

ST PAULS CHURCH WORCESTER

Accounts – 31st December 2023

ST PAULS CHURCH WORCESTER

(A company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital)

Charity number: 1159042
Company number: 08983424

Accounts – 31st December 2023

INDEX

- 1-3. Report of the Directors and General Information
- 4. Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees
- 5. Statement of Financial Activities
- 6. Balance Sheet
- 7-12. Notes to the Accounts

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS
for the year ended 31st December 2023 (Continued)

The Directors are pleased to present their annual report and financial statements of charitable company for the year ended 31st December 2023 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the charities 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) issued in October 2019.

Reference and Administration Details

The charity's name is St Paul's Church Worcester.

Charity Registration Number: 1159042

Company Number: 08983424

Registered Office: St Paul's Church
St Paul's Street
Worcester
Worcestershire
WR1 2BH

Directors and Trustees

The Directors of the charitable company (the charity) are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law. The Trustees and officers who served during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Dorothy Burnett Chair
C Stacey
Peter Boyd (resigned 27 May 2023)
Doreen Porter
Linden John Burnett
Rhian Anstey
John Micah (appointed 12 June 2023)

The Church management is vested in these Trustees who comprise duly appointed or elected Leaders of the Church. Dorothy Burnet is Chair and the other Officer is Mr C Stacey.

Objectives and Activities

The main objects of the charity are:

- a) The advancement of the Christian Religion by the proclamation and furtherance of the Gospel of God concerning His Son Jesus Christ the Lord and the preaching and teaching of the Word of God by the Church in accordance with the Statement of Fundamental Truths of Assemblies of God in Great Britain and Ireland as approved by the General Council from time to time (the Statement).
- b) Such other charitable purposes as shall further the attainment of the above objects of the Church or any of them.
- c) The furtherance of the other charitable work of the Church consistently with the Statement.
- d) The furtherance of the work of Assemblies of God in Great Britain and Ireland and the promotion of the spiritual teaching and the maintenance of the Statement and the promotion of religious observances that manifest the Statement.
- e) Outreach into the community of the City of Worcester supporting and caring for those in need.

Achievements and Performance

In planning the activities of the charitable company the Trustees have considered the Commission's guidance on

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS
for the year ended 31st December 2023 (Continued)

public benefit and in particular the specific guidance on charities for the enhancement of religion.

Having added a second service towards the end of 2022 the numbers attending the church on a Sunday have steadily increased during 2023 with around 160 people regularly attending across the two services. In addition to our Sunday services all our weekday groups have continued to grow and thrive and there are now fifteen groups run by St Paul's supporting not only regular church goers, but also those from the wider community. In addition to our ongoing activities of parents and toddler groups, lunch clubs for older people, community coffee mornings, English as a foreign language classes, Knit & Natter, and Saturday morning football, we have added a group for those wishing to enjoy time together at the cinema, theatre or visiting a restaurant. Oasis, a group offering support to the bereaved, has also recently restarted. In total the church is used by more than 400 people each week. We continue to explore ways in which to connect with our local community. All our activities are assessed and reviewed to ensure they remain in line with our vision and values.

With the growth in church numbers and associated activity two further paid staff appointments have been made in the areas of safeguarding and pastoral administration. Our Children's Pastor has recently stepped down to explore other opportunities, and, while we will look to appoint the right person as a replacement, we are confident that there is an extremely capable team in place who will continue to build on the excellent provision for the children.

Throughout 2023 the church had six trustee/directors. There is a wide breadth of knowledge and experience within the trustee team, and we continue to look to increase the number of trustees should an opportunity arise. Over the course of the last 12 months all policies and governance documents have been reviewed and amended where appropriate.

