

Downham Gospel Hall Trust

Public Benefit Report

Year ending 5th April 2024



Objectives

One of the Trust's principal activities that furthers its objectives is providing a facility for the coordination of "outreach" work into the wider community

Members of the congregation, acting under the directions of the trustees and with their full active encouragement, have continued with "outreach" work which they have carried out for many years

Summary

The trustees of the Downham Gospel Hall Trust confirm that they have complied with their duty under section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance to charities on public benefit.

The trustees and the regular congregation members were determined to continue their public benefit works and we have found this year has demanded even more resource as we support people and communities around our places of worship.

Street Preaching and Tract Distribution

We were unable to maintain our longstanding commitment to the open-air preaching in the town centre of Kings Lynn but are now seeking to resume this now the lockdown restrictions are lifting. Tracts and gospel cards were still available for collection from the main Gospel Hall.

Any enquiries received by the trustees or made to central office have been followed up fully, and where applicable people have been directed to the website on the next slide where literature can be purchased or downloaded for reading in multiple languages.

Members of the congregation have continued to hand out tracts to neighbours and people in need when they have met them.

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Working with other Charities

The Trust contributed towards the purchase of benches and dog bins for several local Parish Councils and provided volunteers to the Rapid Relief Team (RRT) which provide essential support in time of need. We have shared some of our activities within the past year.

Historic structure restored

By Jeremy Owen

Jeremy@yourlocalpaper.co.uk
Twitter@yourlocalpaper

A rare historic structure has been officially re-opened following the completion of a restoration project.

The Pound in West Winch was used from the 16th century onwards to house wayward and stray cattle until their owners could come to collect them.

Work to restore the structure, in Watering Lane, became necessary after a lorry collided with it, causing damage.

Parish councillor David Skerritt told *Your Local Paper*: "We are extremely fortunate to have a surviving Pound.

"Very few of these rare and



Dr Richards at the restored Pound. Inset, the Pound. Pictures: Ian Burt

ancient structures remain throughout the British Isles.

"The village Pound was a common feature of most English medieval villages and was usually erected near to common land where communal grazing took place and also near to a water source.

"The West Winch Pound typifies these requirements as it is situated close to the common, and on Watering

Lane where a constant water source still exists to this present day.

"The purpose of the Pound was to provide a safe sanctuary for stray livestock – the strays being impounded by the Penfold (keeper of The Pound) for security and safe keeping."

Mr Skerritt said the Penfold would care for the animals, with the owners paying a fee when they collected them. If the owners did not, the Penfold was

allowed to sell the animals at Lynn cattle market.

The opening ceremony was attended by several dignitaries, including county and borough councillors, and local historian Dr Paul Richards.

The restoration work was paid for by Zurich Assurance Limited, which owns the adjacent land. A new bench has been installed courtesy of the Plymouth Brethren Church in Setchey.



Top, David Skerritt speaking during the opening ceremony, and immediately above, Dr Richards unveils the new information panel about the Pound.



Dignitaries at the formal unveiling of the new bench at the Pound.

Case Study 1

April 2023

Donation of a Park bench to the reopening of the West Winch Pound

<https://www.yourlocalpaper.co.uk/2023/02/17/historic-feature-restored-after-pounding-by-lorry/>

Case Study 2

April 2023

Donated 50 Water bottles to the 10k Gear run in support of the Purfleet Trust for the homeless.

The Grand East Anglia Run (GEAR) 10K is a popular race and fun run that takes place in King's Lynn every year. This well-established event is staged by Run For All in partnership with Alive Leisure and the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk.



Case Study 3

June 2023

Supplied a BBQ meal for 200 people at the Magpie Open Day, which provides horse riding for disabled people

<https://www.yourlocalpaper.co.uk/2023/06/09/bumper-day-at-riding-centre-fair/>

The Magpie Centre enjoyed a good day for its fundraising efforts with £3,100 made at a craft fair and have-a-go dog agility event.

Running the home for West Norfolk Riding for the Disabled Association at South Runcton costs almost £200,000 per year with about a third of that having to be raised itself. So the support last Saturday was very welcome.

Case Study 3 - Magpie Open Day (1)




Thank you so much



jan.calvert@hotmail.co.uk

To Kings Lynn | RRT UK

 You replied to this message on 04/06/2023 16:21.

Hi George

Please could you thank your wonderful team for all they did for us yesterday.

Your welcome support helped us to raise £3100!!!

We really appreciate all you to do to help us at the Centre.

Thanks again

Jan

Case Study 3 - Magpie Open Day (2)



Case Study 4

June 2023

At the request of the North Runcton Parish council the PBCC members strimmed a path between Twisty Twiney and Setch Road.

5 volunteers for 4 hours each.



George

Absolutely brilliant. Please pass on our thanks to your whole team. It is really appreciated.

I will walk it tonight and ensure people are aware it is now passable.

We are aware it is uneven, but it is only a footpath. It's also great to know there is good wildlife down there.

