

North Devon House of Prayer
Registered Charity Number: 1170454

North Devon House of Prayer

Trustees Annual Report and Accounts
For the year ended 31st August 2024

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for the year ended 31st August 2024

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31st August 2024

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31st August 2024. The trustees have opted, under section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Charities Act'), to prepare receipts and payments accounts.

Objectives and Aims

To advance the Christian faith for the benefit of the public in North Devon and throughout the world in accordance with the evangelical alliance statement of faith by:

- 1) Developing and making available a Christian prayer resource centre in North Devon, helping people to explore prayer and the spiritual dimension of life with multiple prayer rooms available for prayer and staffed by a team of volunteers;
- (2) organising activities and special worship services that explore Christian prayer in various dimensions;
- (3) being a resource hub of information about prayer and education about Christian spirituality for local congregations and individuals;
- (4) offering Christian outreach and services for community groups based around exploring spirituality;
- (5) providing a drop-in service for people seeking support or a chat;
- (6) running training courses about prayer and aspects of the Christian faith;
- (7) coordinating conferences for Christians in the wider area;
- (8) offering help in local schools through R. E. classes, assemblies and school visits to our premises;
- (9) running a confidential listening and healing prayer service in a local community building. Our facilities are open on most days and evenings;
- (10) undertaking missions in the UK and overseas;
- (11) to make grants to individuals and organisations in line with the above objective;
- (12) The prevention or relief of poverty or financial hardship in North Devon and Torridge by providing grants, items or services to individuals in need.

Public benefit

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and consider that the activities of the charity meet its charitable objectives and provide a benefit to the public.

Achievement and Performance

Charitable activities

We have continued as a ministry under the same objects since our last reporting.

The prayer room has remained open approximately 40 hours a week to the public through structured worship and prayer as well as being a space to seek prayer either with others or alone. Additionally, Street Pastors and Try Praying both utilized the facilities weekly respectively. We continued with staff training and building a staff team ready for our different opening times that launched in September 2024. During the month of August, we undertook general maintenance of the public spaces in the building through repainting and updating the resources available. The space is now much more user friendly to anyone coming in for the 1st time.

As a team, we spent time prayer walking different towns and assisting several churches with worship and prayer. We have remained prominent members of Barnstaple Churches Together with members of the Leadership Team on the enabling group.

On several occasions, members of the Team have been requested to baptize people on the local beaches. Others have spoken at local churches and many have taken opportunities to encourage or assist members of the local community as they visit the centre.

Again, we have undertaken several UK based missions helping other Houses of Prayer, namely Telford and Coventry, as well as being involved in the steering of the UK Houses of Prayer network. During April, the ministry Director again started riding from John O'Groats down the East Coast of the country, meeting leaders and building connections across the United Kingdom. This bike ride of the east coast of the UK along to Lands'

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31st August 2024

End Cornwall, was completed in September. There has been a lot of connections to others across the UK due to this work. Additionally, another member of the team did Devon coast to coast from Ilfracombe to Plymouth, praying across the peninsula as part of their role at NDHOP.

The building – All plans have been approved by North Devon District Council and conservation officer. We continue to pursue fundraising opportunities to make these renovations a reality.

We have had parents and toddlers/babies meet in the building at times over the past year and every week we have organised a children's music worship and prayer training session. This is free to the community and involves interacting with the whole family not just the children through learning together and creating new songs together as well. We have seen many of the children's confidence grow as well as their musical abilities. This session leads to a Christmas concert open to the community where the children are involved in creating the content and performing it.

Throughout the year we offer prayer support to those who need to process trauma or stress through worship and prayer. Some of these sessions have been led through the use of creative arts and other times through music or a prayer focus.

We have spent some time outside in the community doing open air worship particularly in the summer months. Engaging with the local public and offering a point of access to talk about faith and receive prayer.

We have invested in safeguarding training for a couple of team members. We often have vulnerable adults coming onto the property and we have been able to assist them with contacting the police to report crimes that have been disclosed to our team. We work closely with the police community safety officers in our locality when there are needs arising near our building that we can assist with. We have been able to offer a safe space to those in the public affected by anti-social behaviour on the streets and the professionals dealing with it.

