

# Trustees Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended  
31 December 2024

**Love's Farm Community  
Church**

Charitable Incorporated  
Organisation

# **Love's Farm Community Church**

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# **Love's Farm Community Church**

## **Trustees' annual report**

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### **About Love's Farm Community Church**

Love's Farm Community Church is situated on Love's Farm, a new housing development in St. Neots, Cambridgeshire. The charity was set up on 27 September 2015 and was incorporated on 22 February 2016. The correspondence address is 18 Lannesbury Crescent, St. Neots, Cambridgeshire, PE19 6AF.

### **Reference and administrative information**

Love's Farm Community Church is a charitable incorporated organisation, CIO (charity number 1165671). The trustees who have served through the period of this report are:

Mr Jonathan Tame (resigned 31 December 2024)  
Reverend Helene Tame (resigned 31 December 2024)  
Dr Marcus Pickering  
Mrs Kathryn Pickering – Treasurer  
Miss Samantha Claussen  
Miss Rebecca Symms (appointed 3 July 2024)  
Mr Philip Gwilt – Chairman (appointed 3 July 2024)  
Mrs Dawn Gwilt (appointed 3 July 2024)  
Mrs Jennifer Bishop (appointed 13 November 2024)

Bankers: CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

Love's Farm Community Church is a CIO (Charitable incorporated organisation) and is registered with the Charity Commission of England. The method of appointment of the trustees is set out in the statutes. The governing document is in the form of a Constitution, adopted 20 February 2016.

### **Aims and objectives**

Our aims are set out formally in our constitutional document:

"To advance Christianity for the public benefit in Love's Farm, St Neots and elsewhere in accordance with the statement of faith set out in the schedule hereto through the holding of prayer meetings, lectures, public celebrations of religious festivals and by producing and/or distributing literature to enlighten others about the Christian religion."

In addition, we seek to relieve poverty and support those who are in need, through providing advice and advocacy for people struggling with debt, distributing material and financial donations, offering relational encouragement and emotional support to vulnerable people, and advocating on behalf of marginalised people with statutory authorities and other organisations.

### **Public Benefit statement**

Love's Farm Community Church seeks to impact and improve the spiritual, social and moral well-being of people through its example, teaching and practice of the Christian faith, and by organising welcoming, friendly and accepting events which build relationships. Through activities such as the

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Youth Club, vulnerable children and their families benefit physically from the food provided, as well as emotionally and socially from the supportive environment. Through Sunday activities like Breakfast Church and quieter more cultural, reflective events the community will benefit from a place to come together, to meet others and to explore issues of faith and doubt. People who participate in Love's Farm Community Church activities will be encouraged to volunteer and serve around the community, not only in activities organised by Love's Farm Community Church but also in initiatives run by others. This will enhance the wider well-being and cohesion of the community.

As a community church focused on the Love's Farm and Wintringham housing developments in St Neots, the main section of the public who will benefit from our organisation's purpose and activities is the population that lives physically in Love's Farm and Wintringham. However, we will not turn anyone away who lives elsewhere in St Neots. Love's Farm Community Church is committed to serving people of all ages on Love's Farm. However since the community demographic is weighted toward those between the ages of 25-45, especially with young families, our primary focus is on that age group.

### Activities and performance of the organisation

Helene Tame, the community chaplain, who had led Love's Farm Community Church since its inception, resigned from her post in January 2024. As Helene's post had been funded for a fixed period by the United Reformed Church, there was no immediate succession plan. Marcus and Kathryn Pickering took over interim leadership of the church.

Janet Sutton was appointed by the United Reformed Church in a part-time capacity as a transition worker, to work with partner denominations and help the trustees to formulate the long term structure, strategy and resourcing of the church, and we have made significant strides towards forming a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) with the United Reformed Church, Anglican Church and Baptist Union, which will secure funding for a full-time leader for the next few years.

