

**Minutes of 61st Annual General Meeting of the Trustees of
Southcote Family Church, held on Sunday 9th June 2024 following
the morning service.**

Opening prayer and short “thought”

Norman read John 14:1-7. Jesus was preparing His disciples for His departure from them on earth, although He hadn't told them in so many words. He was following God's plan for Him. This is the example for us – to follow the path God sets for us. We are where God wants us to be! Norman then prayed before the business of the meeting began.

Present: Norman Lindsey, Graham Edge, Linda Edge, Helmut Haines, Pete Cole and Judi Charters.

Apologies: Barry Young sent his apologies.

Appointment of Chair and Secretary: as both Norman and Judi were willing to stand once again, and as no one else wished to, Norman was proposed as Chair by Graham and seconded by Pete, and Judi was proposed for the position of Secretary by Norman and seconded by Pete.

Minutes of last AGM – agreed as a true record.

Matters arising from that meeting, not covered elsewhere: Judi pointed out that guidelines for the use of the church building had been reviewed and that the regular “outside” users of the building, Aglow and Age UK, had been informed of the necessity to look at costings for the hire of the hall. Negotiations had been amicable. One sentence in our Fire Risk Assessment would be altered, stating that although use of candles in the building was not permitted, candles used for worship-specific purposes, such as Christingle and Advent, would be allowed. This would apply only to use in our own services. At the last AGM Barry asked if there was any stipulation in the CIO that the Treasurer had to be a Trustee. Judi reported that she had found no such stipulation.

Financial Report: the financial report prepared by Graham Allen, our Treasurer, was discussed. All agreed with Graham Edge that Graham A is doing an excellent job in keeping abreast of all financial matters within the church. The report was clearly presented, showing the inevitable drop in our finances due to the fact that we are now paying out a pastor's salary each month. Most of the church's money is now in the

TSB account as opposed to the Co-Op bank, and is consequently accruing more interest.

Leadership Report, including Pastor's Report: Henry's annual report for the Trustees was discussed. Having been with us now for a whole year, it is pleasing to read that Henry feels loved and supported by the fellowship. Henry is clearly working hard to cover all aspects of the contractual requirements for his job, and appears to be settling into the role very well. Henry is a Godly man who is making many inroads into the church's involvement in the local community – details of which are contained in his report. Reservations were expressed, however, by Graham and Judi from the Leadership Team's perspective, that there has been no visual growth in numbers of people attending our services. As four of our older members have passed away in the past year, our numbers have dwindled. It is difficult to see how the church will grow in respect of the services we offer on a Sunday, as we have no facility for the sort of worship aspect of the service that a newcomer might be able to relate to. A small number of people have come to a couple of services, but have not returned. In addition to this, Henry's children do not have anyone of their ages, or anywhere near their ages, in the church. As the family home is on the other side of Reading, they cannot easily integrate into our fellowship any friends they might make in Woodley. Much prayer is needed in this area of Henry's ministry. The church continues to house a Coffee and Chat session each Wednesday and a Prayer Meeting on Friday mornings. There are no major issues outstanding with regards to the maintenance of the church building. Henry is keen to implement a Neighbourhood Chaplaincy initiative in the local area. Some from our number have shown an interest in helping with the "Pantry" being set up in the Community Centre to help families in need of support.

AOB: The Leadership Team continues to operate with five members, and two more have been added to the Leadership Support Team, making that also a team of five.

Date of next AGM and reminder of date for Policy Review meeting:

Next AGM – Sunday 8th June 2025, following morning service.

Next Policy Review Meeting - Sunday 26th January 2025.

The meeting closed with Prayers.

Southcote Family Church 2023/2024 Summary of Accounts at 31 March 2024

Balances

Co-op	£14,642.12
Lloyds	£6,248.71
Lloyds 32 Day Notice	£60,730.56
Cash	£294.30
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	£81,915.69
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Balance at 1 April 2023	£91,099.73
Income	£43,920.97
Expenditure	£53,105.01
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Balance at 31 March 2024	£81,915.69
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Decrease £9,184.04

Notes

As you can see, whilst our finances remain strong, we have finished the year with a reduced balance. This was as we expected when we employed Henry, and we can sustain this position for a few more years whilst we look to reach out into the community, and hopefully grow our congregation and return to being able to balance our income and expenses.

As I mentioned part way through the year other additional costs we incurred as Henry and family joined us were kindly covered by members of our congregation through additional giving.

We also spent on some large maintenance projects this year with the replacement of the kitchen flooring, the modification of the toilet doors and some roof repairs, as well as some more minor repairs and improvements.

Like everyone, we are not immune to the rising energy prices which have more than doubled our costs from last year, as we had to renew contracts.

Thank you for your continued financial support; please keep giving what you can. If you are a tax payer please GIFT AID your giving.

