

# **BEACON HOUSE OF PRAYER**

Registered charity 1159478

## **Trustees report and Financial Statement 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022**

# Beacon House of Prayer

registered charity 1159478

## Trustees report and Financial Statement 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022

Registered charity name	Beacon House of Prayer also known as Beacon HOP, BHOP, The Beacon.
Charity number	1159478
Principle & registered office	550-552 High Street, Sandyford, Stoke-on-Trent ST6 5PD
Trustees in the year	Mrs Katie Britton Mr Kevin Britton Mr Paul Ian Critchley Mrs Tracy Critchley Mrs Dilwen Gwyn Naylor Mr William John Naylor Mrs Karen Jane Porter Rev William Robert Porter
Independent Examiner	Diane Condliffe, Condliffe & Condliffe Accountants, 23 Sands Lane, Badsey, Evesham, Worcestershire WR11 7EZ
Bankers	NatWest Bank, 75 High Street, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire ST5 1PN
Solicitor	Debby Hackney, Nowell Meller, 24 Market Place, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent ST6 4AX
Beacon Advisory Group	Mr Jonathan Bellamy, CEO Cross Rhythms City Radio Mrs Heather Bellamy, Cross Rhythms City Radio Mr Lloyd Cooke, CEO Saltbox Miss Jane Holloway, National Prayer Director, World Prayer Centre Rev Robert Mountford, City Vision Ministries Dr Jonathan Oloyede, Convener of National Day of Prayer and Worship Rev Paul Wilson, Development Officer, Methodist Evangelicals Together

## STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Beacon House of Prayer is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered charity number 1159478, registered on 3 December 2014. Responsibility for Beacon House of Prayer rests with the board of trustees, known as the Leadership Team, which meets quarterly. Board members are appointed in accordance with the constitution.

### Objectives as stated in the Constitution

The objects of the charity are to advance the Christian faith and to promote the values thereof for the benefit of the public by:

- (1) developing and making available a Christian prayer resource centre in the north Midlands, helping people to explore prayer and the spiritual dimension of life with multiple prayer rooms available for prayer and staffed by a team of volunteers;
- (2) organising activities and special worship services that explore Christian prayer in various dimensions;

- (3) being a resource hub of information about prayer and education about Christian spirituality for local congregations and individuals;
- (4) offering Christian outreach and services for community groups based around exploring spirituality;
- (5) providing a drop-in service for people seeking support or a chat;
- (6) running training courses about prayer and aspects of the Christian faith;
- (7) co-ordinating conferences for Christians in the wider area;
- (8) offering help in local schools through RE classes, assemblies and school visits to our premises; and
- (9) running a confidential listening and healing prayer service in a local community building. Our facilities are open on most days and evenings.

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2021 AUGUST 2022**

### **I GENERAL**

This last year has been a year of regrouping as a community, re-establishing rhythms of prayer and worship, and looking ahead to new developments in ministry. It has been a joy to be fully back in the building after such a disrupted time over the Covid pandemic. Even though we are a smaller community now, we have been encouraged by those who have continued to bring their gifts of volunteering in the Beacon ministry. People have varied in how confident they have felt in re-engaging with the Beacon since the pandemic and the comeback was initially slow. Finances continue to be challenging and we are looking at ways of encouraging new supporters to give to the Beacon charity. Wider connections with other prayer groups nationally and wider have flourished during and since the pandemic. We have a fantastic group of people as part of the Beacon and it is a privilege to be in our 15th year of ongoing ministry here at the house. We are grateful to God for his grace again in all he has enabled us to do as the house of prayer here.

## **II. REVIEW OF THE YEAR (Sept 2021-Aug 2022)**

### **a) Worship and prayer rhythm**

We regrouped in September of 2021, cleaning through the building that had been mothballed for much of the previous year. As a smaller team we felt we could open on three days of the week, plus specials. Fresh rhythms of prayer and worship were re-established, morning and evening. We have alternated times of reflective and listening prayer with times of praying into local, national and global issues. We keep this flame of prayer burning, that God's kingdom will come on earth as in heaven. Specific times of dedicated worship offerings keep a worshipping heartbeat in the house. We have refreshed all the prayer rooms so they are open and available for private prayer.

### **b) Connecting with local churches**

We continue to host the monthly Connect citywide church leaders meeting and lunch. In addition all our worship and prayer times are open. We have created fresh bi-monthly publicity news sheets for supporters, plus an increased social media presence. These reach more people than pre-pandemic. We have put an emphasis on inviting local Christians to our special events (see below). We regularly get one or two visitors each week, both locally and travelling from a distance, to access the facilities and join the worship times. Their personal encounters with Jesus when they come are most inspiring. The ongoing challenge is finding ways to engage with local churches to help them realise the benefits and resources we offer as a house of prayer.

