

Charity registration number: 11 59755

Swindon Gospel Trust

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 5 April 2022

Swindon Gospel Trust

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Swindon Gospel Trust

Reference and Administrative Details

Chairman	Mr Peter Preston
Trustees	Mr Tim Painter Mr Matthew Preston Mr Jerry Whiteside Mr Peter Preston Mr Robin Painter
Treasurer	Mr Jerry Whiteside
Charity Registration Number	1159755
Solicitors	Bevirs 141 High Street Wootton Bassett SN4 7AZ
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC Leicester LE87 2BB HSBC Swindon Unit 6 The Lock Canal Walk Swindon SN1 1LD
Principal Office	46 Draycott Road Chiseldon Swindon SN4 0LS
Independent Examiner	Hinton Abbott Accountants 2 Kingsdown Orchard Swindon SN27RR

Swindon Gospel Trust

Trustees Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 5 April 2022. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 10-11 and comply with the Trust Deed and applicable law.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is controlled by a deed of trust, and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The Swindon Gospel Hall Trust is constituted by a Deed of Trust dated 16th February 1979, amended by various Deeds and most recently by Deed of Variation dated 8 August 2014. The Trust was registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 2nd January 2015 under Charity Registration Number:1159755.

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The Trustees who have served during the year and since the year end are set out as mentioned above on Page 1. None of the Trustees, nor any person connected with them, received any remuneration or expenses from the Charity in the year ended 5 April 2022. (2021: £nil).

The Trust operates 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.

Risk Management

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

Wider network

The Trustees maintain informal links with Trustees of similar Trusts with a view to pooling experience considered useful in pursuing the objects of the Charity. The Charity also maintains particular links with The Goddard Avenue Trust, with which it shares members of its congregation. The value of donated services to The Goddard Avenue Trust were £2,438.

Objectives and activities

Objects 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.

Swindon Gospel Trust

Trustees Report

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.

Main activities and achievements

The Trust provides and maintains Swindon Gospel Trust hall 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.

One of the Trust's principal activities that furthers its objects 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. The trustees of Swindon Gospel 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.

Public Benefit in 2021

As COVID-19 related restrictions started to lift in 2021, it enabled the congregation to take-up their charitable work in a more active way again.

Members of the congregation have continued to hand out tracts to neighbours and people in need when they have met them. Other church leaders and ministers from time-to-time request some of the early printed ministry by the leaders which is made available from the website listed below.

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 following website where literature can be purchased or downloaded for reading in multiple languages <https://christiandocctrineandgospelpublishing.org/>

Due to the hardship that COVID-19 brought on many families, the trustee recognised the need to support the many families facing financial hardship. Swindon Gospel Trust purchased 50 x RRT Family Food Boxes which are designed to feed a family of 4 for up to 4 days and bring some relief and joy to households during their time of pressure and crisis.

These were donated to a local primary school who handed them out to the most needy families of children enrolled at the school, and these were very gratefully received.

Members of the congregation have been actively involved for many years in proactive volunteer roles for the RRT - Rapid Relief Team - who are a registered charity that provide practical support for emergency services during difficult times. During the year 6th April 2021 - 5th April 2022, the congregation in Swindon supported at 2 events.

From 3rd July 2021 - 12th July 2021 the RRT (staffed by volunteer congregation members of Swindon Gospel Trust) provided hot meals and drinks to the Wiltshire Police Forensic Team who were working in exceptionally hot weather conditions at a site near the M4. 30 x congregation members spent a total of 25 hours on site, and provided 190 meals to the police force.

From 16th October 2021 - 23rd October 2021 the RRT (again, staffed entirely by volunteer congregation members of Swindon Gospel Trust) supported at a scene near Blunsdon, Swindon. The Wiltshire Search & Rescue (WILSAR) team were conducting a search for a missing 19-year old person. 21 x congregation members spent a total of 11 hours on site, and cooked and served 183 x hot meals to the WILSAR team.

Swindon Gospel Trust

Trustees Report

During the summer months of 2021 we experienced a particularly long dry spell of weather. This had the potential to cause hardship for the many homeless persons who have very little shelter from extremes of weather. Swindon Gospel Trust congregation members donated packs of bottled water to three local charities during this time - The Salvation Army, the Swindon & Wiltshire Sexual Assault Referral Centre, and Threshold.