Graham Allen
treasurer.southcotefamilychurch@yahoo.com

Southcote Family Church Income and Expenditure to 31 March 2024

Income

Offerings and Gifts		£32,784.60
Giving - Gift Aided	£24,166.48	
Giving - General	£7,918.12	
Special Gifts	£700.00	
Hire of Hall		£1,880.00
Gift Aid Tax Reclaim		£6,181.23
Bank Interest		£730.56
Mission		£2,344.58
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		£43,920.97

Expenditure

General Administration

Pastor Salary and Tax		£31,100.00	
Salary	£27,500.00		inc Tax and Pension
Rent Support	£3,600.00		
Pastor Visit		£475.00	Easter 2023
Employer Pension		£475.20	
Visiting Speakers		£880.05	
Stationery \ Printing \ Licences		£2,228.93	
Licences	£913.14		
Ministry Equipment \ Training	£1,315.79		
Pastoral Care		£1,652.00	

Land and Buildings

Maintenance		£3,758.73
Equipment		£1,519.89
Insurance		£1,563.44
Cleaning		£170.15
Utilities		£4,893.22
Telephone & Broadband	£863.43	
Gas	£2,269.75	
Electric	£1,437.41	
Water	£322.63	

Donations to Mission

Mission	£4,039.00
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Miscellaneous

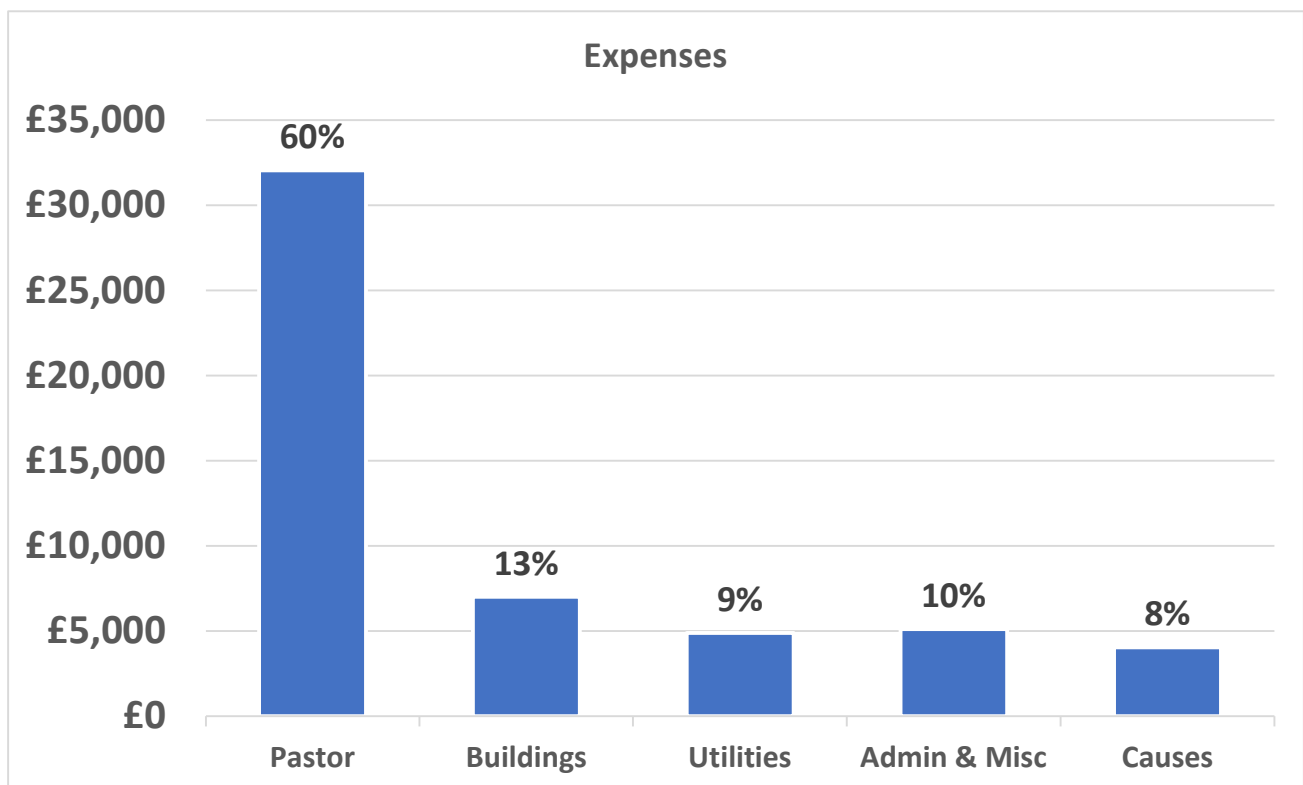
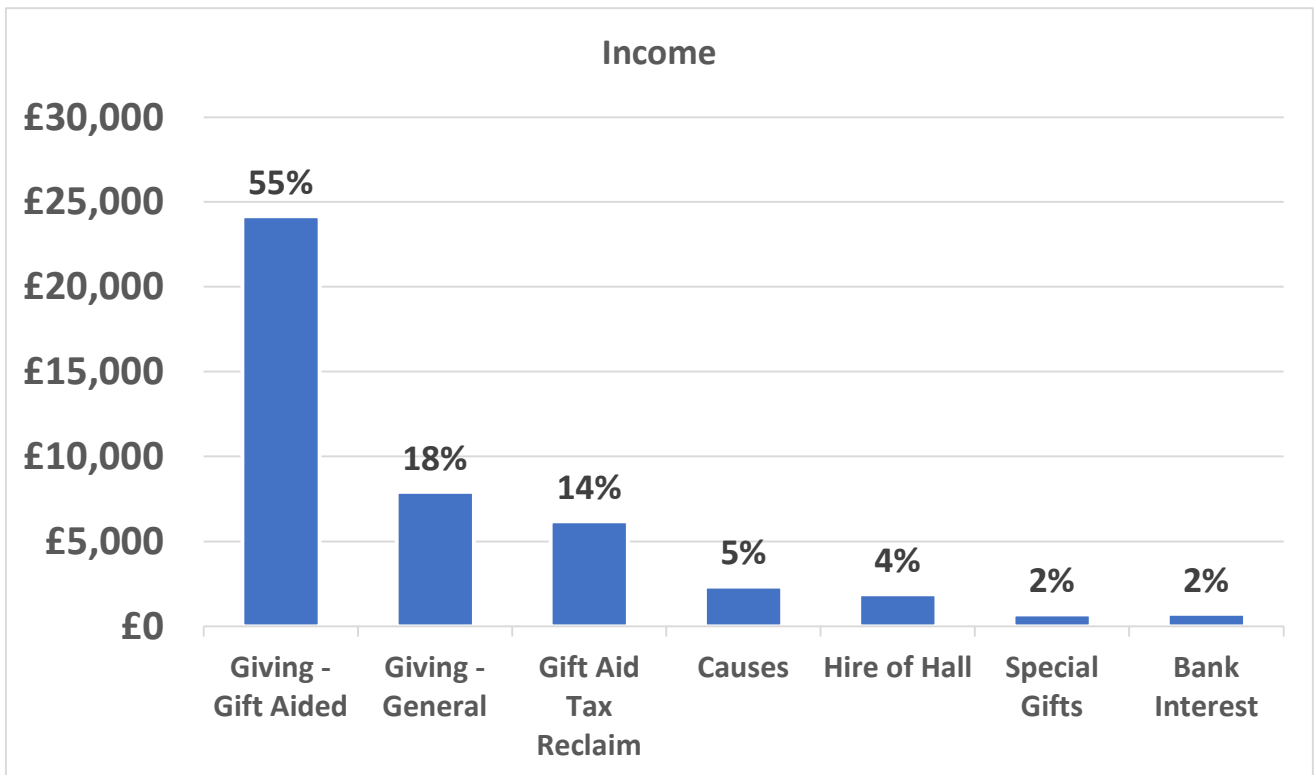
Catering	£160.40
Flowers	£189.00