Financial review

Income for the year increased by 12% to £ 25,732 (PY £22,940), and expenditure decreased by 45% to £27,194 (PY: £49,218) leaving a deficit for the year of £1,462 (PY: deficit £26,278)

Unrestricted cash reserves held at the year-end amounted to £764 (PY £2,226)

Reserves policy

The trustees have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets ('the free reserves') held by the Charity should be approximately three months of the resources expended. At this level the trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the Charity in the event of a significant drop in income.

As the reserves are currently below this level, trustees will focus on increasing the level of reserves in the next financial year.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31st August 2024

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

North Devon House of Prayer is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Constitution dated 22nd July 2016 and registered with the Charity Commission on 29th November 2016; subsequently amended on 23 July 2021.

The board of trustees meet regularly to discuss the work of the North Devon House of Prayer. New trustees are elected by the existing trustees to the board after nomination and interview.

Financial reports are presented to the board at each meeting. Minutes of each meeting are taken and subsequently distributed.

Reference and Administration Details

Registered name

North Devon House of Prayer

Registered Charity number

1170454

Principal address

Church Lane

Barnstaple

Devon

EX31 1BH

Trustees Name

Andrew Lynch

James Ware

Jonathan Moles

Mary Ware

Position

Chair

Appointments/Resignation

Independent Examiner

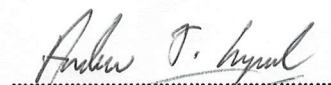
Michael King MAAT

53 Fountain Fields

High Bickington

EX37 9AP

Approved by the board of trustees on 24th June 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Andrew Lynch, Chair

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the year ended 31st August 2024

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of

North Devon House of Prayer

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of North Devon House of Prayer (The Trust) for the year ended 31st August 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the 'Trust' you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Michael King MAAT
Member of the Association of Accounting Technicians
53 Fountain Fields
High Bickington
Devon
EX37 9AP

Date: 18th June 2025

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
for the Year ended 31st August 2024

			2024	2023
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
<u>Receipts</u>				
Gifts and donations	23,533	50	23,583	13,089
Gift aid received	448		448	0
Sales of merchandise			0	123
Training & Missions' income	350		350	9,583
Interest receivable	91		91	145
Rental income	1,260		1,260	0
Total Receipts	25,682	50	25,732	22,940
<u>Payments</u>				
Staff costs	5,244		5,244	5,253
Light and heat	3,733	0	3,733	3,174
Meetings	150	0	150	571
Establishment costs	4,731	0	4,731	5,650
Missions	2,251	0	2,251	5,878
Merchandise		0	0	794
Legal and professional	1,362	0	1,362	2,236
Telephone	294		294	1,383
Bank charges	69		69	60
Mission gifts & Hospitality	671		671	94
Teaching aids, art materials & stationery	262		262	953
Donations	775	50	825	1,135
Prayer assignment	1,085		1,085	227
Gatherings	869		869	403
Travel costs	918		918	2,398
Small capital equipment	160		160	1,385
Property expenditure	4,571		4,571	17,624
Total payments	27,144	50	27,194	49,218
Net receipts / (payments)	-1,462	0	-1,462	-26,278
<u>Reconciliation of funds</u>				
Transfer between funds	0		0	0
Total Funds at 1st September 2024	2,226		2,226	28,504
Total Funds carried forward	764	0	764	2,226

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
At 31st August 2024

			2024	2023
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	
		£	£	
Fixed Assets				
Tangible fixed assets		131,401		126,670
Current Assets				
Debtors			0	0
Cash at bank		764	764	2,226
Current Liabilities				
Creditors			0	
Total Assets less Liabilities		132,165	0	128,896
Funds				
Unrestricted income funds		132,165	132,165	128,896
Total funds		132,165	0	128,896

The financial statements were approved by the board of trustees on 24th June 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

 Andrew Lynch, Chair

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements and assessment of going concern

These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis as permitted by law for smaller charities.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

2. Movement in Funds

	Balance 1 st Sep 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31 st Aug 2024
Unrestricted funds	2226	25,682	(27,144)		764
Restricted funds	0	50	(50)		0
Total Funds	2,226	25,682	(27,144)	0	764

3. Trustee remuneration and benefits

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