All the best

Steve

Steve Palmer
07709 303551

Case Study 5

“We Couldn’t Do It Without You”

July 2023

100 BBQ meals for the Magpie Centre
Fundraising Craft Fair. Raised £260 for the
charity

From the Magpie centre:

George and his RRT team from King's Lynn have supported the Magpie Centre, West Norfolk Riding for the Disabled Association, at several of our events over recent years. By providing bbqs, they have raised donations at fundraising events, much needed by the centre, and also enabled us to thank our many volunteers for their unwavering support over the pandemic and since. We know they are a totally reliable and very professional, positive, happy and polite team and a credit to the RRT. So many people, both our volunteers and members of the public, comment, not only on how good the food served is, but also on how well the team work together.

When they find out how they help us, they are overwhelmed by what they do.

We are so grateful for all their support.

As we at the Magpie Centre like to say to all our volunteers, and include RRT in this:

'We couldn't do it without you!'

Case Study 5 -Magpie Centre Fundraising Craft Fair





Case Study 6

August 2023

Donation of a dog litter bin to the West Winch Parish Council

Good Morning

I can confirm receipt of the dog bin that you donated to us. Thank you for this, it is very much appreciated. It has been installed today. I have attached a picture.

Kind Regards

--

Mrs Sarah Watts
Clerk to West Winch Parish Council

28 Oak Avenue
West Winch
Kings Lynn
Norfolk, PE33 0QJ
T: 07578191841.
E clerk.westwinchpc@gmail.com
Website: <http://westwinchparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>



Case Study 7

October 2023

Comfort Snack Pack gifts

RRT supported an event run by the Hanseatic Union Charity 21st October.

RRT handed out 120 snack packs to people in need and 4 bibles.

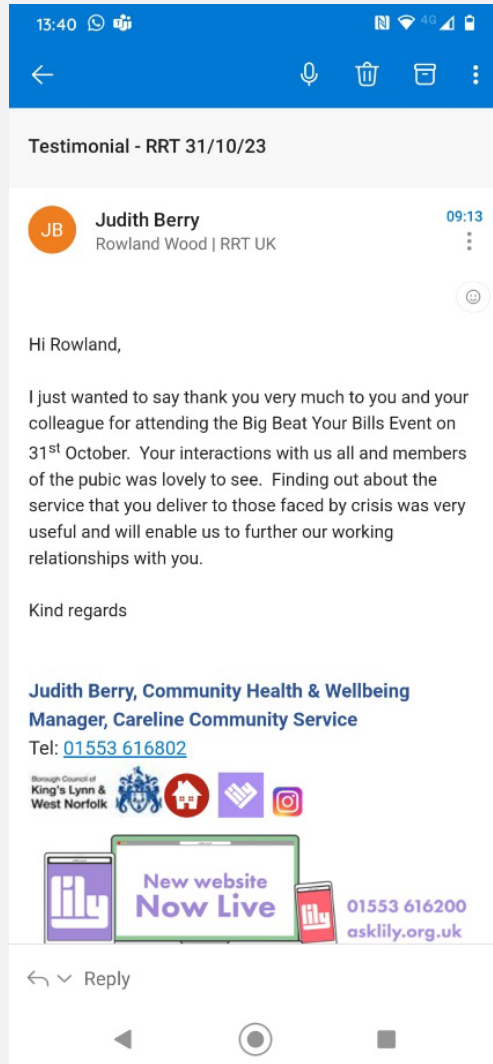
Case Study 7 - Hanseatic Union Charity

From: Julie <julie@hanseaticunion.co.uk>
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2023 12:07 PM
To: Rowland Wood | RRT UK <rowland.wood@rrtglobal.org>
Subject: Hanseatic Support

We worked with Rowland from RRT last week. We are a charity who works with people who are overcoming difficulties in life. We were giving clothes and Rowland provided comfort packs. It was a lovely event with so many people from the community attending and being given support, not just practical but emotional, via smiles and chat. It was my first time working with your organisation and it will be the start of a long journey together. :)

Julie Chaplin (MA, BA, PGCE)





Case Study 8

October 2023 Lily.org event

This was the first event organized by the Borough Council called Beat The Bills, run by LILY which is a council affiliated charity, at a location in Kings Lynn. It's designed to help people access help from groups like Nationwide BS, the Job Centre through to Kings Lynn Food Bank. It help people in poverty or have run into hard times.

