

The Chapel in the Garden, 49 East Street, Bridport DT6 3JX

Charity Number 1173010

Charitable Incorporated Organisation CE009969

The Trustees present their Report and the Financial Statements for the Year ending 31st December 2024.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity is governed by a constitution approved by the Trustees on 14th July 2017. Trustees who served during the period were:

Sir Philip John Colfox
Edward Colfox
David Roger Albert Gregory
Tony Jones
Lucy Angelica Kennard
John Simpson
Andrew Leppard

According to the Constitution, Trustees can be appointed annually at each year's AGM of the Chapel in the Garden, and they make themselves available to the congregation for feedback and discussion at open meetings known as "congregational conversations" which are held quarterly at the Chapel. Term of office for Trustees is up to 5 years.

Objectives and Activities

The Charity's objective is the promotion of religion in accordance with the principles of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christians and to offer a place of spirituality and peace to the residents of Bridport and the surrounding area. The Chapel welcomes people of all faiths and none to its weekly services and various groups. Bridport Food Fridge operates from the Chapel and a twice weekly café opens to welcome regulars and newcomers to share companionship and a listening ear.

The Trustees and congregation are committed to supporting the employment of a minister (currently a job share for two part-time ministers John and Lizzie) and to the care and maintenance of our Grade 2* Listed building.

The Trustees have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 and have due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission including Public Benefit.

Achievement and Performance

Since the 2024 AGM, the Trustees have met quarterly and ensured that maintenance and further building works are undertaken as necessary within the scope of our available finances. Re-decoration of the ground floor windows in the Chapel is ongoing whilst the extension of the emergency lighting has been completed. We are pleased to report that the appointment of Ali Watkinson as our Hospitality and Administrative Officer has been of much benefit to the effective work of the Chapel and in supporting the Ministers in their work.

Hire of our lovely rooms continues to be important for our profile in the community and as a means of generating much needed income. Our range of activities include counselling groups, dancing, u3a meetings, mindfulness events and art exhibitions and local artist Hugo Grenville has a permanent studio space. We have continued to open the doors on Wednesday and Saturday mornings, offering tea and cake alongside the second-hand bookshop in the gallery. Visitors are warmly welcomed and local people who have not visited the Chapel before are often astonished by the building and the activities that take place. We also continue to host the Bridport community fridge which is a great example of local community action in their work with local businesses and supermarket chains to reduce food waste.

Services are conducted every Sunday by one of our ministers with the input of interfaith ministers and volunteers from our own community. There is also a shorter Friday evening service of 'Silence, Poetry and Prayer' as well as a monthly Children's service. Our loyal congregation continues to be at the heart of all we do at the Chapel and ensures a warm welcome to visitors from near and far. In addition, we are a popular venue for rites of passage services including weddings, funerals and naming ceremonies.

Reserves

The chapel had a deficit of income over expenditure of £46,646 in the period, largely due to an extensive programme of renovation and repair to the building. In addition our salary costs increased as a result of appointing Ali Watkinson to the new Admin and Hospitality role. A buildings maintenance fund was set up with an initial deposit of £10,000 to enable routine work on the Chapel and continues to be used for this purpose, at the end of this accounting period the balance was £16,661. The Trustees remain committed to ensure unrestricted reserves of at least £50,000, they currently stand at £79,489.

Approved by the Trustees on 18th August 2025

Signed on their behalf

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D Gregory', written over a faint, larger signature.

David Gregory (Chair of Trustees)

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of THE CHAPEL IN THE GARDEN, BRIDPORT.

Charitable Incorporated Organisation CEO 009969
Charity Number 1173010

I hereby report to the Charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Chapel in the Garden Bridport for the the year ended 31st December 2024.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

As the Charity Trustees of the CIO you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

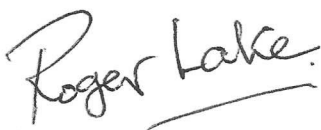
I report in respect of my examination of the CIO's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all applicable Directions given by the Charities Commission under Section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

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 as required by Section 130 of the Act: or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records: or
3. That the accounts do not comply with applicable requirements concerning the form and content set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, other than the requirement that accounts give a "true and fair" view which is not matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and I have come across no other matters in connection to the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Roger Lake
30 May 2025

