

BURY ST EDMUNDS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2024

Registered Charity Number

1161627 (date of registration May 12, 2015)

Address for Charity Correspondence

121 Westley Road
Bury St Edmunds
Suffolk
IP33 3SA

Charity Trustees

M D Jolley (Chairman)
K McGrane (Secretary)
G L Macintyre (Treasurer)

Independent Examiner

Sarah Place Accountants Ltd

Governing Document

The Charity is a trust constituted under a Trust Deed dated November 1, 2014 as amended by a deed dated April 19, 2015.

Trustees are appointed by the existing trustees.

A trustee who is a minister is permitted by the Trust Deed (as amended) to be a stipendiary.

Objects

The objects of the Charity are to advance the Christian religion in accordance with the Westminster standards, to the glory of God and for the benefit of all mankind everywhere.

Activities and Public Benefit

In planning activities the trustees have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit and, in particular, the specific guidance on charities for the advancement of religion.

The Charity principally satisfies the public benefit requirement through providing the means to hold services of public worship, by funding the provision of suitable space therefor and of full-time ministerial support thereto and for pastoral services in the local community.

Effectively to promote the Charity's objects for the public benefit, the Charity's principal activities necessitate gathering in person for the provision of charitable services. The Charity does not own property or real estate, and hired the New Bury Community Centre on Bury St Edmunds' Howard Estate to conduct its Christian ministry for the public benefit.

Services of public worship are advertised and are open to all without charge. Recordings of sermons are uploaded and freely available to all via the Internet, and Christian literature is displayed and available without charge.

The Charity relies extensively on volunteer support to provide and conduct the full range of its services and activities.

Achievements and Performance

Bury St Edmunds Presbyterian Church ("BSEPC") is committed to enabling as many people as possible to worship and serve the living God, and to be instructed in the Christian faith.

BSEPC held services of public worship morning and evening each Lord's Day throughout the year. Sunday School classes for children and a Study Class for adults were held most Lord's Days.

Regular Bible studies and prayer meetings were held during the week, as well as outreach activities for parents and younger children within the Community Centre.

The Lord's Supper was frequently observed when the church was gathered, and over the course of the year three children were baptized.

The church strengthened its leadership and ministry resources with the ordination and installation of Rev. David Matthes in January 2024 alongside Rev. Matthew Jolley.

The three charity trustees are elders of the Church. During the year the Church elected, ordained and installed three deacons to assist the elders in their work.

Extensive pastoral visitation was undertaken, especially by Revds Jolley and Matthes.

Financial Review

Accounts have been prepared on a cash accounting basis in accordance with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011, reporting receipts and payments with a statement of assets and liabilities.

Receipts of £88,688 for the year (previous year £85,876) comprised donations of £76,518 (grants £nil), investment income of £825, and Gift Aid recovery of tax of £11,345.

The church made grants and diaconal distributions of £3,125 during the accounting year (previous year £1,250).

As is usual for a charity of this type and size, a significant proportion of the payments of £96,000 (previous year £67,035) relates to stipend and ministerial support, which increased to support two ministers.

Payments exceeded receipts by £7,312, the deficit being funded from reserves. This compares with a surplus of £18,841 for the previous year.

Reserves policy

The policy of the trustees is not to accumulate reserves but to use reserves in the promotion of the Charity's objects, and maintain a balance on unrestricted funds that equates to at least six months' unrestricted payments to cover unforeseen situations that may arise from time to time. In light of the main risks facing the Charity the trustees consider the current level of reserves and their use (as necessary) to fund annual deficits satisfactory.