RRT attended and handed out 96 Comfort Snack Packs

Case Study 8

Beat The Bills Kings Lynn



Borough Council – LILY.org



Senior Careline Officer testimonial



Jacob Medlock – Housing Standards Officer, and Judith Berry, Community Health & Wellbeing Manager for West Norfolk Borough Council testimonial

Case Study 9

Early Bird Learning program for schools

<https://rrtglobal.org/operations-appeals/early-bird-learning-ebl-feedback/>

Early Bird Learning Pack Contents

1 Cookie Soft Toy Mascot

1 Cookie wall poster

10 Cookie Work Books

10 Early Bird 6-piece Crayon sets

10 Early Bird Reward charts

10 Early Bird cereal bowls

10 Early Bird spoons

10 Early Bird sports water bottles

Case Study 9 - EBL (1)

Watlington Community Primary School
- November 2023



Case Study 9 - EBL (2)

Fairstead Community Primary & Nursery
School – November 2023



Re: Early Bird Learning Pack

L Clarridge <L.Clarridge@fairstead.norfolk.sch.uk>
To Rowland Wood | RRT UK

Hi Rowland,

Just wanted to say a huge thank you from all of us here at Fairstead for the early bird and food parcels. It is greatly appreciated. The children at breakfast club are loving the booklets and Cookie.

Thanks again

Louise

Case Study 9 - EBL (3)

Greenpark Academy Primary & Nursery
School – November 2023



RE: Pics.

Dawn Stevens <DStevens@greenpark.norfolk.sch.uk>

To Rowland Wood | RRT UK

Good morning Rowland,

It was lovely to meet you on Wednesday and thank you for emailing the pictures through.

Thank you very much for the delivery, one box has already made its way to a very appreciative family. Our Parent Support Advisor has got plans for the other boxes and has asked if you do have any more, if she could request 10 to help the families she is supporting.

I hope you don't think we are being cheeky!

Kind regards

Dawn

Dawn Stevens
Administrative Assistant

Greenpark Academy
9-11 Wensum Way
King's Lynn
Norfolk
PE30 2RE
01553 772018
www.greenpark.norfolk.sch.uk

Case Study 9 - EBL (4)

West Winch Primary School – November 2023



From: Office - West Winch Primary School <office@westwinch.norfolk.sch.uk>

Sent: Tuesday, October 31, 2023 3:28:31 PM

To: Rowland Wood | RRT UK <rowland.wood@rrtglobal.org>

Subject: RE: RRT Charitable Help For Schools

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for bringing the parcels to our school. I have attached the photos of when you dropped them off for your records.

Regards

Gillian

Case Study 9 - EBL (5)

Whitefriars Church of England Academy –
December 2023



Re: [External] RRT Early Bird Learning Packs.

Michelle Ashton <Michelle.Ashton@whitefriars.dneat.org>
To Rowland Wood | RRT UK

We would like to thank RRT for their generous contribution of Food Boxes - These have been distributed to families in need in our catchment area and were very gratefully received during this difficult time. We also received breakfast bars that are being shared with children who share that they have not eaten before school as this is so important and has been directly linked to academic progress. This is a fantastic resource and we are very pleased that we were put in contact with the team.

Merry Christmas!

Michelle



Case Study 10

December 2023

RRT food box and care pack delivery for Hanseatic Union charity, delivered to the Borough Council offices in Kings Lynn.

RE: foodie things

Julie <julie@hanseaticunion.co.uk>

To Rowland Wood | RRT UK

We can get it delivered to the council Rowland – if you get it into reception the caretakers will move it or My team will move it – if you can give an eta that would be fabulous – also just to let you know those comfort packs have been brilliant – brought a smile to some faces :)

Case Study 11

November 2023 Lily.org event

This was the second event organized by the Borough Council called Beat The Bills, run by LILY which is a council affiliated charity. The location was Hunstanton.

It's designed to help people access help from groups like Nationwide BS, the Job Centre through to Kings Lynn Food Bank. It help people in poverty or have run into hard times.

RRT attended and handed out 96 snack packs



Case Study 12

November 2023 Middleton Parish Council

RRT provided a donation of a dog litter bin for the Parish Council




RE: Dog Waste Bin

Clerk <clerk@middletonparishcouncil.org>

To Rowland Wood | RRT UK

Cc Zach Wiles-Van Dyke

 You replied to this message on 03/10/2023 17:17.

Good evening Rowland

Thank you so much for this kind offer. The P C are very grateful to you for it.

I am sure they will be only too willing to take up the generous gift and they will be discussing it next Wednesday at the PC meeting.

Thanks again.

Kind regards

Clerk Middleton Parish Council

clerk@middletonparishcouncil.org



Middleton Parish Council Chairman's Report

By Zach Wiles-Van Dyke

We have had quite a few residents get in touch regarding the dog waste bins in Water Lane and Wormegay Road being taped off. This was done by the Borough Council as they have decided that they are too large and can hold too much and are risk to manual handling so need replacing with smaller ones. This would be at a cost to the PC, but the RRT - Rapid Relief Team have kindly donated one and the PC have ordered a second one. These have now arrived and will be fitted soon.

A number of residents have got in touch and attended meetings regarding the allotments in The Alley asking why the allotments are being allowed to be used for building work access or for storing building materials. The PC did not give permission for them to be used in this way or for them to be driven over and the allotment holders have been contacted.