£53,105.01

Donations to Mission Breakdown	Specific Donations	Church Funds	Total
Christmas	£765.24	£194.76	£960.00
Sharon Nordley	£347.00	£243.00	£590.00
Operation Christmas Child	£450.00	£109.00	£559.00
Yeldall	£110.00	£250.00	£360.00
CCA	£100.00	£250.00	£350.00
Macmillan	£255.89	£44.11	£300.00
GNFE	£50.00	£250.00	£300.00
OM	£50.00	£250.00	£300.00
Tear Fund	£196.45	£103.55	£300.00
Barnabus Aid	£20.00	£0.00	£20.00
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	£2,344.58	£1,694.42	£4,039.00

Southcote Family Church Income and Expenditure to 31 March 2024

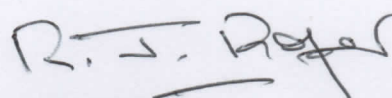
Graphical Summary



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31 March 2024

Unrestrictive funds	2023	2024
<u>Income</u>		
Offerings and Gifts	9,461	9,448
Giving under Gift Aid	24,520	24,981
Specific Gifts	16,080	700
Hire of Hall	1,405	1,880
Bank Interest	---	731
Income Tax	<u>4,995</u>	<u>6,181</u>
	<u>£56,461</u>	<u>£ 43,921</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
<u>General Administration</u>		
Pastor	1,240	31,575
Pension	---	475
Visiting Speakers	984	880
Youth Work	5,000	---
Stationery / Printing / Licences	1,601	2,229
Pastoral Care	260	1,652
<u>Land & Building costs</u>		
Premises and Equipment	6,393	5,279
Utilities / Insurance / Cleaning	4,139	6,627
<u>Donations to Mission</u>		
Various Missions	4,505	3,079
Christmas Appeal	1,300	960
<u>Miscellaneous</u>		
Sundry Items	1,474	---
Catering & Flowers	<u>235</u>	<u>349</u>
	<u>£27,131</u>	<u>£ 53,105</u>
Surplus/deficit for the year	<u>£29,330</u>	<u>£ [9,184]</u>

In accordance with instructions given to me, I have checked, without carrying out an audit, the above Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st March, 2024, from the records and from information given to me, and can confirm that they are in accordance therewith.



R. J. Roper
Accountant

Tilehurst
31st May 2024