Spreading the Gospel Message and the life of a Christian

The Gospel Hall is a base from which a large number of preachers operate to spread the Christian gospel, in word and deed.

Members of the congregation participate in a programme of street preaching and Gospel tracts are provided free of charge by the Charity to such preachers to be handed out to interested members of the public on the streets of Swindon Town most weeks of the year.

In addition to street preaching, members of the congregation supported Wiltshire Police at a crime scene near M4 in Wiltshire and supported WILSAR in a missing person search. Attached photos in appendix.

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).

Plans for future periods

With the commencement of lockdown restrictions in the UK the trust ceased using the gospel hall It operates. During the financial year, restrictions were eased sufficiently to allow the congregation to use the gospel hall for the Lord's Supper (Communion). The use of the rooms was conducted in a manner which always complied with the government guidance, and the trust intends to continue using the rooms when it is safe to do so. The trustees do not consider that the Covid-19 pandemic will have any effect on the ability of the trust to continue as a going concern.

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.

Swindon Gospel Trust

Trustees Report

Financial review

Financial position

In the year ended 5 April 2022, the Trust had a modest surplus £17,699 of incoming resources over resources expended. Total voluntary income received this year was £68,583 compared to £76,407 in the previous year.

Funds held at the year end Unrestricted General Fund £1,205,835 and unrestricted designated funds £2,965.00.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have considered the level of reserves they wish to retain, appropriate to the charity's needs, based on its size and the level of its financial commitments. The Trustees aim to hold sufficient funds in a current account to cover day to day expenditure, plus an allowance for any urgent repairs and capital expenses that may arise. The congregation is kept regularly informed as to particular needs for funds, and other relevant matters and 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 to the congregation.

Free reserves at the year end were £72,756

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 29/01/23 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr Peter Preston
Chairman

Swindon Gospel Trust

Statement of 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;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and 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 the transactions of the trust have been reviewed by at least two trustees.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 29/01/23 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr Peter Preston
Chairman

Swindon Gospel Trust

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Swindon Gospel Trust

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Swindon Gospel Trust for the year ended 5 April 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of Swindon Gospel Trust you 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 Swindon Gospel 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 Swindon Gospel 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 accounting 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.



.....
Chris Pittock - Senior Partner
Hinton Abbott Accountants
2 Kingsdown Orchard
Swindon
SN27RR

Date: 30/01/23

Swindon Gospel Trust

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 5 April 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds Designated £	General £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies		-	68,583	68,583
Total Income		-	68,583	68,583
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities		-	(46,066)	(46,066)
Other expenditure	3	-	(4,818)	(4,818)
Total Expenditure		-	(50,884)	(50,884)
Net income		-	17,699	17,699
Net movement in funds		-	17,699	17,699
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		2,965	1,188,136	1,191,101
Total funds carried forward	8	2,965	1,205,835	1,208,800

The notes on pages 11 to 16 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Swindon Gospel Trust

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 5 April 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds Designated £	General £	Total 2021 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies		6,415	69,992	76,407
Total Income		6,415	69,992	76,407
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities		(3,450)	(15,209)	(18,659)
Other expenditure	3	-	(2,603)	(2,603)
Total Expenditure		(3,450)	(17,812)	(21,262)
Net income		2,965	52,180	55,145
Net movement in funds		2,965	52,180	55,145
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		-	1,135,956	1,135,956
Total funds carried forward	8	2,965	1,188,136	1,191,101

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2021 and 2022 are shown in note 8.

The notes on pages 11 to 16 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Swindon Gospel Trust

(Registration number: 1159755)
Balance Sheet as at 5 April 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	6	1,136,044	1,125,743
Current assets			
Debtors		7,422	8,337
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>67,202</u>	<u>58,522</u>
		74,624	66,859
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		<u>(1,868)</u>	<u>(1,501)</u>
Net current assets		<u>72,756</u>	<u>65,358</u>
Net assets		<u>1,208,800</u>	<u>1,191,101</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>1,208,800</u>	<u>1,191,101</u>
Total funds	8	<u>1,208,800</u>	<u>1,191,101</u>

The financial statements on pages 8 to 16 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 20.01.23 and signed on their behalf by:



Mr Peter Preston
Chairman

Swindon Gospel Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 5 April 2022

1 Accounting policies

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).

