributions in advancing evangelical Christianity.

The church provides services of open public worship and seeks to use its buildings in ways which benefit the community at large. The trustees consider that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Worship at Church Lane settled in 2023 and church activities also became well re-established. Zoom remained a small part of church life and connection, but church members were on the whole comfortable to attend in person.

The Elders of the Church had further discussions with church members about the name of the church and agreed that the word Evangelical would be dropped from the name, and that the new name would become 'Church Lane Everybody's Church'. We are actively working towards making this official.

The church continued to employ a full-time pastor, a part-time administrator and a part-time cleaner.

The church website, www.clec.org.uk, remained relevant in promoting the values and activities of the church. Many had come along to church because of the good introduction given by the website. Recordings of church service talks continue to be uploaded on to a church YouTube channel, linked from the webpage. The church Privacy Notice and Safeguarding Policy are published on the website.

At the start of the year the church was still running a Warm Spaces initiative.

A major focus for the year for the Church was support of a town-wide mission to hold a Passion Play, which moved around Victoria Park and some town landmarks to provide an engrossing momentum to retell the Easter story in a modern setting. The Passion Play was organised by Love Stafford and was the work of the Saltmine Theatre Company, who also developed a local community cast to help tell the story and engage with the audiences. Church Lane provided a base for the cast and production team during the dress rehearsal and four performances over the Easter weekend.

In the lead into the Easter event, Church Lane was also involved in organising and hosting an evangelism course for all churches in the town, run by Mission 24. The purpose was in particular to prepare Christians to share their faith in the context of the Easter play.

Another major feature of the year was the church welcoming a number of asylum seekers, who settled in the church. Many were Iranian, and after some time, Stephen was able to organise a facilitated Christian course, called Al Massira, in Farsi. Over the year a number came to faith, and were baptised at church.

At the start of the summer, a large contingent of the families, youth leaders and young people took part in the locally set DTI (Dreaming the Impossible) youth camp.

In the spring and the autumn, Stephen Harrison pastor of the church, facilitated a Christianity Explored courses for people seeking to learn more about the faith. By the end of the year, Stephen had also worked up a framework for small groups to come together around developing Bible-reading, sharing and prayer, called Root and Branches.

Church Lane provided a proportion of its funds from weekly collections for Christian organisations and individual missionary workers – including Scripture Union and Mercy Ships.

The Church supports other inter-church initiatives in the town – such as YouthNet, House of Bread and Stafford Street Pastors.

**Church Lane Evangelical Church
Report of the Trustees (continued)
for the year ended 31 December 2023**

The Trustees are very grateful for the work of the other Elders and the church members, who all serve and give of their time and resources to support one another and be a Christian witness in their communities.

The Trustees are Alan Medway (Chair), Andrew Cook, and Shingi Kapfunde.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

We ended the year with a surplus of £4,419 (2022: deficit £6,699). Income has increased in most areas, in particular regular giving. Overall expenditure was in line with the previous year. There was a slight increase in the charitable activities expenditure, but property expenditure, in particular maintenance decreased.


It is the church's policy to tithe our general fund income at the end of the year towards missionary projects chosen and prayed about during the year. A total of £7,380 (2022: £6,401) was sent.

The church's policy on holding financial reserves is to enable a sound financial base for future years. As all the income is voluntary, there is no certainty of income levels from year to year. Included within the current reserves are designated funds for both a salary/running costs reserve of £16,000 (in order to ensure these costs could be paid for at least 3 months), and a strategic/emergency reserve of £2,000. These amounts are reviewed from time to time.

A church meeting held in 2022 met to discuss the financial situation to highlight that income needed to increase in order to meet our expenditure due to price rises, particularly the electricity & gas. We are pleased to report that due to the good response, this has resulted in sufficient increases to giving to balance our monthly commitments.

It is the church's policy to invest the funds in a bank account up to the Financial Services Compensation Scheme current limit of £85,000 in any one institution. Due to our building refurbishment project in 2020/21 our cash reserves are now well below this limit.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



A Medway - Chair

Date 07/06/24

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of Church Lane Evangelical Church

I report on the accounts of the church for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 5 to 15.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The church's trustees, are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The church's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under s144(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 s145 of the 2011 Act,
- * to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under s145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act), and
- * to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

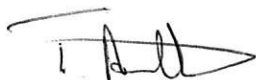
Basis of independent examiner's report

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 s130 of the 2011 Act, and
 - * to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to 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.