Under the CIO of Love's Farm Community Church, Breakfast Church has continued to meet each Sunday morning except the first of the month, regularly drawing around 40 people, up to a third of whom typically are under 16 years old. Each Sunday morning provides a mix of food, conversation, story-telling, prayer, worship and encounter.

The church community has sought to maintain meeting points through the week for the primary purpose of discipleship and praying for our neighbourhood, nation and world. Wednesday has become our prayer day with a short prayer time at 9am, this happens via Zoom. As a church community we have hosted other courses/studies/groups through the year both online and in person. The leadership group, which includes all of the trustees of the CIO, meets monthly to discuss both the day to day running of the Church and make plans for its longer term direction and structure.

A small team continues to host the community café at our local community centre on Tuesday mornings, providing people with another point of access with the church and to serve our community with a facility that is enjoyed by visitors to the café.

On Thursday mornings, members and friends of Love's Farm Community Church continue to run a parent and toddler group, Little Loves, at the community centre, with regular attendance of between 60-80 pre-schoolers and their parents/carers. The service also offers Little Loves @Home for parents, who for a variety of reasons might be confined to home with their child.

On Friday evenings during term time the church hosts a primary aged Youth Club, for approximately 35 children aged between 8-11 years. This remains a popular event.

# **Love's Farm Community Church**

All the activities of the church as listed above are run by the trustees and others on a voluntary basis. A total of 40 different people served as volunteers during this reporting period.

## **Financial review**

During this year, donations to the charity plus some brought forward reserves were sufficient to cover all its expenses. The charity's income for the year was £22,933 (2023: £22,659) and expenses came to £11,215 (2023: £21,594). The balance of funds at 31 December 2024 was £31,380 (2023: £19,662), with £283 being restricted funds (2023: £358).

## **Reserves policy**

It is the trustees reserves policy to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds (if possible), which equates to at least three months unrestricted payments, equivalent to £2,785, to cover emergency situations that may arise from time to time. The balance of £31,097 held on unrestricted funds, after designations, at the year end is much higher than the target. Our previous minister, who was paid from external sources, stepped down in January 2024 and the additional reserves are required to provide contingency in the interim period until funding can be secured for a new minister.

The balance of £283 in the restricted funds is towards the TLG project.

## **Going concern statement**

The trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts.

## **Audit exemption statement**

Due to the gross income being less than £1million and since the gross assets are less than £3.26million, the charity is exempt from needing an audit and since in 2024 the gross income is less than £25,000 the charity is exempt from needing an independent examination and the trustees have chosen to not have one.

## **Statement of responsibilities of the Trustees**

The Charities Act 2011 requires 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 of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2005;
- make judgments and accounting 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to do so.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that 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. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud

## Love's Farm Community Church

and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees on 10 April 2025 and signed on its behalf by

 Philip Gwilt (Chairman of the Trustees)

# Love's Farm Community Church

## Statement of financial activities For the year ended 31 December 2024

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
Incoming resources	Notes				
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds</b>					
<b>Voluntary income</b>					
Incoming resources from donors	2,8	22,345	-	22,345	20,612
Grant income	8,9	-	-	-	1,805
		22,345	-	22,345	22,417
<b>Activities for generating funds</b>					
Investment income		588	-	588	242
Income from charitable activity		-	-	-	-
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		22,933	-	22,933	22,659
<b>Resources expended</b>					
Charitable activities	3,6	10,941	75	11,016	21,395
Governance costs	4	-	-	-	-
Other resources expended	5	199	-	199	199
<b>Total resources used</b>		11,140	75	11,215	21,594
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers</b>		11,793	(75)	11,718	1,065
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before revaluations</b>		11,793	(75)	11,718	1,065
Realised gain/(loss) on revaluation of fixed assets		-	-	-	-
Realised gain/(loss) on investments		-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		11,793	(75)	11,718	1,065
Funds carried forward at 1 January 2024		19,304	358	19,662	18,597
Funds carried forward at 31 December 2024		31,097	283	31,380	19,662
All amounts relate to continuing activities					