### **c) Our prayer community**

Our current prayer community is smaller but healthy. As we stopped Sunday gatherings in 2020, people had to decide to either: a) leave and join a different church, b) stay as part of the Beacon and find a Sunday fellowship, or c) make the Beacon their only community. We quickly established three monthly touching points for community. There is a popular monthly Saturday morning community breakfast followed by worship and communion. There is a monthly Tuesday evening praise, testimony and teaching night on the last Tuesday of the month, to provide a point of teaching and sharing



together. We have also launched new optional small groups called Emmaus groups. These are smaller, peer-led groups, meeting around a meal and communion in people's homes and we launched this vision in July 2022.

**d) Team and training**

As the community is smaller, so the team facilitating the ministry is also smaller. We have five people able to lead worship, and six people facilitating prayer. This brings a rich mix of gifts and ways of leading our corporate times in the house. The hospitality team has also regrouped and successfully managed to host various occasions for food through the year. Rotas for tech and house keeping have been reintroduced, and the Sozo healing team has continued right through the pandemic. The leadership team has been looking at safeguarding refreshing training, and keeping our safeguarding requirements up to date. We keep our advisory group up to date with our plans and ministry, and met with them online in February 2022; they are a helpful and wise group for our accountability.

**e) Special events**

We have trialed a number of special events through this last year. We have had 12 hours of continuous worship on a Saturday twice this year, each doing really well, drawing in various people from around the city to lead worship. We have also had three times of running half day retreats at the house, from 11am-2pm on a Saturday. This has proved popular and a good time to do it. Moreover we have hosted two lots of 40 hours of prayer, one in the new year, and one over Pentecost, with special creative focuses for prayer and led times, encouraging people in the city to join us. These have had limited take up, but have still been valuable. God has met with us in all of these in gentle and enriching ways.

**f) Houses of prayer network**

We have continued to develop connections with other houses of prayer, with regular zoom calls and an annual gathering. As a hub we try to forge connections with regular newsletters and zoom. Some houses have struggled through the pandemic, but a few new ones have started. The gathering in October 2021 was by necessity a smaller one, as some people were more cautious in attending a larger event. It was a blessed and successful time, with the work of God's Spirit clearly among us.

**g) Outreach**

Opportunities for outreach have been limited, but have included prayer walking from the north to the south of the city, a Beacon stand at the annual civic prayer breakfast, and opportunities to listen to and pray for the various visitors who have dropped in to the house.

**h) Healing ministry**

Our Sozo team has been active through the pandemic, and now offer a mix of both in house and online prayer sessions. As one of the few places running Sozo in the region, clients come from across the midlands and even wider. They come away blessed by God. It continues to be a valuable part of the ministry of the house. There has been ongoing training of new and existing team members.

**i) Building and land**

The building is a great resource, with all its facilities and prayer room, valued by those who come, and which we wish were used even more by local churches. The land around the Beacon is being developed by a private company with the aim of building a petrol station. They have been in consultation with us, and will provide the Beacon with a dedicated car park and a small prayer garden at the rear of our premises. Planning permissions are still being sought at this stage.

**III. FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS FOR 2022-23.**

We are actively looking to recruit new trustees and leadership team members in the coming year. We are also planning a new training course in the autumn of 2022, called Immerse. It will be a three month training in worship, prayer and discipleship, and enabling people to experience time in a house of prayer. A small team from the leadership are facilitating this. We also hope to develop fresh ways of connecting with local churches and furthering the wider prayer connection across the nation and wider. We continue to seek the Lord for his ways forward, realising that the ministry of the Beacon is one of walking in faith.

#### IV. FINANCE REVIEW

Beacon House of Prayer is financed mainly through the regular giving of around 25 individual supporters together with others who make occasional donations. Cash at the bank and in hand at 31 August 2022 was £39,522. Receipts amounted to £35,648 and payments £34,227 which were expended in accordance with our purposes. Net assets are recorded as £167,450. Gift Aid repayments of tax from HMRC are not counted as income until it has been received. Accounts are prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

**Generally.** Since the Covid pandemic national lockdown and changes to the Beacon's timetable, finances continue to be challenging and we are looking at ways of encouraging new supporters to give to the Beacon. Expenditure continues to be tightly managed.

**Reserves.** To ensure that the charity remains sustainable as a going concern in the event of significant loss of income or other unforeseen circumstances, it is the trustees policy to hold reserves of approximately 3 months expenditure.

**Financial Investment Policy.** In accordance with the governing document the trustees have the power to invest money as in their absolute discretion they think fit.

#### V. RISKS

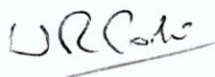
The principle areas of Beacon House of Prayer activity, finance and strategic planning and risks are regularly considered by the trustees. Systems and resources allowing risk to be mitigated are implemented as appropriate.

