



TRUSTEES REPORT

HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH, ADMASTON

Period: 2023/24

Aim and Vision

The aim of the church is to bring glory to God through being a caring Christian community, discipling people in the way of Christ, and witnessing to the wider community.

Our vision is to see Christ build his church as many come to trust him as real disciples, know their sins forgiven, and are led and empowered by His Spirit; and to see other similar churches planted in the Telford area.

The above is in accordance with our Statement of Faith and our Values.

Objectives

The Objectives of Hope Community Church Admaston remain as set out in the Constitution dated 2nd July 2013:

“The objects of the CIO is to advance the Christian Faith, in accordance with the statements of belief appearing in the schedule “Statements of Faith”, for the benefit of the public in the North Telford area, in particular but not exclusively, through the provision of opportunity for prayer, worship, teaching, fellowship, communion, the public celebration of Christian festivals and evangelism to enlighten others about the Christian Faith, and the provision of pastoral care to the community.”

Achievements and Performance

This is our eleventh Annual Report and covers the period 1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024.

Establishing a Church

The average attendance on a Sunday over the 12 month period was 37.3 persons (2022/3 = 35.7). This is a restoration to 2019 just before covid.

The age profile of the church post-covid is significantly older. The average age on a Sunday is about 53. We have seen some younger persons join during the year as well as older ones. We remain committed to seeking to reach the younger age groups.

Discipleship.

We have continued with three small groups and two on-line “Microgroups”.

Prayer

We have offered opportunities to pray together monthly on a Monday night, weekly on a Sunday morning, and weekly on a Wednesday morning. The Wednesday morning has remained on Zoom, but the Monday evening has moved to in person.

We have continued to have adhoc prayer days and half-days.

Worship, Teaching and Communion

Each Sunday and at some other events opportunity for public worship has been offered to all who wish to participate. Tony Finch has continued to write new songs which has contributed to our worship. We continue to have a monthly rota between 3 worship leaders with a pool of about 7 participants for the band. Others also occasionally lead.

During the year we have had series covering the following themes: 1 John; Spiritual warfare; Fruitfulness on the Frontline; Living by Faith – Elijah; Living by Faith – Acts; Revelation; and Tough Questions people ask.

We continued the monthly lunches during the period, and resumed occasional breakfasts.

Celebration of Christian festivals

We have had special events for Christmas and Easter. These have been fantastic events and well attended. There has been a lot of organisation and preparation for these with a huge input from volunteers for which we are most grateful.

Evangelism

People from the church have continued to work evangelistically with St Christopher's Trust. This has included the "Fun Week" as well as regular mothers and toddlers activities, the café and groups for men and women.

We have continued distribution of the Hope Magazine to about 4000 homes which is reliant on volunteers.

We also engaged as a church with Mission 24 training and action in Telford. This included a 3-day training course which was joined by 9 from our church family. This was very significant in developing individuals and bringing healing and the gospel to people.

Pastoral Care

We have coordinated pastoral care for needy members and sought to ensure that people are contacted regularly.

As a church, we have also given regularly to the local Foodbanks.

Ecumenical

The church has retained and developed close ties with other churches in the North Telford area. This is aided through the St Christopher's Trust work. This has all been through both online and in person prayer regularly and occasional special events such as the Good Friday service and the Mission24 week.

Regional Newfrontiers participation

The local Christ Central Shropshire region has been an important encouragement to the church leaders. There are regular leaders' gatherings. There have also been in person and online events at a national/international level which have been of great encouragement.

Beyond Telford

During the period, we have strongly supported churches conducting humanitarian aid and evangelism in Ukraine and Zambia through the charity BREADTrust. We have encouraged our congregation to sponsor children through the Compassion programme and in disaster response appeals. We have also continued to support The Children's Mission in Uganda with financial contributions towards them developing a school.

We also took a small group of young people to Lisbon to visit and help with some church plants there.

Social Media

Over the last few years, Tony Finch has been leading our social media presence on Facebook, Instagram and Youtube. A large element of this has been producing his own songs for wider access. During the year, the YouTube channel has grown from 3500 to 4500 subscribers, with views in excess of 1.2 million and there is a high level of viewing from many countries which are high on the Open Doors persecution index.

Financial Review

Our income during the year was £35027 (2022/23: £30999).

Our expenditure during the year was £33077 (2021/22: £28732). Giving a surplus for the year of £1949 (2022/23 £2266).

Most giving is through standing orders but there has been a noticeable increase in cash giving across the year.

The four major areas of financial actual expenditure were

Staff Costs £18572 (56%) – increased due to the full year employment of an Administrator and an increase in Roland West's payments (see below).

