

ANNUAL REPORT

1st JANUARY 2024 – 31st DECEMBER 2024

OVERVIEW

The Trustees of Shropshire Hope (SH) present this report summarising activities undertaken as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) during the period 1st January to 31st December 2024.

Minutes and Agreed Action Points from meetings of the Organising Team are available for inspection together with further information on finances, although a Statement of Income & Expenditure is provided in Appendix 1.

LEGAL STATUS

On 2nd November 2015 SH was entered into the Register of Charities – number 1164220 – following successful submission of a charitable application.

The principal purpose of the CIO is the advancement of the Christian faith throughout Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin. The CIO may also advance education and relieve poverty and sickness in such other parts of the United Kingdom and/or other parts of the world as the Trustees may from time to time think fit.

A copy of the Constitution is available on request or may be viewed or downloaded from the SH website.

The Trustees term of office will be reviewed in January 2025. The existing Trustees are listed below and their specific roles:

Name	Specific Roles
Pauline Dorothy Mack	Chair
Leslie James Burke (Resigned 6 December 2024)	Telford Christians Together
Douglas Mark Savill	Worship
Geoffrey Nankivell (Retired October 2024)	NorthWest Shropshire Co-ordinator
Dave Mathias (Appointed October 2024)	Shrewsbury Co-ordinator

The planning and facilitating of activities during this period was supplemented by additional members of an Organising Team, members of which currently include the Trustees plus:

- Rev Andy Ackroyd: Rector of St Michael's Madeley
- David Matthias: Lead Elder of Barnabas Community Church, Shrewsbury
- Jane Newey (Secretary): Pray for Schools England Co-ordinator
- Sarah Kaul: Leader of The Lighthouse Church, Telford and Telford Food Pantry (Appointed May 2024)

SH has been supported by a variety of external advisers representing Christian denominations involved in the county. These include both Anglican Bishops in Shropshire together with senior representatives from Baptist, Methodist, Roman Catholic and United Reformed churches. We value their wisdom, encouragement and support, both practical and financial, to accomplish our mission.

ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR

OBJECTIVES

The SH Organising Team set out the following objectives for 2024:

- A successful annual Prayer Breakfast was held in July 2024 with the evangelist Rachel Jordan-Wolf from Hope Together, this met our aim to develop Christian Prayer and Mission across Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin
- Support and practically assist wherever possible other prayer initiatives within the county including Thy Kingdom Come.
- Provide a spiritual leadership covering to the development of the Beautiful Gate prayer community at Halfway House on the Wrekin.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Prayer Initiatives

In 2019 prior to the Covid pandemic Shropshire Hope helped link Shropshire with the national 'thykingdomcome' initiative – 'Thykingdomcomeshropshire.' That year a relay of teams, prayer walked right around the Shropshire Way – called 'Shropshire Way Pilgrimage.' It was a huge undertaking but well supported and helped forge new working relationships between a number of those who took part. As part of this a prayer gathering was held on top of the Wrekin Hill in Telford which gives a commanding view of most of the county.

This pilgrimage sought to establish God's plan for Shropshire. An answer to those prayers was the opportunity to bring Halfway House, an iconic venue on the Wrekin into Christian ownership. Yellow Ribbon Community Chaplaincy, a charity set up to support and improve opportunities for those at risk of offending was well placed to access Community Ownership Funding and made a successful bid to purchase this asset.

This now seeks to develop as a hub for county wide prayer initiatives which led into 2025 activities.

Shropshire Hope Prayer Breakfast 2024

Our annual event was held at Telford Minster on Saturday 20th July 2024 with keynote speaker, Dr Rachel Jordan-Wolf, Executive Director of Hope Together. The theme was, 'Stories of the transforming power of God.' The event was attended by 65 individuals. There was a real sense of unity and anticipation.

Dr Rachel set the scene initially by reflecting on the Woman at the Well. As Executive Director of Hope Together, Rachel brought dynamism and examples of how we can be confident in the proclamation of the gospel, the church's mission in the community and its work together. Opportunities arise when we open ourselves to God in prayer as we live out our lives. Newport Wellbeing café advocates shared their positive

CONCLUSIONS

The Trustees of Shropshire Hope would like to thank all those who have helped achieve our aim of “...bringing HOPE to the people of Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin” during this year. We especially thank the Non-Trustee members of the Organising Team for their contribution and support as well as the Denominational Leaders of the county.

We are grateful to God for His faithfulness and blessing on our activities and look forward to being involved in the further expansion of His Kingdom in the future.

We believe we have undertaken all our legal and statutory responsibilities.