The PC noticeboard at the school is falling apart and needs replacing. This one is made of wood and the PC feel it should be replaced with a wooden one as it fits with the look of the school. This is very costly, but we have just had confirmation that this will be paid for by two local organisations. We thank them for this.

By the time this is published I will have laid a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council at the remembrance service on Sunday the 12th of November, and then brought it back to Middleton to leave it on the war memorial in church yard.



Case Study 12 (2)

November 2023 Middleton Parish Council

RRT provided a donation of a dog litter bin for the Parish Council

Case Study 13

November 2023

RRT donated 18 food boxes and 18 care packs to Together UK Charity. The charity will use the donation to help persons with mental health issues

Hi Rowland

I have spoken to the rest of the team and this is how the food box and care pack will help

If clients are street homeless the food box will take the pressure off where their next meal is coming from especially at the weekend when services are limited. The care kit also make a difference as the clients can at least get clean and often use public toilets for water to wash.

If the clients go into accommodation taking a food box and a care kit, give them a start, as they often have nothing to move in with.



Together for Mental Wellbeing: Working alongside people on their journey towards better mental wellbeing and independent lives.

From: Lesley Manka <lesley-manka@together-uk.org>

Sent: 10 January 2024 09:17

To: Julie Bowyer <Julie-Bowyer@together-uk.org>

Subject: Food parcel

**Family Food Box testimonial
received from Together UK**

Hi Julie

I gave one of the food parcels to a client who we managed to get accommodated in Thetford Sanctuary Housing it was just before Christmas and he had spent his benefit money on making sure he had what he needed to be able to live in Thetford and to pay off a loan he had as he didn't want it hanging over him as he saw the move as a new start. He was sleeping in public toilets in Dereham and has had a sad life he is 35. He was so grateful for the food parcel and wanted to make sure I said thank you to you and to who donated them he said it was a life saver as he had no food except a small selection pack one of the other residents had given him.

If you need anything else please let me know.

Thanks.

Best Regards
Lesley Manka

Senior Recovery Worker
Norfolk Integrated Housing and Community Support Service (NIHCSS)



Case Study 14 (1)

December 2023

RRT attended the third Beat The Bills Event organized by the West Norfolk Borough Council, where it handed out 96 Frontline snack packs in support of the Council's initiative in helping people with the cost of living. The event was held at the Downham Market Town Hall.





Case Study 14 (2)

Beat The Bills – Downham Market

Case Study 15

January 2024

Donated and delivered 12 Family Food boxes to Mrs Parkinson, Parent Support Advisor at Greenpark Academy Primary & Nursery School for onward donation to families in poverty with children at the school, at the PSA or head teacher's discretion.

This is the second donation of food boxes and Mrs Parkinson commented that she wished we could have seen the faces of the recipients when given a food box.





Case Study 16

January 2024

Donated and delivered 12 Family Food boxes, and 2 RRT Key Stage 2 Kits to Louise Clarridge, Parent Support Advisor at Fairstead Community Primary & Nursery School.

The food boxes are used for onward donation to families in poverty with children at the school, at the discretion of the PSA.

Case Study 17

January 2024

Another RRT donation, in this case to Mr Bees Family Centre in North Lynn, for Lisa Webster, North Lynn Lead.

- 5 x Family Food boxes,
- 3 x RRT Key Stage 1 Kits
- 3 x RRT Key Stage 2 Kits
- 24 x Bottled Water
- 300 x Smarrt Cookie Bars
-



Case Study 18

January 2024

North Runcton Litter Pick

Local PBCC community members joined in with the villagers of North Runcton in a Saturday morning Litter Pick, arranged by the Parish Council.

RRT supplied refreshments to workers at the end of the task.



Case Study 19

January 2024 - Lily.org event

Beat The Bills, Kings Lynn (4th of 6)

This was the fourth event organized by the Borough Council called Beat The Bills, run by LILY which is a council affiliated charity. The location was Kings Lynn.

It's designed to help people access help from groups like Nationwide BS, the Job Centre through to Kings Lynn Food Bank. It help people in poverty or have run into hard times.

RRT attended and handed out 100 snack packs in 2 hours to attendees





The Purfleet Trust

Yesterday at 13:24 · 🌐

Grocery boxes provided by Rapid Relief Team UK are full of all the essential items to support our clients with food and hot drinks.

Really grateful for their continued support 🙏🙏

[#rapidreliefteam](#) [#westnorfolk](#) [#endfoodinsecurity](#)



Case Study 20

January 2024

RRT donated 30 Family Food Boxes to the **Purfleet Trust** to further its work across West Norfolk addressing housing, wellbeing and support needs



Case Study 21

January 2024

Another donation of 21 Family Food Boxes and 36 Care Packs to **Together UK**, which they are distributing to the needy from their 3 offices in Norfolk.

Pictured are the food boxes on their safe arrival, with the care packs in the brown box on the floor behind Steven Tyman of Together UK.