Mr T Herriott ACA BA
Tim Herriott Enterprises
15 Briarsleigh
Stafford
Staffordshire
ST17 4QP

Date: 16 June 2024

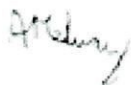
Church Lane Evangelical Church
Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies		71,935	-	71,935	62,806
Charitable activities		4,086	-	4,086	3,908
Investments		323	-	323	16
Total Income	2	76,344	-	76,344	66,730
Expenditure on:					
Charitable Activities		71,133	-	71,133	72,654
Other		792	-	792	775
Total Expenditure	3	71,925	-	71,925	73,429
Net Incoming Resources		4,419	-	4,419	(6,699)
Fund Balances brought forward at 1st January 2023		1,032,046	-	1,032,046	1,038,746
Transfers between Funds		-	-	-	-
Fund Balances carried forward at 31st December 2023	8&9	1,036,466	-	1,036,466	1,032,046

Church Lane Evangelical Church
Balance Sheet
as at 31st December 2023

		2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
	<u>Note</u>				
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Fixed Assets	4		995,992		995,992
Current Assets					
Debtors	5	3,717		3,532	
Cash at bank and in hand	6	48,476		42,076	
		<u>52,193</u>		<u>45,608</u>	
Creditors Due Within One Year	7	<u>11,719</u>		<u>9,554</u>	
Net Current Assets			40,474		36,054
	10		<u>1,036,466</u>		<u>1,032,046</u>
Accumulated Funds					
Unrestricted Funds	8		1,036,466		1,032,046
Restricted Funds	9		-		-
Balance at 31st December 2023			<u>1,036,466</u>		<u>1,032,046</u>

The Financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 07/06/24 and were signed on its behalf by



A Medway - Chair

Church Lane Evangelical Church
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2016) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Trustees are of the opinion that Church is able to meet its liabilities as they fall due and that the going concern basis is appropriate.

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified to include the freehold Grade II listed and adjacent buildings at a valuation.

Change in basis

There have been no changes to the accounting policies during the year.

Property

The property in Church Lane is held by the CIO.

Depreciation

Depreciation has been charged on a straight line basis as follows:

- Furniture & Fixtures - 10%
- Computer & PA Equipment - 25%

Depreciation has not been charged on freehold property as any depreciation is considered immaterial.

Expenditure under £5,000 is not normally capitalised.

Church Lane Evangelical Church
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

Fund Accounting

Funds held by the Church are either:

- Unrestricted Funds -** funds which can be used in accordance with the Church's objects at the discretion of the Elders.
- Designated Funds -** funds set aside out of general funds for specific purposes.
- Restricted Funds -** funds that can only be used for particular purposes within the objects of the church. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular purposes.

Income

All income is recognised once the church has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of ministry, training, church activities, mission, administration, and property.

Other expenditure represents those items not classified as relating to charitable activities.

Inter-Church Group Consolidation

Where one church group donates to another, the income and expenditure is eliminated from each balance and is classed as a transfer to the other. (See notes 8 and 9).

Taxation

The church is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Pension costs

The church operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Since October 2016 we have had to also comply with the Auto Enrolment regulations set out by The Pensions Regulator. Contributions paid are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

Church Lane Evangelical Church
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

2. Income from:	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
<u>Donations and legacies</u>				
- Gift Aided Collections	51,684	-	51,684	43,235
- Non-Gift Aided Collections	6,381	-	6,381	5,313
- Donations	700	-	700	3,350
- Gift Aid Tax refunds	13,169	-	13,169	10,908
	<u>71,935</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,935</u>	<u>62,806</u>
<u>Charitable activities</u>				
- Donations for use of hall	500	-	500	710
- Active Groups	1,088	-	1,088	905
- Acorns	2,498	-	2,498	1,843
- Community Foundation Warm Spaces	-	-	-	450
	<u>4,086</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,086</u>	<u>3,908</u>
<u>Investments</u>				
- Gross Interest Received	323	-	323	16
Total Income	<u>76,344</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>76,344</u>	<u>66,730</u>

Church Lane Evangelical Church
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

3. Expenditure on:	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<u>Charitable Activities</u>				
Ministry				
- Gross Salary	34,974	-	34,974	33,709
- Pension	862	-	862	824
- Ministerial Allowances	481	-	481	307
- Travel	234	-	234	464
- Telephone	182	-	182	222
Other Ministry/Training				
- Visiting Speakers	250	-	250	50
- Training & Resources	253	-	253	276
- Going for God/ Resonate	13	-	13	347
- DTI	435	-	435	-
Church Activities				
- Communion Expenses	18	-	18	141
- Active Groups	295	-	295	127
- Acorns	1,375	-	1,375	1,602
Administration				
- Gross Salary	3,341	-	3,341	4,578
- Office Running expenses	127	-	127	9
- Telephone	558	-	558	411
Mission				
- Missionaries/Societies	7,380	-	7,380	6,401
	50,778	-	50,778	49,469

