



# NIGHT CHURCH CHESTER

## ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 October 2024

Charity No: 1167728



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## **Charity Information**

### **Registered Charity Name**

Night Church Chester

### **Address**

St Peter's Church  
Watergate Street  
Chester  
CH1 2LA

### **Contact Information**

Telephone: 01244 403634

Email: [nightchurchchester@gmail.com](mailto:nightchurchchester@gmail.com)

Website: [www.nightchurchchester.org](http://www.nightchurchchester.org)

### **Charity Number**

1167728

### **Trustees who served during the year**

J Green  
E Jewkes  
M Johnson  
E Bos

### **Independent Examiner**

W J Webb ACMA  
Brookfield House  
3 Brookfield Drive  
Newton  
Chester  
CH2 2EF





## Trustees' Annual Report

### Background

Night Church Chester was launched in December 2010 as a project by The Light Project, an evangelical charity based in Chester. In September 2015 Night Church Chester separated from The Light Project and became an independent small charity. Then in June 2016, as resources exceeded £5,000, it registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with the Charities Commission. It operates from St Peter's Church, Chester.

### Who we are: Structure, Governance & Management

Night Church Chester is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed by Constitution. Trustees are appointed by serving trustees, in accord with the Constitution and good practice set out in the Charities Commission.

#### The current Trustees are :

Mr John Terence Green	re-appointed 5 June 2024 for 3 years
Mrs Elizabeth Jewkes	re-appointed 5 June 2024 for 3 years
Mr Ewoud Bos	appointed 9 September 2024 for 3 years
Rev Robert Toan	appointed 1 November 2024 for 3 years

Ewoud Bos and Bob Toan were appointed as new trustees on 9 September and 1 November 2024 respectively, and Michael Johnson ceased to be a trustee on 27 September 2024. The Trustees regularly meet quarterly and receive update reports from the Leadership Team. The Leadership Team, itself meets quarterly before Trustee meetings. Night Church Chester is not part of any wider network but is supported by some of the Churches in Chester.

From November 2023 we have opened monthly apart from in August due to holidays. The Charity has been able to fulfil its Constitutional objective this year. Trustees have met regularly, online, to review the situation.

We still have a Memorandum of Understanding with St Peter's Church which was signed in 2017 and has not been amended since other than updating the amounts we pay. This is the basis of our working relationship with St Peter's Church, what they provide for us and what we pay them. Night Church Chester has a very close working relationship with St Peter's Church. We greatly value the support we receive from St Peter's.

The structure of Night Church Chester is the Board of Trustees and a Leadership Team. We clarify, from time to time, what Trustees are responsible for and how the Leadership Team plan and operate Night Church Chester at St Peter's Church. When





the Project Leader stood down we decided not to appoint another Leader and to leave leadership of the project with the Leadership Team. They provide a report to the Trustees and a member of the Leadership Team attends Trustee Meetings. The Treasurer, Nev Kite, is a member of the Leadership Team and he prepares a report for Trustees and attends Trustee Meetings

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. The Charity does not make gifts other than to St Peter's Church and a policy on social investment including programme related investment is not applicable. The Charity does not have sufficient funds to merit an investment policy. Funds are held in a Co-operative Bank current account. No payments are made to Trustees and they do not receive any non-cash benefits: we do not have any overseas income or expenditure and we do not have professional fundraising. We do not have any employees.

Alongside our grassroots nature and independence, we believe in the importance of networks and collaboration. We have networked locally with Churches in Chester, with Cheshire West and Chester Council, with the Police and with other organisations involved in the night time economy.

**What we do and why: Objectives and Activities (see our website [www.nightchurchchester.org](http://www.nightchurchchester.org))**

***The objective of the CIO is to advance the Christian faith for the benefit of the public through the operation and running of a night time Church, in accordance with the statement of faith.***

*(from our Constitution)*

This objective is developed through our values, see our website which has been updated this year. and through our procedures, especially in our Policy Documents which are now available to Trustees on Microsoft Teams. Our objectives are summarised in our Mission Statement:

**"Night Church a sacred space in the centre of Chester open to everyone: where anyone in town on a Saturday night, when we are open, can experience something of God's presence. We welcome people of all faiths and none. We are seed sowers, participants in God's mission; trusting that God has planned our visitors' next step, knowing that we are not likely to see it"**

We continue to have an illuminated sign above the front door with the words "Night Church" which is very visible outside and so important in indicating our presence. Inside we have tables at a safe distance from each other and serve coffee and tea. There is a prayer corner and visitors can light a candle, pray or leave a prayer





request; there is also background Christian music, mostly with live music and song. Lighting in the Church is subdued. We have a minimum of 2 leaders and 8 volunteers each night along with musicians and a prayer team. (These numbers are based on a risk assessment.) One or two of the volunteers each night will have had first aid training. Our objective is to ensure that volunteers and visitors are safe.