Case Study 22

February 2023

“Bringing Communities Together” is an event organised by **Lily.org**, a charitable organisation run by the West Norfolk Borough Council.

The event was designed to integrate residents of newly built council houses with residents of older housing.





Case Study 23

February 2023

Big Beat The Bills #5 in Hunstanton Town Hall. This was an event organised by the West Norfolk Borough Council.

The event was designed to help needy, vulnerable and distressed people with the cost of living, providing practical advice and help. RRT attended, handing out comfort snack packs

Case Study 24

February 2024

Another delivery of 18 RRT Family Food boxes to the Borough Council Offices for Hanseatic Union. For onward supply to persons in poverty, hardship, and including Ukranian refugees.





Case Study 25

February 2024

A “Meet The Team” Coffee Morning was held at Whitefriars School to give parents the opportunity to meet some members of a local charity which gives support to mental health sufferers.

RRT was present and provided Comfort Snack Packs to the attendees.



Case Study 26

March 2024

Mr Mat Tuckwood, the Headmaster of Whitefriars Church Of England School gratefully receives a donation of 9 family food boxes and 9 care kits from Rapid Relief Team.

Case Study 27

March 2024

The final “Beat The Bills” event, run by Lily.org took place at the Downham Market town hall.

Case Study 28

March 2024

The North Runcton Parish Council ran a Community History Night Talk at the village Meeting Place. RRT provided hot food to the attendees to support the talks. This was the opportunity used as a thank-you to the parishioners for their patience throughout the new PBCC hall construction project.

Trustees Report & Unaudited Financial Statements

Downham Gospel Hall Trust
For the year ended 5 April 2024

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Legal and Administrative Information

Downham Gospel Hall Trust For the year ended 5 April 2024

Charity Name:

Downham Gospel Hall Trust

Registered Charity Number:

1159102

Trustees:

Adrian Samways (Chair) - resigned 4th May 2024

Stephen Turner - resigned 4th May 2024

Charles McIntyre - resigned 4th May 2024

Kevin Carvell

Karl Brothers

Quentin Evershed - appointed 4th May 2024

Jerry Fryer - appointed 4th May 2024

Craig Turner - appointed 4th May 2024

Treasurer:

Karl Brothers

Principal Address:

29 Grave Hill Lane, West Winch, Kings Lynn, Norfolk, PE33 0QG

Independent Examiner:

Sandra Thurgood
FCCA FMAAT ATT BSc ILSPA A.NALP
3 Dells Lane
Biggleswade
Beds
SG18 8LP

Accountant:

Oldfield Advisory LLP, Santis House, Curriers Close, Coventry, CV4 8AW

Bankers:

HSBC Bank Plc
23 New Conduit Street
Kings Lynn
Norfolk
PE30 1ET

Report of the Trustees

Downham Gospel Hall Trust

For the year ended 5 April 2024

The trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 5 April 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 11 and comply with the Trust Deed and applicable law.

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Charity is an unincorporated trust constituted by a Deed of Trust dated 13 November 1979, most recently amended by Deed of Variation dated 08 August 2014. The trust was registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 06 November 2014 under Charity Registration Number: 1159102

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

The Trustees who have served during the year and since the year end are set out on page 3. None of the Trustees, nor any person connected with them, received any remuneration or expenses from the Charity in the year ended 5 April 2024.

The Trust operates four Gospel halls and Trustees are chosen from among the regular congregation of the halls. New Trustees are nominated by the existing Trustees or by the congregation and must be appointed by unanimous resolution of the congregation. They are selected according to their skills and experience and are expected to use both in furthering the objects of the Charity. Checks are made to ensure the Trustees' eligibility to act and incoming Trustees are made aware of their responsibilities by the existing Trustees, who ensure that new Trustees read the Trust Deed and relevant Charity Commission guidance.

Wider Network

The Trustees maintain informal links with similar charities with a view to pooling experience considered useful in pursuing the objects of the Charity. The Charity also maintains particular links with Southgate Gospel Hall Trust, with which it shares members of its congregation.

Risk Management

The Trustees have identified and reviewed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and confirm that they have established systems to manage and mitigate those risks.

Objectives and Activities

Objectives and Aims

The charitable purposes of the Charity are the advancement of the Christian religion for the public benefit, including by the carrying on of the service of God in accordance with the Old and New Testaments of the Holy Bible as followed by those Christians forming part of the world-wide fellowship known as the Plymouth Brethren Christian Church (the "Brethren") and any other charitable purposes connected with Brethren. The core doctrine of the Brethren and proper practices in furtherance of certain aspects of doctrine are summarised in two schedules to the Trust Deed.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance to charities on public benefit.

Details of public benefit activities carried out by Downham Gospel Hall Trust can be found in the separate appendix to this report.

Main activities and achievements

The Trust provides and maintains four Gospel halls where religious meetings are held by the local Brethren community. Details of the origins, teachings and way of life of the Brethren can be found on the website - www.plymouthbrethrenchristianchurch.org and in the schedules to the Trust Deed.