Signed by all Trustees

M D Jolley



Date: 21st May 2025

K McGrane



Date: May 21, 2025

G L Macintyre



Date: 21st MAY 2025

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS

Charity Name Bury St Edmunds Presbyterian Church

Charity Number 1161627

For the Period From 01.09.23 to 31.08.24

Section A - Receipts and Payments

A1 - Receipts	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Last Year
Offerings	1	41211	0	41211	60862
Gift Aided Income		35307	0	35307	19209
Tax Recovered on Gift Aid	2	11345	0	11345	5255
Grants Received		0	0	0	0
Deposit Account Interest		825	0	825	550
Other		0	0	0	0
Sub - Total		88688	0	88688	85876
A2 - Asset and Investment Sales		0	0	0	0
Total Receipts		88688	0	88688	85876

A3 - Payments	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Last Year
Stipend (Inc. Employer's NI)	3	73713	0	73713	46168
Visiting Speaker Expenses		600	0	600	2260
Travel Expenses		915	0	915	1109
Children's and Youth Work		640	0	640	1066
Catering and Kitchen Supplies		1775	0	1775	563
Publicity		504	0	504	302
Printing and Stationery		110	0	110	34
Books and Copyright Licences		290	0	290	231
Rent and Insurance		12676	0	12676	13541
Miscellaneous Expenditure		811	0	811	511
Grants & Diaconal Distributions	4	3125	0	3125	1250
Other		0	0	0	0
Sub - Total		95159	0	95159	67035
A4 - Asset & Investm't Purchases	5	841	0	841	0
Total Payments		96000	0	96000	67035

Net Receipts and Payments	(7312)	0	(7312)	18841
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A5 - Transfers Between Funds	0	0	0	0
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A6 - Cash Funds Last Year End	201818	0	201818	182977
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Cash Funds This Year End	194506	0	194506	201818
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Section B - Statement of Assets and Liabilities at the End of the Period

B1 - Cash Funds	Note
Bank Statement Balances	
Plus Unpresented Receipts	
Less Unpresented Cheques	
Total Cash Funds	

Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
194506	0	194506
0	0	0
0	0	0
194506	0	194506

B2 - Other Monetary Assets	Note
Debtors	
Other	
Total Other Monetary Assets	

Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
2284	0	2284
0	0	0
2284	0	2284

B3 - Investment Assets	Note
None	
Total Other Monetary Assets	

Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
0	0	0
0	0	0

B4 - Assets Retained for the Charity's Own Use	Note
Piano	
Other Equipment	
Total Other Monetary Assets	

Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
2500	0	2500
700	0	700
3200	0	3200


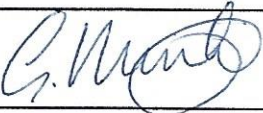
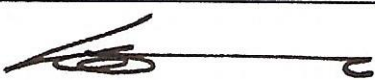
B5 - Liabilities	Note
Creditors	
Other	
Total Other Monetary Assets	

Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
3401	0	3401
0	0	0
3401	0	3401

Trustee
Signature

Trustee
Name

Date of
Approval

	REV. MATTHEW SOULEY	21.5.25
	GORDON MACINTYRE	21.05.25
	KEVIN MCGRANE	21/05/25

Notes for the Accounting Period 01.09.23 to 31.08.24

- 1) Offerings included a total of £3,550 received from Charities Aid Foundation America. No offerings were received from individual donors residing outside the UK.
- 2) Gift Aid recovered from HMRC and banked in the year to 31.08.24 relates to donations received in financial years 2022/23 and 2023/24.
- 3) During the accounting period the charity paid one trustee as an office holder, The Rev Matthew Jolley, who received a stipend in his capacity as full-time minister of the church.
- 4) During the accounting period diaconal distributions totalling £3,125 were made in response to needs identified by the Trustees.
- 5) Asset Purchases totalling £841 were for audio (£581) and catering (£260) equipment.
- 6) No conduit funding transactions took place during the year to 31.08.24.

Independent Examiner's Report

to the Trustees of Bury St Edmunds Presbyterian Church

I report on the accounts of the Church (Registered Charity Number 1161627) for the year ended 31st August 2024.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state 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 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 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 statement below.

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 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: Sarah Place

Relevant professional qualification or body: ATT

Address: UNIT 4B, BOLDERS ROAD, BURY ST EDMUNDS,
SURREY, IP32 7BS

Date: 13 June 2025