



NIGHT CHURCH CHESTER

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 October 2025

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: nightchurchchester2024@gmail.com

Website: www.nightchurchchester.org

Charity Number

1167728

Trustees who served during the year

J Green
E Jewkes
R Toan
E Bos



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.

As the Charity's income is well below the £25,000 level to require an Independent Examination, the trustees have agreed that they do not require an Independent Examination.

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 :

Rev Robert Toan	appointed 1 November 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 was appointed as a trustee on 1 November 2024 for a term of 3 years and took over as Chair of Trustees from John Green who stood down from 31st October 2025.. This means that we still only have the minimum number of trustees. New trustees are needed and this is being explored. 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 2024 we have opened only for seven months for a variety of reasons noted later in this report. 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)

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 is 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 quietness and peace of a place of worship. 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 6 other 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 2024 we had 24 volunteers and in October 2025 still have that number of 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

For a number of reasons, we have only been able to open on seven occasions in this last year. The building that we meet in, St Peter's Chester, was closed for building work in January and February. There were two occasions when there were insufficient volunteers to meet our safe opening procedures. On the evenings we were able to open:

Number of visitors:

- Average of 136. Lowest night 110 visited. Highest number was 188.

Prayer requests: Visitors have the opportunity to give requests for prayer.

- Average number was 11. The lowest was 6 with the highest being 21.

Candles lit: Visitors have the opportunity to light a candle. This is usually because of the death of a family member or friend.

- Average number lit was 25. The lowest being 12 and the highest 33.

The trustees and Leadership team met in May to review how Night Church was functioning. It was recognized that the volunteer base was low and needed expanding.

It was agreed that the leadership team would encourage volunteers to promote Night Church through their churches and other contacts. This would include using the promotional video that had been recorded.

There was a clear consensus that Night Church still had a positive place to serve people in the city night time economy.

Whenever we open, we get very encouraging comments thanking us for offering hospitality and being a safe, peaceful 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 for being open tonight. It is so noisy outside and it is lovely to have a restful place to just sit and enjoy the quietness.”

Here's a few recent stories of encounters with visitors from a member of the leadership team:

1) We have three gents who come in almost every time we're open now and love to see Night Church open. They talk about their life stories and experiences/views on church, and clearly think we are offering something very valuable in the night life.

2) I remembered once speaking with two ladies who'd come in whilst waiting for their boyfriends. Ended up having a very good chat about their experience of church and questions about God. When their boyfriends turned up, they made a few mocking comments but ultimately the whole group was open to me praying for all of them at the end, to be able to find Jesus clearly and be restored from difficult situations.

3) At the candles we continue to get many people who value the time to pray and speak about grief. We recently had a waitress come in who had very sadly lost her baby and we were able to pray with her and help her process her loss.

Our volunteers, 24 in all including 3 musicians/singers 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 any new volunteers. 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 £2,783 (Oct 2024: £2,541), and the bank/cash balance was £2,664 (Oct 2024: £2,424). 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: Ewoud G Bos

Position: Trustee

Date: 21 Jan 2026

Signature:

Full Name: Robert Toan

Position: Trustee (Chair)

Date: 22 Jan 2026

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.



Statement of Financial Activities for the 12 months ended 31st October 2025



Night Church Chester
Annual Report and Financial Statements for year ended 31 October 2025

Recommended categories by activity	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £	Prior year funds £
	F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
Incoming resources (Note 2)					
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	1,731	-	-	1,731	3,047
Charitable activities	-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	-	-	-	-	-
Separate material item of income	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1,731	-	-	1,731	3,047
Resources expended (Note 3)					
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	1,489	-	-	1,489	2,703
Separate material item of expense	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1,489	-	-	1,489	2,703
Net income/(expenditure) before investment gains/(losses)	242	-	-	242	344
Net gains/(losses) on investments	-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure)	242	-	-	242	344
Extraordinary items	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):					
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	-	-	-	-	-
Other gains/(losses)	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	242	-	-	242	344
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	2,259	282	-	2,541	2,197
Total funds carried forward	2,501	282	-	2,783	2,541



Balance Sheet as at 31st October 2025

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Endowment funds £	Total this year £	Total last year £
	F01	F02	F03	F04	F05
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	-	-	-	-	-
Tangible assets	-	-	-	-	-
Heritage assets	-	-	-	-	-
Investments	-	-	-	-	-
Total fixed assets	-	-	-	-	-
Current assets					
Stocks	-	-	-	-	-
Debtors (Note 4)	120	-	-	120	141
Investments	-	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand (Note 6)	2,381	282	-	2,663	2,424
Total current assets	2,501	282	-	2,783	2,565
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (Note 5)	-	-	-	-	24
Net current assets/(liabilities)	2,501	282	-	2,783	2,541
Total assets less current liabilities	2,501	282	-	2,783	2,541
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	-	-	-	-	-
Provisions for liabilities	-	-	-	-	-
Total net assets or liabilities	2,501	282	-	2,783	2,541
Funds of the Charity					
Endowment funds	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted income funds	-	282	-	282	282
Unrestricted funds	2,501	-	-	2,501	2,259
Revaluation reserve	-	-	-	-	-
Total funds	2,501	282	-	2,783	2,541
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval dd/mm/yyyy		
		R. IGAN	22/10/26		



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 31st October 2025 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 2025.

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

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year
	Analysis				£	£
Donations and legacies:	Donations and gifts	1,553	-	-	1,553	2,858
	Gift Aid	178	-	-	178	189
	Legacies	-	-	-	-	-
	General grants provided by government/other charities	-	-	-	-	-
	Membership subscriptions and sponsorships which are in substance donations	-	-	-	-	-
	Donated goods, facilities and services	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	1,731	-	-	1,731	3,047
TOTAL INCOME		1,731	-	-	1,731	3,047

3 Analysis of expenditure

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year
	Analysis				£	£
Expenditure on charitable activities	Contribution to St Peter's Church Chester	1,320	-	-	1,320	1,320
	Insurance costs	157	-	-	157	96
	Consumables, equipment & other running costs	12	-	-	12	1,287
		-	-	-	-	-
	Total expenditure on charitable activities	1,489	-	-	1,489	2,703
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		1,489	-	-	1,489	2,703

4 Debtors and Prepayments

	This year	Last year
	£	£
Trade debtors	0	0
Prepayments and accrued income	120	141
Other debtors	0	0
Total	120	141



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	2,664	2,424
Other	-	-
Total	2,664	2,424

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.