In October 2023 we had 20 volunteers and in October 2024 we had 24 volunteers. We have sufficient volunteers to open once a month but we are seeking to recruit more because we would like to be able to open twice each month. The Trustees are so thankful for our volunteers and greatly value the time and many skills that our volunteers give: they are key to the high quality service which we provide. We have Trustee Liability and Employer and Public and Products Liability Insurance from Zurich Insurance Services. Buildings insurance is covered by St Peter's Church.

We begin each evening by setting up facilities for Night Church and then having a time of preparation when volunteers are reminded of safety procedures, safeguarding and possible risks. We then will have a time of quietness, prayer and introductory words. This is good preparation for receiving visitors to Night Church.

Two volunteers stand at the door to greet people passing by and invite people into Night Church. Other volunteers are at various places inside the Church. We are a place of hospitality and visitors are free to have a drink or sit quietly listening to music or chatting among themselves. Volunteers are always available to help or to have conversations on topics raised by the visitor. Each time we are open there are always amazing conversations. Very occasionally we have a difficult visitor, usually drink or drug related and we help as necessary, liaising with the police if needed. We are also aware that the toilet can be used for taking or leaving drugs. We will continue to take precautions and inspect the toilets regularly as required by our drugs policy.

Intercessory prayer is a key part of Night Church and each night a prayer Intercessor and volunteers spend time in prayer. This is a key aspect of Night Church. The leader of the intercessors has said that "We pray for Night Church during the preceding week and we come expecting to hear from God and we do. Sometimes He gives us situations for prayer, which may be local, national or international. We want to encourage people to come and sit in God's presence. Just being there, waiting on God, we have a sense of doing God's will"

Our policies cover values, appointment of Trustees, strategic plan, safeguarding, volunteer policy and role, dealing with drugs and alcohol, health and safety, dealing with incidents, risk assessment, prayer policy, and complaints policy which is on our website. They ensure that the Charity and its operations are on a secure basis and equip volunteers for ensuring a safe and friendly environment. We have re-





introduced a programme for reviewing the policies since being closed by Covid19. Volunteers will continue to be regularly reminded of the Safeguarding policy.

We continue to be careful to make it clear that we are rooted gently and deeply in the Christian spiritual tradition, but offer a safe hospitable space where people of any faith or none who are enjoying their night out in Chester can feel completely at ease.

#### **Our success: Achievements and Performance including Public Benefit**

On the nights we have been open we have had an average of 100 visitors each night and we get very encouraging comments thanking us for offering hospitality and a safe space. At the end of each night that we are open we have a review of the service provided. There are always encouraging stories of conversations and reactions of members of the public for which we are most thankful. So often people leaving after a visit are thankful and say that it was a very good occasion for them and that there was something special in the Church. One comment was "Thank you very much for providing us with a safe space, peace, love and joy always."

Our volunteers come from a range of local churches and we are so thankful for the many who have been with us for some years and for the new volunteers who have joined us this year. It has also been good to continue the good relationships with the staff in the pub next door. They are mostly so thankful when we are open on a Saturday night.

#### **Financial review**

Night Church Chester's main sources of funding are from donations from churches in Chester, individual regular giving and donations received on the night.

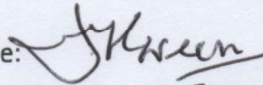
Reserves at the end of the financial year stood at £2,541 (Oct 2023: £2,197), and the bank/cash balance was £2,424 (Oct 2023: £2,160). The charity does not have sufficient funds to merit an Investment Policy and funds are held in a Co-operative Bank account. As at the date of the report the Trustees do not have any uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

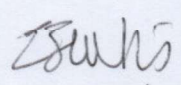


### Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature:   
Full Name: JOHN TERENCE GREEN  
Position: Chair Trustees  
Date: 14-02-25

Signature:   
Full Name: Elizabeth Jones  
Position: Trustee  
Date: 14-02-2025





## **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**

The Trustees recognise their responsibility under the Charities Act 2011 to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and its surplus or deficit for that period. In preparing those financial statements we are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue.

We are also responsible for:

- keeping proper accounting records;
- safeguarding the charity's assets;
- taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud.
- ensuring the charity complies with relevant laws and regulations including Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Employment and Charity legislation.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland published on 16 July 2014.





**Independent Examiner's Report**

TO THE TRUSTEES OF NIGHT CHURCH CHESTER FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31 OCTOBER 2024

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 October 2024 which are set out on pages 9 to 14.