Financially the church is in a sound position with our congregation continuing to be generous in their giving. We continue to plan for the future of the property and have begun to explore the possibility of purchasing the building. Over the last year a quinquennial report on the state of the building, together with a five yearly check on the electrics have been conducted. As a result, the wiring in the building has been upgraded where required and a fire alarm system installed. We report against an annual budget to gauge how our finances are at any point in time. Our intention is to stay linked to the AOG family, and several visiting pastors and church leaders have attended St Paul's. This maintains an openness and accountability to the way in which our church functions. Our links with other church leaders in the city of Worcester remain strong, and it has been our privilege to host a number of well attended joint services with other City churches. We look forward to the coming year and beyond with a sense of excitement and feel we are well equipped to deal with the challenges and opportunities presented to us.

Financial Review

There was a surplus for the year in general funds of £27,189. Our general fund income from Tithes and Offerings (our principal source of funding) for the year was £147,996 (including Gift Aid) compared to £138,137 for 2022 so this income has continued to grow. General fund income Tithes and Offerings also benefited from a legacy of £71,698 in 2023. Income from Activities (General and Restricted) was £32,731 for the year compared to £22,838 in 2022 as restrictions from Covid 19 still affected part of 2022.

We have no fundraising activity as such; however our policy is that all events and functional areas of the church must break even on their activities.

As with any charity, there are items of expenditure which we have very limited control over i.e the insurances. However, we have a Budget in place and account activities are managed on the SAGE accounts system so that we have good monthly review and control processes in place.

The areas described as "Church Activities" includes Children, Youth and Citycare which form part of what we see as core purpose for our work and are areas we want to support and sustain wherever possible.

The building continues to be a concern regarding the liability for repair going forward and the Trustees have taken

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS
for the year ended 31st December 2023 (Continued)

advice on this matter. Repairs will be carried out on a needs must basis and a plan is to be developed for the long term future.

We have no concerns about the viability of the charity and its functioning as such into the future.

Reserves Policy

The Building Reserve Account can only be expended by agreement of the Trustees.

The directors have examined the charity's requirements for reserves taking account of the main risks to the organization. It has established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the charity should be between 2 and 3 months of expenditure. The directors consider that this should be £40,000 in general funds based on 2023 expenditure. The reserves are needed to meet the working capital requirement of the charity and the directors are confident that at this level they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding. As at 31 December 2023, general funds stood at £134,613, £4,453 funds the fixed assets of the charity which leaves £130,160 as available working capital of which £8,905 is designated for building repairs. The present level of the reserves available to the charity are therefore now £80,000 above the level required. The trustees transferred £40,000 to a deposit account with The Kingdom Bank to ensure the 2/3 months reserves are not utilized on general running expenses.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

St Paul's Church Worcester is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 7th April 2014. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. Members of the charitable company guarantee to contribute amounts not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of winding up.

The Directors of this company are Mr LJ Burnett, Mr C Stacey, Ms R Anstey, Mrs D Burnett, Mr J Micah and Mrs D Porter. The company number is 08983424.

Appointment of Trustees

The directors keep the composition of the board under review and will seek to appoint additional members with appropriate skills and expertise should the need arise. Interested parties are given details of the background of the charitable company in order to make them aware of current activities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the Small Companies Regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the directors on 22nd May 2024 and signed on its behalf by:-

Dorothy Burnett - Director

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of St Pauls Church Worcester (the charitable company) for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the charity's trustees (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 charitable 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 charitable 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 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.

A P Williams FCCA
A J Carter & Co
Chartered Accountants

22b High Street
Witney
Oxon
OX28 6RB

2024

Statement of Financial Activities
(including an income and expenditure account)
for the year ended 31st December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023	Total Funds 2022
		£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	219,694	8,872	228,566	147,517
Charitable activities	4	23,343	9,388	32,731	22,838
Other	5	897	-	897	840
Total incoming resources		<u>243,934</u>	<u>18,260</u>	<u>262,194</u>	<u>171,195</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	6	216,745	18,366	235,111	169,674
Other		-	-	-	-
Total expenditure		<u>216,745</u>	<u>18,366</u>	<u>235,111</u>	<u>169,674</u>
Net income/(expenditure) and net movement in funds for the year		27,189	(106)	27,083	1,521
Transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		27,189	(106)	27,083	1,521
Reconciliation of funds					
Funds brought forward		107,424	3,439	110,863	109,342
Total funds carried forward		<u>£134,613</u>	<u>£3,333</u>	<u>£137,946</u>	<u>£110,863</u>