On behalf of the Trustees: 24 October 2025

P D Mack

Pauline Mack
Chair of Trustees

Jane Newey

Jane Newey
Secretary

Appendix 1

STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE

Accounting Period: 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2024

<u>Income</u>			
	£	£	£
Prayer Breakfast receipts for event 20 July 2024		620.00	
Donation		<u>200.00</u>	
TOTAL INCOME			820.00
<u>Expenditure</u>			
- Food costs & refreshments	374.54		
<u>Speakers Fees & Travel</u>			
- Rache Jordan-Wolf	314.91		
<u>Printing & Publicity</u>			
Website domain renewal	15.00		
Eventbrite	<u>103.35</u>	807.80	
<u>Banking costs & admin</u>			
Bank Charges		45.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE			<u>852.80</u>
DEFICIT for year			£32.80

Balance Sheet

Current Assets:	2024	2023
Cash at Bank	£476.08	£508.88
Current Liabilities:		
Creditors	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£0.00</u>
Net Assets Unrestricted Funds	<u>£476.08</u>	<u>£508.88</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st December 2024. The Trustees have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- a. ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- b. preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

Approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf on 26 October 2025

P D Mack

Pauline Mack
Chair of Trustees

26 October 2025

Jane Newey

Jane Newey
Secretary

Appendix 2

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees believe that all necessary steps have been taken to mitigate risks that could be foreseen, in particular:

Child & Vulnerable Adult Protection

All of the Trustees and members of the Organising Team have undertaken Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) checks and are able to work with children, young people and vulnerable adults. However it would be highly unlikely for anyone acting on behalf of the CIO – Trustees, Organising Team members or volunteers, to be in situations where direct supervision of vulnerable persons would occur.

Privacy Statement and GDPR Compliance

We work closely with the national charity, HOPE Together. As such we follow the national guidelines laid out by them with regard to their Privacy Statement and GDPR compliance. The national HOPE Together Privacy Policy can be found at: www.hopetogether.org.uk/User/PrivacyPolicy.aspx

This is reviewed and updated on a regular basis by them.

Financial Reserves Policy

At this time the Trustees have determined that there is no need to maintain a specific financial reserve. It is our normal policy that all activities undertaken should be self-funded although this may change in the future. We have a number of supporters who would be prepared to underwrite specific activities if required.

Investment Policy

The Trustees have determined that in view of the above there is no requirement to have an Investment Policy for the following reasons:

- All activities are self-funded and would not take place unless sufficient funds were in hand or underwritten in advance
- We do not employ any members of staff so no salaries are at risk
- We do not rent or own property so we have no capital or other associated expenditure

Conflict of Interest Policy

In accordance with the Constitution of the CIO, all Trustees must declare any interest, financial or otherwise, in connection with a purchase, sale or the leasing of property and/or the purchase or leasing of any goods or services that the CIO is considering. Trustees must also declare any interest of an associated person with whom they are connected.

This does not preclude a Trustee or associated person from being paid for the provision of goods or services, but they must abstain from all discussions regarding such transactions which must be recorded in the CIO's Minute Book.

Payments are not made to any Trustee as a result of them acting as a Trustee of the CIO.

Managing Volunteers Policy

The CIO has three primary volunteer roles:

- **Ambassador:** represents the vision of Shropshire Hope to external organisations such as the media; local authorities and other public bodies, charities, businesses and organisations
- **Advocate:** promotes Shropshire Hope in their local church, mobilising support for our activities and encouraging church leaders to engage with the CIO in developing local mission initiatives
- **Associate:** individuals with skills in finance and fundraising; database management; literature design; presenting (e.g. using PowerPoint etc.); PA & AV; video making; website design or are available to help with setting up venues; providing transportation and generally helping with other logistical items

Where appropriate suitable instruction and guidance will be provided to ensure the persons concerned act in the best interests of the CIO.

Complaints Policy

Any complaints received in respect of the CIO will be referred initially to the Organising Team; we will endeavour to resolve the matter within appropriate timescales.

- Verbal complaints made in person or received via telephone conversation will normally be acknowledged by an Organising Team member who in conjunction with the Chair of Trustees will respond accordingly. The complainant may be asked to provide a written summary of the issues involved if further investigation is deemed necessary
- Written complaints will normally be reviewed by the Chair of Trustees and where appropriate referred to the Organising Team for review and resolution

Should resolution not be possible, we will invite the complainant to refer the matter to a member of our Council of Reference for review.

In all cases our desire will be to resolve any issues justly and fairly and as speedily as possible.