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);
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- 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;

Or 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

Date 14/02/2025

W J Webb ACMA  
Brookfield House  
3 Brookfield Drive  
Newton  
Chester  
CH2 2EF





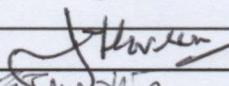
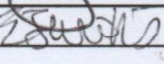
## Statement of Financial Activities for the 12 months ended 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024

Recommended categories by activity	Unrestricted funds £ F01	Restricted income funds £ F02	Endowment funds £ F03	Total funds £ F04	Prior year funds £ F05
<b>Incoming resources (Note 2)</b>					
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3,047	-	-	3,047	2,343
Charitable activities	-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	-	-	-	-	-
Separate material item of income	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,047</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,047</b>	<b>2,343</b>
<b>Resources expended (Note 3)</b>					
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	1,985	718	-	2,703	3,844
Separate material item of expense	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,985</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,703</b>	<b>3,844</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)</b>	<b>1,062</b>	<b>- 718</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>- 1,501</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<b>1,062</b>	<b>- 718</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>- 1,501</b>
<b>Extraordinary items</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses):</b>					
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
Other gains/(losses)	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>1,062</b>	<b>- 718</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>- 1,501</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward	1,197	1,000	-	2,197	3,698
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>2,259</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,541</b>	<b>2,197</b>





## Balance Sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total this year	Total last year
	£	£	£	£	£
	F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Intangible assets	-	-	-	-	-
Tangible assets	-	-	-	-	-
Heritage assets	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total fixed assets</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stocks	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors (Note 4)	141	-	-	141	37
Investments	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand (Note 6)	2,142	282	-	2,424	2,160
<b>Total current assets</b>	2,283	282	-	2,565	2,197
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Note 5)</b>	24	-	-	24	-
<b>Net current assets/(liabilities)</b>	2,259	282	-	2,541	2,197
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>	2,259	282	-	2,541	2,197
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after one year</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Provisions for liabilities</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total net assets or liabilities</b>	2,259	282	-	2,541	2,197
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>					
Endowment funds	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted income funds	-	282	-	282	-
Unrestricted funds	2,259	-	-	2,259	2,197
Revaluation reserve	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total funds</b>	2,259	282	-	2,541	2,197
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy		
		John T Green	14/02/25		
		Elizabeth Jenkins	14/02/25		





## Notes to the accounts

### 1 Accounting Policies

#### a) Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts 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 with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

#### b) Going Concern

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis. Reserves at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024 represent approximately one year's expenditure and the trustees are of the view that the charity is a going concern.

#### c) Change of accounting policy

There has been no change of accounting policy during the year to 31 October 2024.

#### d) Changes to accounting estimates

No changes to accounting estimates have occurred during the reporting period (3.46 FRS 102 SORP).

#### e) Material prior year errors

No material prior year errors have been identified in the reporting period (3.47 FRS 102 SORP).

#### f) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably. Donations and collections are recognised when received by or on the behalf of the charity.





**g) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. The charity is not registered for VAT and all VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure as incurred.

**h) Stocks**

There is no stock on the balance sheet.

**i) Debtors**

Debtors, which consist of Gift Aid reclaims and card donations collected by St Peter's Church on behalf of Night Church, are recognised at the settlement amount due.

**j) Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and a current account at Co-operative Bank.

**k) Creditors and provisions**

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.





## 2 Analysis of income

	Analysis	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £	Prior year £
Donations and legacies:	Donations and gifts	2,858	-	-	2,858	2,174
	Gift Aid	189	-	-	189	169
	Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
	General grants provided by government/other charities	-	-	-	-	-
	Membership subscriptions and sponsorships which are in substance donations	-	-	-	-	-
	Donated goods, facilities and services	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3,047</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,047</b>	<b>2,343</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>3,047</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,047</b>	<b>2,343</b>

£1,000 of income in the prior year was restricted.

## 3 Analysis of expenditure

	Analysis	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds £	Prior year £
Expenditure on charitable activities	Contribution to St Peter's Church Chester	1,320	-	-	1,320	2,400
	Insurance costs	96	-	-	96	382
	Consumables, equipment & other running costs	569	718	-	1,287	1,062
		-	-	-	-	-
	<b>Total expenditure on charitable activities</b>	<b>1,985</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,703</b>	<b>3,844</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>1,985</b>	<b>718</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,703</b>	<b>3,844</b>

## 4 Debtors and Prepayments

	This year £	Last year £
Trade debtors	0	0
Prepayments and accrued income	141	37
Other debtors	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>37</b>





## 5 Creditors and Accruals

	Amounts falling due within one year		Amounts falling due after more than one year	
	This year £	Last year £	This year £	Last year £
Accruals for grants payable	-	-	-	-
Bank loans and overdrafts	-	-	-	-
Trade creditors	24	-	-	-
Payments received on account for contracts or performance-related grants	-	-	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	-	-	-	-
Taxation and social security	-	-	-	-
Other creditors	-	-	-	-
Total	24	-	-	-

## 6 Cash at bank and in hand

	This year £	Last year £
Short term cash investments (less than 3 months maturity date)	-	-
Short term deposits	-	-
Cash at bank and on hand	2,424	2,160
Other	-	-
Total	2,424	2,160

## 7 Transactions with trustees and related parties

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from an employment with the charity or a related entity.

No trustee expenses have been incurred.

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period.