**Safeguarding.** Beacon House of Prayer prioritises safeguarding and is committed to following guidelines from government and thirtyone:eight (previously known as CCPAS -The Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service) on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults and good working practice including safe recruitment of workers and volunteers.

**Data Protection.** Beacon House of Prayer is registered with the Information Commissioners Office and follows GDPR guidelines and code of practice for stored data and cctv images.

**Privacy Statement.** A copy is displayed in the appropriate places.

signed on behalf of the trustees



Rev William R Porter

Date 08/06/23

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD  
1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022**

**THE BEACON HOUSE OF PRAYER**

**CONDLIFFE & CONDLIFFE**

**39 Kingfisher Drive**

**Westbury**

**Wiltshire**

**BA13 3XW**



**THE BEACON HOUSE OF PRAYER**

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**PERIOD ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2022**

- 1. Independent Examiners report**
- 2. Balance sheet**
- 3. Depreciation Schedule**
- 4. Income and expenditure details**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE ORGANISATION:**

**THE BEACON HOUSE OF PRAYER**

**CHARITY REGISTRATION 1159478**

I report on the accounts of the organisation for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the organisations trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 43 (2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 43 (7) (H) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 included consideration of any unusual items or disclosure in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

**Independent Examiner's Statement**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - To keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the Act; and
  - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the account requirements of the Act.Have not been met; or
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

DIANA R. CONDLIFFE BA (Hons)  
CONDLIFFE & CONDLIFFE  
39 KINGFISHER DRIVE  
WESTBURY  
WILTSHIRE  
BA13 3XW

16<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Signed ..... *Diana R. Condliffe*



**BEACON HOUSE OF PRAYER (REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1159478)****BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31.8.22**

		2022 £	2021 £
<b><u>FIXED ASSETS</u></b>			
FREEHOLD PROPERTY		165,678	165,678
		165,678	165,678
<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>			
CASH AND BANK IN HAND		39,522	41,851
RESTRICTED FUNDS	0		
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	39522	39,522	41,851
		<u>205,200</u>	<u>207,529</u>
<b><u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>			
		-	-
<b><u>LONG TERM LIABILITIES</u></b>			
LOAN ON PROPERTY		37,750	41,500
<b><u>NETT ASSETS</u></b>			
		<u>167,450</u>	<u>166,029</u>
<b><u>REPRESENTED BY:</u></b>			
CAPITAL ACCOUNT B/F		166,029	156,754
NET INCOMING RESOURCES		1,421	9,275
<b><u>CAPITAL ACCOUNT C/F</u></b>			
		<u>167,450</u>	<u>166,029</u>

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**THE BEACON HOUSE OF PRAYER**

**TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	FREEHOLD PROPERTY £	FIXTURES & FITTINGS £	TOTALS £
<b>COST</b>			
AS AT 1.9.21	165678	0	165678
ADDITIONS	0	0	0
AS AT 31.8.22	<u>165678</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>165678</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>			
AS AT 1.9.21	0	0	0
ADDITIONS	0	0	0
AS AT 31.8.22	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>NETT BOOK VALUE</b>			
AS AT 31.8.22	<u>165678</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>165678</u>
AS AT 1.9.21	<u>165678</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>165678</u>

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**BEACON HOUSE OF PRAYER (REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1159478)****Income and Expenditure Account for the Period Ending 31st August 2022**

	2022 £	2021 £
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>		
Gifts and Donations	32,071.00	33,246.00
Sales	-	250.00
Gift Aid	3,577.00	6,992.00
	35,648.00	40,488.00
<b><u>LESS SUPPORT COSTS</u></b>		
Water	237.00	270.00
Light & Heat	6,196.00	4,734.00
License Fees	519.00	630.00
Sundries	-	178.00
Professional Fees	235.00	235.00
Insurance	841.00	867.00
Repairs & Renewals	-	(164.00)
Building Maintenance	1,641.00	314.00
Gifts	178.00	100.00
Presence Worship	8,983.00	8,330.00
Stipend Services	11,070.00	11,093.00
Admin Support	-	297.00
Comms Support	-	-
Resources	610.00	522.00
Printing & Stationery	496.00	391.00
Refreshments	684.00	-
Computer, Internet Telephone	525.00	950.00
Equipment Hire	662.00	662.00
Publicity	104.00	-
Tools & Equipment	1,008.00	745.00
Cleaning	109.00	14.00
Conferences	-	916.00
Training	-	-
Safeguarding	129.00	129.00
	34,227.00	31,213.00
<b>SURPLUS FUNDS</b>	<b>1,421.00</b>	<b>9,275.00</b>