



BROOK STREET UNITARIAN CHAPEL
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Charity Registration No. 1167088 (England and Wales)

Brook Street Unitarian Chapel (Charity Registration Number 1167088)

Trustees' Report

for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

The Charity's principal address is:

The Chapel Hall, Adams Hill, Knutsford Cheshire, WA16 8DY

The persons legally responsible for the control and management of the Charity as trustees in the year were:

Mr G. Birks (Chairman), Mr A. Eastwood (Treasurer), Mrs D. Birks (Minutes Secretary), Mrs A. Clayton (died 27th November 2024), Mrs B. Cornes, Mr S. Crowther, Mrs J. Lowe, Mrs H. Smithson (Resigned 31st December 2024) Mr A. Rees, Mr T. Regan.

The Charity's bankers are:

Natwest, The Bullring, Northwich, Cheshire, CW9 5BN

The Investment Manager is:

W H Ireland, One New Bailey, 4, Stanley Street, Salford, M3 5JL

The Independent Examiner is:

Kenneth James Johnson FCA, Flat 2, Kennerley Court, Kennerleys Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5EQ.

Constitution:

Brook Street Unitarian Chapel was originally constituted by a Trust Deed in 1694 and was set up for the purpose of building a meeting house and maintaining a congregation of worshipers dissenting from the doctrines of the Church of England. On 13th May 2016 the assets, liabilities, rights and duties of the then trustees were transferred to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, the name of which is Brook Street Unitarian Chapel. The management of the CIO is delegated to the trustees whose names are set out above.

Brook Street Unitarian Chapel furthers its charitable purposes by offering public worship on a regular basis, together with various activities from time to time of a social or educational character. Pastoral support is given to members and to individuals in the wider community. In their charitable undertakings, the trustees have paid due regard to the appropriate guidance issued by the Charities Commission.

The Chapel is a member of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches and of the Manchester District Association of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches, which are, respectively, a National and a Regional Organisation set up to promote Unitarian ethos, encouraging the development of spiritual, ethical and religious values and the furtherance of the Christian way of life and of service to others.

The Financial Statements of the Charity take the form of a Receipts and Payments Account and a Statement of Assets and Liabilities. The Receipts and Payments Account embraces the transactions which took place on the three bank accounts held by the trust. This is a form of reporting approved by the Charities Commission for use by smaller entities.

During the year under review payments exceeded receipts by £38,701 after transferring £10,000 from the investment portfolio. However, since the value of the investment portfolio increased by £46,987, there was an overall gain in the value of total net assets of £8,286. A major cause of the cash reduction over the year, was that the gate, railings and brickwork on the Adams Hill perimeter were refurbished and the vestry, vestibule and gallery were redecorated at a net cost, after recovery of VAT, of £47,664. Ministerial costs include ten months of the minister's stipend and his relocation costs. These extra payments are to some extent offset by taking investment income from the Mary Glass Fund since April 2024 which was formerly accumulated within the investment portfolio and accounted for as part of the portfolio's gain or loss. The Investment Manager's fee of £8,614 was also taken from the investment portfolio and is thus subsumed in the portfolio's gain. The value of the Investment Portfolio advanced from £1,120,116 to £1,167,103 over the course of the year. The rental income arises from the letting of an adjacent cottage owned by the Trust.

This report is approved by the trustees and is signed on their behalf by:

G .Birks (Chairman)

A. Eastwood (Treasurer)

June 2025

Independent Examiner's Report to
the Trustees of Brook Street Unitarian Chapel

I report on the Financial Statements of the trusts for the year to 31st December 2024

Respective responsibilities of trustees and the examiner.

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirement of section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (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 145 (5) (b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the 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 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 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
 - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 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.

Kenneth James Johnson FCA
Flat 2, Kennerley Court
Kennerleys Lane
Wilmslow
SK9 5EQ

3rd June 2025

Brook Street Unitarian Chapel

Receipts and Payments Accounts for the Year Ended 31st December 2024

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>
<u>Unrestricted Funds (Chapel Fund and Mary Glass Fund)</u>				
<u>Receipts</u>				
Donations and legacies		12,582		11,633
Grants received		-		6,000
Income tax recovered under Gift Aid		3,006		3,066
VAT recovered on Building Project		2,468		1,094
Rental Income		14,388		13,860
Events and refreshment takings		3,868		7,031
Dividends and interest received		<u>25,947</u>		<u>11,365</u>
		62,259		54,049
<u>Payments</u>				
Ministerial costs	31,503		15,297	
Organists' fees	1,900		4,937	
Heating and lighting	8,103		5,633	
Water	269		226	
Telephone and broadband	340		373	
Insurance	3,689		3,290	
Caretaker and cleaning costs	4,560		4,595	
Repairs and maintenance	6,008		15,796	
Cost of events	282		1,056	
Printing and advertising	512		853	
Appeals and donations	239		487	
General Assembly quota payment	1,610		1,610	
Conferences and courses	78		-	
Subscriptions	432		422	
Payroll costs	720		-	
Accountancy costs	50		72	
Building and decorating project	<u>50,132</u>		<u>-</u>	
		110,427		54,647
<u>Excess of payments over receipts</u>		48,168		598
Proceeds of sale of investment to fund building project		<u>10,000</u>		<u>-</u>
		38,168		598
Cash at bank last year end		<u>70,329</u>		<u>70,927</u>
Cash at bank this year end		<u>£ 32,161</u>		<u>£ 70,329</u>
<u>Restricted Fund (Minister's Support Fund)</u>				
<u>Receipts</u>				
Grant received		3,037		-
Dividends and interest received		<u>2,967</u>		<u>2,669</u>
		6,004		2,669
<u>Payments</u>				
Ministerial costs		6,537		-
<u>Excess of receipts over payments/ (-) payments over receipts</u>		- 533		2,669
Cash at bank last year end		<u>4,712</u>		<u>2,043</u>
Cash at bank this year end		<u>£ 4,179</u>		<u>£ 4,712</u>

Brook Street Unitarian Chapel
Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st December 2024

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>
Property, Plant and Equipment:				
These values are those for which the assets are insured				
Buildings of the church	1,767,082		1,767,082	
Contents of the church	76,629		76,629	
Organ	136,207		136,207	
Buildings of the school or hall	996,760		996,760	
Building of gazebo	7,072		7,072	
Contents of school or hall	41,390		41,390	
Building of the cottage	241,206		241,206	
Contents of the cottage	<u>2,509</u>	3,268,855	<u>2,509</u>	3,268,855
Investment Assets at market value:				
Chapel Fund (unrestricted)	402,931		396,779	
Mary Glass Fund (unrestricted)	664,080		628,554	
Minister's Support Fund (restricted)	<u>100,092</u>	1,167,103	<u>94,783</u>	1,120,116
Cash at bank:				
Natwest Current Account	8,742		6,993	
Natwest Savings Account	23,919		63,336	
Natwest Minister's Fund	<u>3,679</u>	36,340	<u>4,712</u>	75,041
		<u>£ 4,472,298</u>		<u>£4,464,012</u>