Plans for future periods

Despite the increased cost of energy, the trustees feel that these increased costs are not significantly impacting on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern.

Meetings

Meetings held at the Gospel halls include the Lord's Supper (Communion), Gospel preachings, Bible readings and Bible addresses. There is a structured weekly schedule of meetings and, depending on the particular meeting, between 40 and 400 people normally attend these occasions.

The meetings are attended by the regular congregation and most are open to other properly disposed visitors. The notice board outside the Hall welcomes visitors and displays the times of Gospel preachings, along with a telephone number for those seeking further information or help. Gospel tracts, which are distributed by street preachers, also display this information.

Bibles and an extensive range of other Christian reading material are on display at the halls and visitors are free to help themselves.

Spreading the Gospel message and the life of a Christian

The Gospel halls are a base from which the regular congregation and others who attend the meetings are encouraged to spread the Christian Gospel, in word and deed.

Members of the congregation participate in a programme of street preaching where Gospel tracts are provided free of charge by the Charity to such preachers to be handed out to interested members of the public.

In carrying out this work, the congregation considers itself to be living out its faith in practice, as particularly exemplified in the following extract from the schedule to the Trust Deed on living a Christian life:

- We seek and are encouraged to live exemplary lives in all our relationships with others in the wider community (including former Brethren), in accordance with the teachings of Holy Scripture (1 Tim 2:2).
- We regularly go out from our homes to preach on the streets, to distribute Christian literature and engage with the wider community (including former Brethren) in order to present eternal salvation, available to all men by faith in Jesus Christ. (2 Tim 4:2).
- We seek as members of the public to lead Christian lives as husbands and wives, parents, children, employers, employees and neighbours. (Col 3:22-25, Col 4:1).
- The preservation and protection of the family unit is fundamental and children are prized as a blessing from God. (Psalm 127:3-5). The elderly are valued members of the community, for whom both their family and the wider community are expected to care.
- Holy Scripture commands us to be good neighbours to others, and deal with all other people (including former Brethren) openly, honestly and fairly and consistent with these principles, we should give our time, talents and money to assist those in need in the wider community, in so far as reasonable given our abilities and our available resources. (Matt 7:12, Matt 22:39, Eph 4:28).

Funding

Funding is sought through gifts from the congregation and Gift Aid is claimed on eligible donations. Funding is sometimes received from other charitable trusts with complementary objectives.

Financial Review

In the year ended 5 April 2024 the Trust had a deficit of incoming resources over resources expended of £199,125. This is mainly due to the funds granted to Southgate Gospel Hall Trust to enable them to complete works on one of the halls they operate.

Total voluntary income received this year was £322,046 compared to £186,031 in the previous year.

All funds held were unrestricted funds.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs. This is based on the charity's size and the level of financial commitments held. The Trustees aim for the charity to hold approximately £10,000 in a current account to meet the day to day expenses, plus an allowance for any urgent repairs and capital expenses. The Trustees will endeavour not to set aside funds unnecessarily. Free reserves accumulated in excess of the minimum will be used at the discretion of the trustees for the strategic development of Downham Gospel Hall Trust. The Trustees aim to ensure that the charity will be able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives, even if there is a temporary shortfall in income or unexpected expenditure, by raising a funds appeal.

Free Reserves at the year end were £147,673 (2023: £290,424)

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the Trust Deed require the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the Charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations and the provisions of the Trust Deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. All transactions have been reviewed and approved by two trustees.

On Behalf of the board:

.....

Mr K Brothers (Trustee)

.....

Date

Report of the Independent Examiner

Downham Gospel Hall Trust For the year ended 5 April 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Downham Gospel Hall Trust for the year ended 5 April 2024.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

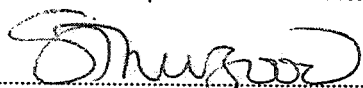
My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking of 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 statements below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.



Sandra Thurgood
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3 Dells Lane
Biggleswade
Beds
SG18 8LP

13 September 2024

Statement of Financial Activities

Downham Gospel Hall Trust For the year ended 5 April 2024

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS 2024	TOTAL FUNDS 2023
Income and endowments:					
Donations and Legacies:					
Collections	98,620	-	-	98,620	28,092
Contributions from the Congregation	170,014	-	-	170,014	84,877
Gift Aid Donations	42,685	-	-	42,685	58,443
Income Tax refunds	10,727	-	-	10,727	14,619
Investments					
Interest Received	4,085	-	-	4,085	1,002
Total Income and endowments:	326,131	-	-	326,131	187,033
Expenditure:					
Running Meeting Rooms (note 9)	230,374	-	-	230,374	138,219
Congregation Support (note 9)	3,500	-	-	3,500	-
Cost of donated services (note 4)	21,086	-	-	21,086	30,612
Grants to affiliated trusts (note 5)	270,296	-	-	270,296	-
Total Expenditure:	525,256	-	-	525,256	168,831
Net Income/(Expenditure)	(199,125)	-	-	(199,125)	18,202
Net Movement In Funds	(199,125)	-	-	(199,125)	18,202
	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS 2024	TOTAL FUNDS 2023
Reconciliation of funds (note 11)					
Total Funds brought forward	2,567,824	-	-	2,567,824	2,549,622
Net movement in funds	(199,125)	-	-	(199,125)	18,202
Total Funds carried forward	2,368,699	-	-	2,368,699	2,567,824