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

All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET
as at 31st December 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	4,453	5,936
Investments		-	-
Total fixed assets		<u>4,453</u>	<u>5,936</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	12	4,340	3,983
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>137,061</u>	<u>109,637</u>
Total current assets		<u>141,401</u>	<u>113,620</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors falling due within one year	13	<u>7,908</u>	<u>8,693</u>
Net current assets		<u>133,493</u>	<u>104,927</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>137,946</u>	<u>110,863</u>
Creditors: falling due after more than 1 year		-	-
Provisions for liabilities			
Total net assets	14	<u><u>£137,946</u></u>	<u><u>£110,863</u></u>
The funds of the Charity			
Restricted income funds	15	<u>3,333</u>	<u>3,439</u>
Unrestricted income funds	15	<u>134,613</u>	<u>107,424</u>
Revaluation reserve		-	-
Total unrestricted funds		<u>134,613</u>	<u>107,424</u>
Total charity funds		<u><u>£137,946</u></u>	<u><u>£110,863</u></u>

For the year ended 31st December 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors Responsibilities

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the act with respect to the accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the Small Companies Regime within part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

These accounts were approved by the board of directors and authorised for issue on 22 May 2024 and are signed on their behalf by:

Dorothy Burnett – Director

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
for the year ended 31st December 2023

1. **Accounting Policies**

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) **Basis of Preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance the Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (applicable to Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Reporting Financial Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

b) **Public Benefit Entity**

St Paul's Church Worcester meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

c) **Going Concern**

The Directors consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

d) **Income Recognition Policies**

Items of income are recognised and included in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- The charity has entitlement to the funds;
- any performance conditions attached to the items of income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity;
- there is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable; and
- the amount can be measured reliably.

Income received in advance of a specific performance or provision of other specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

e) **Interest Receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

f) **Fund Accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the Charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the Charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for the particular areas of the Charity's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the Charity.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
for the year ended 31st December 2023 (continued)

g) **Expenditure and Irrecoverable VAT**

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.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

h) **Tangible Fixed Assets**

Individual fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are depreciated over their estimated useful economic lives on the reducing balance basis as follows:

Asset Category	Annual Rate
Furniture and equipment	25% Reducing balance

i) **Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amounts due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discounts due.

j) **Cash at Bank and in Hand**

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

k) **Creditors and Provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

2. **Legal Status of the Charity**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The liability of each member in the event of winding up is limited to £1.

3. **Income from donations**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Gifts and donations	227,366	142,417
Grants	1,200	5,100
	<u>£228,566</u>	<u>£147,517</u>

Of the £228,566 received in 2023 £8,872 was restricted funds and £219,694 unrestricted funds of which £71,698 was a legacy.

(Of the £147,517 received in 2022 £9,380 was restricted funds and £138,137 unrestricted funds)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
for the year ended 31st December 2023 (continued)

4. **Income from charitable activities**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Youth & Football	5,007	1,154
Children's Work	199	-
CityCare	26,657	21,684
Other	868	-
	<u>£32,731</u>	<u>£22,838</u>

Of the £32,731 received in 2023 £9,388 was restricted funds and £23,343 unrestricted funds.
(Of the £22,838 received in 2022 £6,417 was restricted funds and £16,421 unrestricted funds.)

5. **Income earned from other sources**

	2023	2022
	£	£
Room hire	-	-
Other income	7	535
Interest	890	305
	<u>£897</u>	<u>840</u>

Of the £897 received in 2023 £Nil was restricted funds and £897 unrestricted funds.
(Of the £840 received in 2022 £Nil was restricted funds and £840 unrestricted funds.)