THE CHAPEL IN THE GARDEN, BRIDPORT

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Building Fund 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Income from:							
Donations and collections		15,186	1,190	-	-	16,376	40,532
Gift Aid received		3,480	-	-	-	3,480	4,009
Legacies		-	-	-	-	-	29,685
Charitable activities	2	24,668	-	-	-	24,668	21,756
Grants received		3,000	-	-	-	3,000	4,500
Investment income - M&G Charifund		10,330	-	-	-	10,330	9,814
Interest received		1,017	956	-	-	1,973	1,460
Total		<u>57,681</u>	<u>2,146</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,827</u>	<u>111,756</u>
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	3	57,069	49,351	-	-	106,420	60,299
Net income (expenditure)	4	612	(47,205)	-	-	(46,593)	51,457
Gains (losses) on revaluation of investments	5	1,480	-	-	5,376	6,856	(6,525)
Net Movement in funds		<u>2,092</u>	<u>(47,205)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,376</u>	<u>(39,737)</u>	<u>44,932</u>
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		77,960	154,011	1,670	127,151	360,792	315,860
Total funds carried forward		<u>80,052</u>	<u>106,806</u>	<u>1,670</u>	<u>132,527</u>	<u>321,055</u>	<u>360,792</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES as at 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Building Fund 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Fixed Assets - Freehold Land & Buildings	6	-	90,000	-	-	90,000	90,000
Investments M&G Charifund	5	36,472	-	-	132,527	168,999	162,143
Current assets:							
Cash at bank and in hand		47,868	16,806	1,670	-	66,344	111,398
Creditors: amounts due within one year	7	4,288	-	-	-	4,288	5,196
Net current assets		43,580	16,806	1,670	-	62,056	108,649
Total assets		<u>80,052</u>	<u>106,806</u>	<u>1,670</u>	<u>132,527</u>	<u>321,055</u>	<u>360,792</u>

The attached notes form part of these financial statements

Approved on behalf of the Trustees

THE CHAPEL IN THE GARDEN, BRIDPORT

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024

1. Accounting policies

- a) The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS102) and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statement have been prepared under the historic cost convention with the exception of investments which are included at market value. In accordance with FRS102 no statement of cash flow has been prepared.
- b) Donations and other forms of voluntary income are recognised as incoming resources when received except in so far as they are incapable of financial measurement.
- c) Grants and legacies are recognised when received.
- d) Rent and other letting incomes generally are recognised when received. Material amounts received in advance are treated as deferred income.
- e) Expenditure is recognised for material amounts 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. Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

2. Income from charitable activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Weddings, namings and funerals	2,100	1,134
Room hire & lettings	20,058	16,480
Café and book income	2,500	2,866
Fundraising events and other income	10	1,276
	<u>24,668</u>	<u>21,756</u>

3. Expenditure on charitable activities

	2024		2023
	£	£	£
Salaries & sick pay (National Insurance - Nil, 2023 - Nil)		35,242	25,306
Pension contributions		2,856	3,073
Other ministry costs		1,860	2,765
Administration		2,770	1,759
Jurassic Multi Cultural Coast Trust		-	500
Donations (help towards retreat cost)		-	100
Premises costs:			
Electricity	4,964		5,044
Insurance	4,420		4,116
Cleaning / Caretaking / Gardening	3,660		3,331
General repairs	1,297		2,161
Chapel window/roof (Building Fund)	15,570		7,738
Electrical heating upgrade (Building Fund)	-		3,614
Kitchen repairs (Building Fund)	2,600		792
South wall repairs (Building Fund)	24,440		-
Gallery panelling (Building Fund)	1,380		-
Painting (Building Fund)	2,578		-
Emergency lighting (Building Fund)	2,783	63,692	- 26,796
		<u>106,420</u>	<u>60,299</u>

THE CHAPEL IN THE GARDEN, BRIDPORT

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024 (continued)

4. Net income (expenditure) for the year is after charging:		2024	2023	
		£	£	
Trustees remuneration and expenses		-	-	
Payroll administration		288	312	
5. Investments - M&G Charifund		2024	2023	
		£	£	
Valuation at the beginning of the year		162,143	168,668	
Disposals		-	-	
Increase (decrease) in valuation		6,856	(6,525)	
Valuation at the end of the year		<u>168,999</u>	<u>162,143</u>	
6. Tangible fixed assets				
Freehold land and buildings are included at historic valuation.				
7. Creditors falling due within one year		2024	2023	
		£	£	
Rent & deposits received in advance		3,300	4,150	
PAYE/NIC payable		103	174	
Accruals		885	872	
		<u>4,288</u>	<u>5,196</u>	
8. Restricted Funds				
	Balance	Income	Expenditure	Balance
	2023			2024
	£	£	£	£
Warm Spaces - Crowdfunder	<u>1,670</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,670</u>

**Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of
THE CHAPEL IN THE GARDEN, BRIDPORT.**

Charitable Incorporated Organisation CEO 009969
Charity Number 1173010

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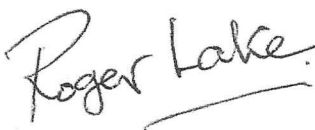
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