# Love's Farm Community Church

## Balance sheet as at 31 December 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
<b>Tangible fixed assets</b>			-		-
<b>Investments</b>			-		-
<b>Total fixed assets</b>			-		-
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	7	-		2,784	
Cash at bank and in hand		31,880		16,878	
<b>Total current assets</b>		31,880		19,662	
<b>Liabilities – amounts falling due within one year</b>	8	500		-	
Net current assets			31,380		19,662
<b>Net assets</b>			31,380		19,662
<b>Funds</b>					
<b>Unrestricted</b>	11		31,097		19,304
<b>Restricted</b>	9,11		283		358
<b>Endowment funds</b>	11		-		-
			31,380		19,662

Approved by the trustees on 10 April 2025 and signed on its behalf by



Philip Gwilt (Chairman of the trustees)



# Love's Farm Community Church

## Notes to the financial statements

### 1 Accounting policies

These financial statements of the charity have been prepared on a going concern basis and on behalf of the trustees in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice SORP (2005) together with applicable accounting standards and the Charities Act. They have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

#### Incoming Resources

##### Recognition of incoming resources

These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the resources
- the trustees are virtually certain they will receive the resources; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

##### Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included on the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.

##### Volunteer help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees' annual report.

#### Expenditure and Liabilities

##### Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources.

##### Governance costs

Include costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the costs of trustee meetings and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

##### Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, e.g. allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

#### Assets

##### Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity

These are capitalised if they can be used for more than one year, and cost at least £500. They are valued at cost or, if gifted, at the value to the charity on receipt.

Unrestricted funds represent the funds of the CIO that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the CIO.

Restricted funds represent those received for specific purposes as specified by the donors.

Endowment funds are those where there is a requirement imposed by the donor to retain capital, but which allows income to be used.

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## Notes to the financial statements

### 2 Incoming resources from donors

	2024 £	2023 £
General donations from individuals	15,086	13,181
Gift Aid	3,857	2,784
Little Loves giving	1,275	1,842
Youth club giving	2,127	2,605
Youth café giving	-	200
	<u>22,345</u>	<u>20,111</u>

### 3 Charitable activities expenditure

	2024 £	2023 £
Breakfast church	5,149	5,120
Youth club	2,083	2,477
Youth café	-	2,694
Little Loves	1,384	1,383
TLG	75	1,083
New Wine conference	-	216
Ukrainian travel	-	377
Money advice centre	25	5,435
Mission giving	2,300	2,168
Help fund giving	-	442
	<u>11,016</u>	<u>21,395</u>

Our policy is to give away at least one tenth of our income to mission projects.

### 4 Governance costs

There were no governance related costs in the current period (2023: nil).

### 5 Other resources expended

	2024 £	2023 £
Insurance	129	129
Bank charges	60	60
Website and IT costs	10	10
	<u>199</u>	<u>199</u>

### 6 Employee emoluments

Average staff numbers in 2024 were nil (2023: 1) with emoluments totalling £nil (2023: £6,084). This includes £nil (2023: £4,056) for two trustees who were paid for the work they did for debt advice centre.

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## Notes to the financial statements

### 7 Debtors and prepayments

	2024 £	2023 £
Accrued Income	-	2,784

### 8 Creditors

	2024 £	2023 £
Charity donations creditors	500	-

### 9 Restricted Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
Cinnamon Grant	358	-	(75)	283
	358	-	(75)	283

Brought forward was £358 which was received from Cinnamon Grant for TLG and £75 of this grant was used during the year.

### 10 Grants

No unrestricted grants were received in the year.

### 11 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Investments	-	-	-	-
Current assets	31,597	283	-	31,880
Current liabilities	(500)	-	-	(500)
	31,097	283	-	31,380