Church Lane Evangelical Church
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
<u>Charitable Activities Continued</u>				
brought forward	50,778	-	50,778	49,469
Property				
- Light & Heat	5,648	-	5,648	3,984
- Insurance	1,978	-	1,978	2,016
- Building Maintenance	-	-	-	11,682
- Equipment Maintenance	726	-	726	78
- Repairs & Renewals	222	-	222	302
- Cleaning & Other Expenses	3,931	-	3,931	3,563
- Minor Fixtures & Equipment	855	-	855	-
Sundries				
- Refreshments & Catering	244	-	244	232
- Copyright Licence	375	-	375	350
- Computer/Tech Expenses	640	-	640	631
- Subscriptions	213	-	213	202
- Sundries	5,524	-	5,524	145
Total Charitable Activities	71,133	-	71,133	72,654
<u>Other</u>				
- Bank Charges	157	-	157	150
- Independent Examination	635	-	635	625
Total Other	792	-	792	775
 Total Expenditure	 71,925	 -	 71,925	 73,429

Church Lane Evangelical Church
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

4. Tangible Fixed Assets

	<u>Freehold Property</u>	<u>Furniture & Fixtures</u> £	<u>Computer & PA Equipment</u> £	<u>Total</u>
Cost or Valuation				
At 1st January 2023	995,992	19,335	10,471	1,025,798
Additions	-	-	-	-
At 31st December 2023	<u>995,992</u>	<u>19,335</u>	<u>10,471</u>	<u>1,025,798</u>
Depreciation				
At 1st January 2023	-	19,335	10,471	29,806
Charge for the year	-	-	-	-
At 31st December 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>19,335</u>	<u>10,471</u>	<u>29,806</u>
Net Book Value				
At 31st December 2023	<u>995,992</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>995,992</u>
At 31st December 2022	<u>995,992</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>995,992</u>

5. Debtors

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	£	£
Accrued Income - Gift Aid Tax	3,030	2,917
Other Debtors	-	15
Prepayments	687	600
	<u>3,717</u>	<u>3,532</u>

Church Lane Evangelical Church
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

6. Cash at bank and in hand

	2023	2022
	£	£
Lloyds Bank Plc Current Account	4,689	4,910
Lloyds Bank Plc Deposit Account	41,630	35,306
Day/Morning For Retired Account	758	965
Acorns Account	1,385	862
Youth Club Float	15	15
Cash Floats	-	18
	48,476	42,076

7. Creditors Due Within One Year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Creditors for Goods and Services	1,117	192
Other Creditors	638	203
Social Security & Other Taxes	1,819	1,755
Accruals and Deferred Income	8,145	7,404
	11,719	9,554

Church Lane Evangelical Church
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

8. Movement in Funds - Unrestricted Funds

	Balance at 01.01.23	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31.12.23
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	1,006,705	72,758	(70,255)	1,600	1,010,808
Designated - Salary/running costs Reserve	8,500	-	-	-	8,500
Designated - Strategic/emergency Reserve	15,000	-	-	-	15,000
Designated - Active Groups	965	1,088	(295)	(1,000)	758
Designated - Youth Work Fund	15	-	-	-	15
Designated - Acorns Fund	862	2,498	(1,375)	(600)	1,385
	1,032,046	76,344	(71,925)	-	1,036,466

Comparative year	Balance at 01.01.22	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers	Balance at 31.12.22
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	1,011,623	63,982	(71,701)	2,800	1,006,705
Designated - Salary/running costs Reserve	8,500	-	-	-	8,500
Designated - Strategic/emergency Reserve	15,000	-	-	-	15,000
Designated - Active Groups	1,786	905	(127)	(1,600)	965
Designated - Youth Work Fund	15	-	-	-	15
Designated - Acorns Fund	1,821	1,843	(1,602)	(1,200)	862
	1,038,746	66,730	(73,429)	-	1,032,046

Church Lane Evangelical Church
Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

10. Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

Y/e 31/12/23	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	995,992	-	995,992
Current Assets	52,193	-	52,193
Creditors due within one year	(11,719)	-	(11,719)
Total Net Assets	1,036,466	-	1,036,466

Y/e 31/12/22	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	995,992	-	995,992
Current Assets	45,608	-	45,608
Creditors due within one year	(9,554)	-	(9,554)
Total Net Assets	1,032,046	-	1,032,046

11. Emoluments of Employees

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salary & Wages	41,495	38,287
Social Security costs	-	-
Pension Costs	862	824
	42,356	39,111

The employers social security costs were covered by the Employment Allowance.

The average monthly number of employees during the year were as follows:-

	2023	2022
Pastor	1	1
Administration	1	1
Cleaner	1	1
	3	3

There were no employees whose emoluments exceeded £60,000 either this year or last year.

12. Trustees and other Related Parties

There were no expenses claimed related to being a trustee.