The notes on page 11 - 19 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet

Downham Gospel Hall Trust As at 5 April 2024

	2024	2023
Fixed Assets		
Tangible assets (note 6)	2,319,026	2,375,400
Total Fixed Assets	2,319,026	2,375,400
Current assets		
Prepayments and accrued income	13,991	16,841
Cash at bank and in hand	136,351	275,021
Total Current assets	150,342	291,862
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Accruals and deferred income	2,669	1,438
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2,669	1,438
Net current assets/(liabilities)	147,673	290,424
Total assets less current liabilities	2,466,699	2,665,824
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		
Loans	98,000	98,000
Net Assets	2,368,699	2,567,824
Funds (note 10)		
Unrestricted funds	2,368,699	2,567,824
Total Funds	2,368,699	2,567,824

The unaudited financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees of Downham Gospel Hall Trust onand were signed on its behalf by:

.....

Mr K Brothers (Trustee)

The notes on pages 11 - 19 form part of these financial statements.

Notes forming part of the Financial Statements

Downham Gospel Hall Trust For the year ended 5 April 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, and incorporating update bulletins 1 and 2, and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The functional currency of the charity is sterling (£).

The Trust 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 note(s).

1.2 Income

Donations are recognised in the year in which there is entitlement and probability of receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. Income is only deferred when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future year. Gift aid is added to the value of the donation to which it relates.

Donated services are recognised as income and expenditure in the financial statements when organisations or individuals offer their services and support pro bono. The value of these donated services to Downham Gospel Hall Trust is considered to be equal to market value which would be paid were the service formally procured. This includes services paid for by other trusts.

Investment income is accounted for on a receivable basis.

1.3 Expenditure

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis. Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

Charitable activities comprise those costs directly attributable to the fulfilment of the charitable objects.

1.4 Governance and support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support costs. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and costs related to statutory requirements. Governance and support costs are allocated to charitable activities on the basis of capacity used.

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets (costing more than £100) are stated at cost less depreciation. Freehold land is not depreciated. Property Improvements are included within freehold buildings and are depreciated in line with the policy set out below. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Freehold land	Nil
Buildings & Property Improvements	2.5% Straight Line
Fixtures and Fittings	10% Reducing Balance

1.6 Taxation

The Trust is a registered charity and is not liable to United Kingdom income or corporation tax on charitable activities, provided income falls within the charitable exemptions and is spent on charitable purposes.

1.7 Funds

The general unrestricted fund is free for the Trustees to use for any purposes in furtherance of the trust's charitable objects.

Restricted funds arise from donations to the trust, which are made for a specific purpose. Restricted funds can only be used for the purpose for which funds were given.

1.8 Preparation of consolidated financial statements

The Charity does not have a trading subsidiary.

1.9 Going Concern

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

1.10 Significant estimates and judgements

The trustees do not consider that there are any sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

2. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

No Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits from an employment with the charity and no Trustees were reimbursed for expenses (2023: none)

3. WAGES AND SALARIES

There are no employees (2023: none)

4. Donated Services

	2024	2023
Donated Services		
Donated To:		
Donated Services to Southgate Gospel Hall Trust	21,086	30,612
Total Donated Services:	21,086	30,612

5. Grants

	2024	2023
Grants to:		
Grants to Southgate Gospel Hall Trust	270,296	-
Total Grants to:	270,296	-

6. Tangible Fixed Assets

Cost	Freehold Property - West Winch Hall	Freehold Property - 34 Downham Road, Watlington	Freehold Property - 15 Fen Road, Watlington	Freehold Property - Stoke Road, Shouldham	Fixtures and Fittings	Totals
At 6 April 2023	2,176,919	297,681	157,932	234,354	11,372	2,878,256
Additions	6,459	-	-	-	-	6,459
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 5 April 2024	2,183,378	297,681	157,932	234,354	11,372	2,884,716
Depreciation						
At 6 April 2023	355,691	63,003	33,956	48,693	1,515	502,857
Current Year Depreciation	45,268	7,442	3,948	5,859	316	62,833
Eliminated on disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 5 April 2024	400,959	70,445	37,904	54,552	1,831	565,691
Net Book Value						
At 5 April 2024	1,782,419	227,235	120,028	179,802	9,541	2,319,026
At 5 April 2023	1,821,228	234,677	123,976	185,661	9,857	2,375,400

Land registry titles of the above property held are NK330843, NK127175, NK244794 and NK99617.

7. TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

During the financial year, aggregated donations of £19,015 (2023: £35,821) were received from related parties of the trustees.

The trust also paid £9,047 for maintenance services to EA Mobility Ltd of which Kevin Carvell (a trustee) is a director of and made reimbursements totaling £424 to trustees for trust expenses.

8. VOLUNTEERS

Downham Gospel Hall Trust relies entirely on volunteers to carry out the management, administration and general maintenance work. The Trust has no paid staff or paid Trustees.

Resources Expended

Downham Gospel Hall Trust For the year ended 5 April 2024

9. Resources Expended

	MEETING ROOMS	OTHER CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	TOTAL COSTS 2024	TOTAL COSTS 2023
Direct Costs				
Premises costs - repairs and maintenance	25,918	-	25,918	17,842
Premises costs - heat, light and power	72,525	-	72,525	32,233
Premises costs - rent and rates	1,586	-	1,586	1,512
Telephone	2,272	-	2,272	569
Health and Safety	11,668	-	11,668	13,643
Legal and professional	4,410	-	4,410	2,370
Bank charges	585	-	585	519
Public outreach expenses	-	163	163	562
Insurance	3,876	-	3,876	3,200
Depreciation	62,833	-	62,833	61,797
Other Expenses	41,868	-	41,868	2,247
Governance	2,669	-	2,669	1,724
Total Direct Costs	230,211	163	230,374	138,219

Governance costs include £180 (prior year: £180) in respect of independent examiners fees.

Analysis of Net Assets - Current year

Downham Gospel Hall Trust
For the year ended 5 April 2024

10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

10.1 Current Year

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS 2024
Funds				
Tangible Fixed Assets	2,319,026	-	-	2,319,026
Current Assets	150,342	-	-	150,342
Current Liabilities	(2,669)	-	-	(2,669)
Non Current Liabilities	(98,000)	-	-	(98,000)
Total Funds	2,368,699	-	-	2,368,699

Analysis of Net Assets - Prior Year

Downham Gospel Hall Trust For the year ended 5 April 2024

10.2 Prior Year

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS 2023
Funds				
Tangible Fixed Assets	2,375,400	-	-	2,375,400
Current Assets	291,862	-	-	291,862
Current Liabilities	(1,438)	-	-	(1,438)
Non Current Liabilities	(98,000)	-	-	(98,000)
Total Funds	2,567,824	-	-	2,567,824

Movement in Funds - Current Year

Downham Gospel Hall Trust
For the year ended 5 April 2024

11. Movement in Funds

11.1 Movement in funds - current year

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS 2024
Movement in Funds				
Total funds brought forward	2,567,824	-	-	2,567,824
Incoming resources	326,131	-	-	326,131
Resources expended	(525,256)	-	-	(525,256)
Total funds carried forward	2,368,699	-	-	2,368,699

Movement in Funds - Prior Year

Downham Gospel Hall Trust
For the year ended 5 April 2024

11. Movement in Funds

11.2 Movement in funds - Prior year

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS 2023
Movement in Funds				
Total funds brought forward	2,551,822	(2,200)	-	2,549,622
Incoming resources	187,033	-	-	187,033
Resources expended	(171,031)	2,200	-	(168,831)
Total funds carried forward	2,567,824	-	-	2,567,824

Comparative Statement of Financial Activities

Downham Gospel Hall Trust
For the year ended 5 April 2024

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS 2023
Income and endowments:				
Donations and Legacies:				
Collections	28,092	-	-	28,092
Contributions from the Congregation	85,377	-	-	85,377
Gift Aid Donations	58,443	-	-	58,443
Income Tax refunds	14,619	-	-	14,619
Donated Services (note 4)	(500)	-	-	(500)
Investments				
Interest Received	1,002	-	-	1,002
Total Income and endowments:	187,033	-	-	187,033
Expenditure:				
Running Meeting Rooms (note 9)	138,219	-	-	138,219
Cost of donated services (note 4)	30,612	-	-	30,612
Total Expenditure:	168,831	-	-	168,831
Net Income/(Expenditure)	18,202	-	-	18,202
Other Movements				
Transfers between funds	2,200	(2,200)	-	-
Net Movement In Funds	16,002	2,200	-	18,202
	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	DESIGNATED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS 2023
Reconciliation of funds (note 11)				
Total Funds brought forward	2,551,822	(2,200)	-	2,549,622
Net movement in funds	16,002	2,200	-	18,202
Total Funds carried forward	2,567,824	-	-	2,567,824

Report of the Independent Examiner

Downham Gospel Hall Trust For the year ended 5 April 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Downham Gospel Hall Trust for the year ended 5 April 2024.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

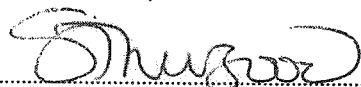
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Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. The accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.



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13 September 2024