Giving £3946 (12%) – this has increased from last year due to our financial position.

Rent £3200 (10%) – for (mainly) Sunday use of the main hall at Admaston House and a dedicated small office.

Magazine and other printing costs £2578 (8%) - mostly for magazine printing for hand delivery to circa 4000 houses in the area

The church continues to benefit from the Government Gift Aid scheme receiving a total of £5990.

Financial Policies

The Trustees have a reserves policy which requires that the church holds a balance equivalent to 3 months of expected operating expenditure.

Structure, Governance and Management

During the year, Roland West, Tony Finch, Kevin Croker and Helen King have continued as Trustees. The trustees met once during the year, but had other regular contact to resolve any arising issues.

In line with the Charity Commission guidelines, the Trustees intend to appoint an Independent Examiner for the Financial Accounts.

During the year, the leadership team has continued with Roland West, Susan West, and Tony Finch. The leaders have continued to meet fortnightly to review all matters of church life and development.

Hope Community Church is strongly reliant on volunteers who play an essential role in the life of the church in many ways. There are rotas for a variety of specific jobs. A good level of pastoral care has been noted. Our thanks go to all participants.

During the 2023/24 year Roland West (senior church leader) has been paid £13800 for 2.1 days per week (2022/23: £12800 for 2.1 days per week). This is done on a contracted basis and includes all ongoing expenses. Only purchases on behalf of the church are separately recovered. Roland is absent for all Trustee discussions with regards to this matter. The other Trustees have agreed to extend the contract from April 2024 for a further 12 months.

This report is approved by the Trustees on the 1st May 2024 and signed on their behalf by Roland West (Chairman).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RLW' followed by a stylized flourish.



Charity Name	No (if any)
Hope Community Church, Admaston	1152758

Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/04/23		31/03/24

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Cash Giving	3373			3373	2500
Gift aided Giving	18627	3186		21814	19922
Income from Gift Aid	5343	647		5990	4998
Other Gifts and Income	4999			4999	8483
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	32343	3833		36176	35903
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
				3098	
Sub total					
Total receipts	32343	3833		36176	35903
A3 Payments					
Giving	3946			3946	4082
Staff costs	18572			18572	17034
Rent	3200			3200	2680
Children's work		142		142	26
Food		960		960	676
Advertising		2578		2578	2407
Outreach	938	153		1091	374
Insurance	406			406	391
Miscellaneous	2182			2182	6028
Sub total	29243	3833		33077	33697
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Sub total					
Total payments	29243	3833		33077	33697
Net of receipts/(payments)	3098	-0		3098	2206
A5 Transfers between funds					
A6 Cash funds last year end	22137			22137	19668
Cash funds this year end	25235	-0		25235	21874

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash at Bank and in hand	24639		
	Cash in hand	597		
	Total cash funds	25235		

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK

OK

OK

Unrestricted funds

Restricted funds

Endowment funds

to nearest £

to nearest £

to nearest £

Details

B2 Other monetary assets

Details

Fund to which asset belongs

Cost (optional)

Current value (optional)

B3 Investment assets

Details

Fund to which asset belongs

Cost (optional)

Current value (optional)

B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details

Fund to which liability relates

Amount due (optional)

When due (optional)

B5 Liabilities

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

Roland West

28/05/2024



HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH ADMASTON
Charity 1152758

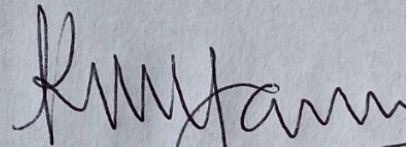
Financial Statements

For the year to 31st March 2024

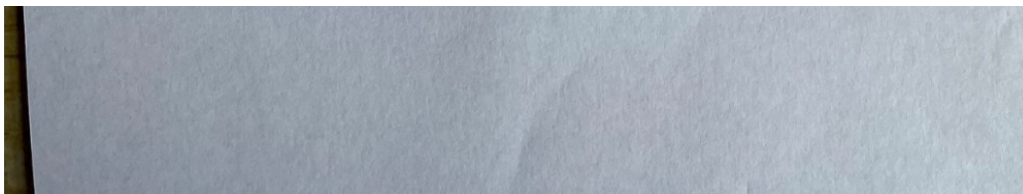
I have conducted a review of the accounts and the records. The records examined are well structure, complete and ordered. The management processes in place appear to be appropriate.

I have not conducted a full audit and have relied upon explanations given by the church in reaching my conclusion.

I am happy to recommend these accounts as fully representing the transactions of Hope Community Church Admaston during the year.



Ken Young
28th May 2024



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supporting them.
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to be fully adequate.

anations provided

ative of the financial
ring 2023/24

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