6. **Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities**

	2023	2022
	Total	Total
	£	£
Salaries and remuneration	100,071	67,344
Gifts to mission	10,196	7,048
Ministry gifts	7,139	310
Travel	295	255
Insurance	4,753	4,502
Utilities	14,768	9,813
Property costs	26,615	13,896
Rent/Hire of premises	2,500	2,500
Office costs	11,273	9,681
Worship and resources	2,183	1,857
Conferences and training	3,945	1,725
Church activities	42,273	41,493
Sundry expenses	104	170
Accountancy	4,995	4,751
Legal and professional	1,131	983
Bank charges	277	257
Depreciation	1,483	1,979
Independent Examination	1,110	1,110
Total	<u>£235,111</u>	<u>£169,674</u>

Of the £235,111 expenditure in 2023, £216,745 was unrestricted and £18,366 restricted funds
(Of the £169,674 expenditure in 2022, £150,249 was unrestricted and £19,425 restricted funds.)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
for the year ended 31st December 2023 (continued)

7. Net income/(expenditure) for the year

	2023	2022
<i>This is stated after charging:</i>	£	£
Depreciation	1,483	1,979
Independent examiner's fee	1,110	1,110
Accountancy services	<u>4,995</u>	<u>4,751</u>

8. Analysis of staff costs and trustee remuneration and expenses

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries and wages	97,818	65,593
Social security costs	-	-
Statutory Maternity Pay recovered	-	-
Pension Costs	2,253	1,751
Recruitment Costs	-	-
	<u>£100,071</u>	<u>£67,344</u>

No employees had emoluments in excess of £60,000.

Of the charity trustees, C J Stacey, received remuneration of £8,389 and £3,663 of work related expenses reimbursed in the year to 31 December 2023. Dot Burnett received £37,624 and had £1,349 of work related expenses reimbursed and Peter Boyd received £6,000 as a gift for past services and had £567 expenses reimbursed. LJ Burnett is connected to Dot Burnett. No other trustees were paid or had work related expenses reimbursed.

Trustees donated £21,960 to the Charity

9. Staff numbers

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

2023	2022
Number	Number
<u>9.00</u>	<u>7.16</u>

10. Corporation tax

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
for the year ended 31st December 2023 (continued)

11. **Tangible fixed assets**

	Furniture & equipment £	Total £
Cost:		
As at 1 January 2023	99,800	99,800
Additions	-	-
As at 31 December 2023	<u>99,800</u>	<u>99,800</u>
Depreciation:		
As at 1 January 2023	93,864	93,864
Charge for year	1,483	1,483
As at 31 December 2023	<u>95,347</u>	<u>95,347</u>
Net book value:		
As at 31 December 2023	<u>£4,453</u>	<u>£4,453</u>
As at 31 December 2022	<u>£5,936</u>	<u>£5,936</u>

12. **Debtors**

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	-	200
Gift aid	4,340	3,783
	<u>£4,340</u>	<u>£3,983</u>

13. **Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	4,631	4,736
Accruals	3,277	3,957
	<u>£7,908</u>	<u>£8,693</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
for the year ended 31st December 2023 (continued)

14. Analysis of net assets between funds

	General Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	4,453	-	-	4,453
Cash at bank and in hand	124,823	8,905	3,333	137,061
Other net current assets/(liabilities)	(3,568)	-	-	(3,568)
Total	£125,708	£8,905	£3,333	£137,946

15. Analysis of charitable funds

Analysis of movements in restricted funds

	Balance 1.1.2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Funds 31.12.2023 £
Citycare	3,083	7,677	(7,311)	3,449
General restricted	356	10,583	(11,055)	(116)
Total	£3,439	£18,260	£(18,366)	£3,333

Analysis of movements in unrestricted funds

	Balance 1.1.2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Funds 31.12.2023 £
General fund	98,519	243,934	(216,745)	125,708
Building fund	8,905	-	-	8,905
Total	£107,424	£243,934	£(216,745)	134,613

Name of unrestricted fund

Description, nature and purposes of the fund

General fund
Building fund

The 'free reserves' after allowing for all designated funds.
In preparation for refurbishment works as necessary