Incoming Resources

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 Swindon 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.

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.

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.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets (costing more than £100.00) are stated at cost less depreciation. Freehold land is not depreciated. 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 :

Equipment : @ 20% on Written down Value

Swindon Gospel Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 5 April 2022

Fund structure

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.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds set aside for specific purposes at the discretion of the trustees.

Going concern

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

From 18th March 2020, Swindon Gospel Trust ceased using the gospel halls, which it operates, due to the global COVID-19 pandemic and the general lockdown imposed by the government. The trustees do not consider that the Covid-19 pandemic will have any effect on the ability of the trust to continue as a going concern.

Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration or other benefits from an employment with the charity and Expenses reimbursed are mentioned in note 7.

Wages and salaries

There are no employees (2021: none).

Donated Services

The Value of Donated Services to Goddard Avenue Trust was £2,438.20 for the year ended 5 April 2022

Swindon Gospel Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 5 April 2022

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds Designated £	General £	Total funds £
Donations and legacies;			
Donations - Gift Aidable	-	27,080	27,080
Donation - No Gift aid	-	34,119	34,119
Gift aid reclaimed	-	7,384	7,384
Total for 2022	-	68,583	68,583
Total for 2021	6,415	69,992	76,407

3 Governance Cost

Accountancy Fees includes £600 towards Independent Examinations fees.

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds £
Legal fees		1,878	1,878
Accountancy fees		2,940	2,940
Total for 2022		4,818	4,818
Total for 2021		2,603	2,603

4 Resources Expended

Net outgoing resources for the year include:

	2022 £	2021 £
Depreciation of fixed assets	1,127	1,409
Donations	-	2,700
Congregation support	-	3,450
Grants/Donated Services to Goddard Avenue Trust	2,438	2,658
General maintainence	21,133	3,535
Insurance	2,012	1,670
Light , heat & power	12,017	3,237
Total	37,599	18,659

5 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

Swindon Gospel Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 5 April 2022

6 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 6 April 2021	1,094,275	34,138	1,128,413
Additions	<u>37,262</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,262</u>
At 5 April 2022	<u>1,131,537</u>	<u>34,138</u>	<u>1,165,675</u>
Depreciation			
At 6 April 2021	-	28,504	28,504
Charge for the year	<u>-</u>	<u>1,127</u>	<u>1,127</u>
At 5 April 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>29,631</u>	<u>29,631</u>
Net book value			
At 5 April 2022	<u>1,131,537</u>	<u>4,507</u>	<u>1,136,044</u>
At 5 April 2021	<u>1,094,275</u>	<u>5,634</u>	<u>1,099,909</u>

Land Registry Numbers:

Meeting Room Cheney Manor Road (£448,955) : WT309370 and WT96393

Meeting Room Chiseldon (£317,910) : WT93368

Land at Blunsdon (£353,245) : WT242527

Swindon Gospel Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 5 April 2022

7 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 5 April 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,136,044	1,136,044
Current assets	74,624	74,624
Current liabilities	(1,868)	(1,868)
Total net assets	<u>1,208,800</u>	<u>1,208,800</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 5 April 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,125,743	1,125,743
Current assets	66,859	66,859
Current liabilities	(1,501)	(1,501)
Total net assets	<u>1,191,101</u>	<u>1,191,101</u>

8 Funds

	Balance at 6 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 5 April 2022 £
Unrestricted funds				
General	1,188,136	68,583	(50,884)	1,205,835
Designated	<u>2,965</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,965</u>
Total funds	<u>1,191,101</u>	<u>68,583</u>	<u>(50,884)</u>	<u>1,208,800</u>

Unrestricted funds

	Balance at 6 April 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 5 April 2021 £
Unrestricted funds				
Unrestricted general funds	1,135,956	69,992	(17,812)	1,188,136
Unrestricted designated funds				
Designated funds	<u>-</u>	<u>6,415</u>	<u>(3,450)</u>	<u>2,965</u>
Total funds	<u>1,135,956</u>	<u>76,407</u>	<u>(21,262)</u>	<u>1,191,101</u>

Swindon Gospel Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 5 April 2022

9 Related party transactions

During the year, donations received from related parties were £15,920.



Supporting Wiltshire Police at a crime scene near M4 in Wiltshire



Supporting WILSAR in a missing person search



Donations of water bottles to local charities during the summer of 2021